



Listening to children policy

At Little Saints Nursery, it is our goal to ensure that all children are heard, regardless of their ability to verbally communicate. This means that all members of staff must be familiar with the various other ways in which a child may make their needs known. This could be through gesture, signing or body language.

It is important to ensure that every child feels valued and that their needs matter. Eye contact where possible and communicating on their physical level is essential. Reassurance that you have heard and understand the child is also essential to ensure that the children feel responsible and to give them an active role in their own nursery life.

While not all staff are fluent in sign language, we often use basic sign in British Sign Language and Makaton which can be found on posters around nursery. We ask that you become familiar with these signs and use them where possible, even if the children don't necessarily need to use the signs. This promotes an inclusive attitude towards signing.

We also ask that staff make use of the pictures, communication in print and timelines around nursery in order to encourage children to understand their nursery routine and in some cases, communicate in general.

Signed: _____

Name: _____

Date: ___/___/_____