

All Hampstead Hill School Policies are always to be read and considered in conjunction with Equal Opportunities, Race Equality and Inclusion Policies. This Policy of Hampstead Hill School applies to all sections of the school including the Early Years Foundation Stage.



## Hampstead Hill School

### Involving and Consulting Children Policy

Consulting children is good practice and is beneficial not only to the school as a whole but also to the children and staff as individuals.

The Hampstead Hill School's commitment stems from "listening to children" - articles 12 and 13 from the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the child. These state that:

- A child's opinion should be taken into account on anything that affects them
- Children should have information disseminated in a way that enables them to make choices and decisions

Children learn new skills from consultation such as, listening, negotiation, sharing and understanding. It helps them understand how decisions are made and the importance and value of their opinion.

There are many benefits of involving children in decision making in this way. Children feel that they have ownership in their school, which can result in better behaviour. This is largely due to the fact children will feel that they are working in partnership and that the school provides activities for their needs and interests.

All children will be consulted and listened to on a regular basis, the consultation will be done in the following formats:

- Taking notice of what the children say in everyday conversations
- Observing and monitoring body language and behaviour
- Through drama and role play
- Through play and visual aids
- Question and answer sessions
- The School Council
- Speaking and Listening
- PSHE (circle time)

The type of decision and the level of involvement from the children will be assessed by the appropriateness and the maturity of the children. Although regardless, children should be involved in decision making wherever possible.

The consultations will be monitored and outcomes noted, so that the children can see their opinions are regularly acted upon. Feedback will be provided for children regularly in a variety of ways.

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Date adopted: September 2016

Updated September 2016

Name: Andrea Taylor

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andrea Taylor', is positioned above the 'Signed:' label.

Signed: