**Patcham Village Pre-school**

**Mission statement**

**This policy should be read in conjunction with all Patcham Village Pre-school policies and the EYFS April 2017 – All of which are embedded firmly into our mission statement, practice and provision.**

**Our Ethos**

Our ethos at Patcham Village Pre-school is to provide the best possible start to children’s education and to support staff and volunteers personally and professionally. Working in partnership with families and staff we support children in developing independence, and to become happy autonomous learners. Our team of practitioners are supported and their well-being and involvement in the pre-school considered to be the foundations of what we are built upon and ensures Patcham Village Pre-school’s aims and values are a combination of children’s, families and staff voices.

We provide an inclusive, safe, caring and stimulating environment for everyone, in accordance with The Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage – April 2017

Aim.

The government aim is for every child whatever their background or circumstances to have the support they need to:

 Be healthy

 Stay safe

 Enjoy and achieve

 Make a positive contribution

 Achieve economic well-being

The overarching aim of the EYFS is to help young children achieve the five outcomes of Every Child Matter (DFES), these are fundamental to the values and beliefs that are embedded throughout Patcham Village Pre-school and what we base our work with families, outside agencies and the wider community on.

Our Aim is:

Through play- based learning that is planned around the individual needs and interests of the child, and informed by the use of ongoing observational assessment and sound parent partnership, we aim to enhance the development and education of children under statutory school age in a community based setting. At Patcham Village Pre-school we fully endorse the value of free-play as well as free-flow between inside and outside which fosters confidence, autonomy and independence in learning,

**"You can do whatever you want to do at Pre-school without asking a grown-up, you can play with the trains and then change your mind if you want to and go and play with something else" (Children's voices) .**

To provide a safe, secure and stimulating environment for staff and children; This is achieved at Patcham Village Pre-school by ensuring that everyone is familiar with and complies with the settings policies where the learning environment and routines remain both familiar and predictable to the children and adults.

**“Patcham Village Pre-school’s clear and established routines help children to feel secure" (parent’s voices)**

To develop a sense of morale, joint responsibility and self discipline in our children and staff team; this is achieved by encouraging children's awareness through activities which encourages emotional development, such as gaining awareness of their feelings and those of others and the impact they as individuals can have on other people. All staff and volunteers hold fast the values of our behaviour policy where positive behaviour is praised, affirmed, and managed appropriately to children’s stages of development and consistently applied. We ensure reflective practice and care of our staff team through a continual process of self appraisals, supervision meetings and a genuine open-door to management; this ensures the quality of education and care of all stakeholders is continually developed and our high expectations and standards of ourselves and others are maintained.

**“Janet is like a battery – “ever ready” to listen and support, whatever the problem, and she always tries to help; her kindness, thoughtfulness and support have put a smile on my face many a time when I’ve needed it” (Employee voice).**

Rules within the Pre-school and positive behaviour are modelled through our daily practice by staff and volunteers; thereby further instilling children's awareness of right and wrong. Children's behaviour is managed effectively and in a manner appropriate for their stage of development and particular needs.

**"The teachers are all really nice, and you can have lunch with them" (Children's voices)**

Praise, support and affirmation is key at Patcham Village Pre-school, and how desirable behaviour is best achieved and staff well-being high Children believe that Patcham Village Pre-school is a special place, because:

**" Everyone is kind to each other, if you're not then all the children will cry, but if you're nice all the children are happy" (Children's voices) .**

We believe that we can best meet the needs of individual children by working closely with Parents and other outside agencies, such as Brighton & Hove inclusion Support service, Speech therapists. We aim to constantly develop partnerships between parents/carers and staff, which are based on mutual trust and respect and which promote the sharing of information and knowledge and by operating an open door policy; this we do for the benefit of the everyone in our care. Parents believe that a big attribute of staff at Patcham Village Pre-school is our ability to listen to children and families:

**Adaptation of the role play area at an important time in the lives of one family, gave opportunity for their child to express her feelings through play, when her younger sibling was hospitalised.**

Our open-door policy to parents contributes to a positive parent partnership. Inclusion for all parents is further enhanced by the diverse means of communicating between home and setting and vice-versa, ensuring inclusion for working and busy parents and non-resident parents. Parents tell us:

**Tapestry and our open-door approach means we always know how their children are progressing at Patcham Village Pre-school.**

**“The open-door policy at Patcham Village Pre-school is truly a genuine one”. (Parent’s voice)**

We continually develop our close links within our local community and ensure equality of opportunity for all children, families and staff in an environment where everyone is respected. Children's potential will be recognised, valued and nurtured. Our practice and activities and play equipment will offer the children and staff team in our care the opportunity to develop in an environment free from prejudice and discrimination, irrespective of disabilities, gender, ethnicity, culture or religious background and harm. All children will have the opportunity to explore, acknowledge, value and learn from similarities and differences between themselves and others through activities, books and displays and resources.

Patcham Village Pre-school recognises the wide range of special needs of children and families and will consider what part we can play in supporting these. We will ensure with parental permission and participation, assistance from the Brighton and Hove Inclusion Service and our Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Co-ordinator: Rebecca Clark and Sophie Wheeler; we will work closely with children, parents, and staff in encouraging every child to reach their full potential, by setting small achievable progressive targets in the form of Individual Support Plans (ISP's).

This mission statement was reviewed on 4th July 2019 and replaces that which was adopted by Patcham Village Pre-school on 8th August 2018.

Signed by:

Manager (Janet Hornsby)

Date

**Our ethos at Gorran Pre-School Hoglets is very simple: we aim to provide the best possible start to our children's education by offering a bright, colourful, safe, secure and happy environment in which they can feel confident to explore, have fun and learn through play.**

We believe that children should be able to enjoy playing both indoors and outside, as they choose, throughout the seasons, and that a happy child leads to learning and achievement.