

Smartkidz Play and Learn Ltd is committed meeting the requirements of the *Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage 2014* (EYFS). EYFS applies to all children from birth through to the end of their reception year. More information about EYFS is available from the Department for Education's website.

Smartkidz offers a child-led environment which follows the Playwork Principles and uses the PARS model of playwork practice. This means that for the majority of time when they are with us, children choose how to occupy their own time and are never forced to participate in any particular activity.

EYFS observations are done where needed, although this will NEVER interfere with the child's play.

The designated EYFS coordinator at the Club is responsible for:

- Identifying EYFS children when they join the Club and informing the other staff.
- Determining the primary EYFS provider (typically, the school) for each child.
- Assigning a key person for each EYFS child.
- Implementing a EYFS booklet, which includes an all about me, settling in questionnaire, observations for a termly next step (provided by parent or school)
- Our registration form includes an all about me section specifically for EYFS children which gives the staff a more in-depth view about the child's likes, dislikes and abilities to help us to settle the child into club when they first join.
- Agreeing information sharing policies with the primary EYFS provider and gaining parental consent for this where necessary
Liaising with the primary EYFS provider to discuss what support the Club offers to EYFS children.

We recognise the four overarching principles of EYFS, and this is how they implemented within Smartkidz settings:

- **A Unique Child:** At Smartkidz, children make decisions about how they want to play, who they want to play with and how long to play for. This means that each child is able to follow their own interests in their own way and at their own pace and develop their own unique interests.
- **Positive Relationships:** Children learn to be strong and independent through positive relationships. We help children to develop positive relationships by enabling them to choose who they play with at any given time. Children are encouraged to develop social skills in negotiating and resolving their own difficulties whenever possible, with additional adult support when necessary.
- **Enabling Environments:** At Smartkidz we use environmental modification to ensure that children's play needs are consistently met. We regularly review our resources and practice to ensure that children have the space and materials to meet their own play needs.
- **Children develop and learn in different ways and at different rates.** We believe that children learn best through their self-directed discoveries through play. We therefore use PARS practice to enable children to explore their own play ideas in their own way at their own pace.

How we help early years children in their first year at Smartkidz and support the school with the EYFS children.

Prior to them attending school.

- New intake for the following September is offered a free taster session at Smartkidz Play and Learn during the summer school holiday. This allows the child to meet some staff that work within the school, get to know parts of the school in a fun and playful environment and become familiar and making friendships with children throughout the year groups.
- A senior manager of staff will present at the school's parent's information evening for new families to discuss the running of the club and will be available to answer questions.
- Smartkidz encourage parents to book their child into the Summer Playscheme to help build their confidence within the school before they start in September.

Once the children have started.

- The child's keyworker shows them around the club, shows them where to put the things, helps build friendships and builds their confidence and independence in choosing activities, pouring their own drinks etc...
- After a couple of weeks of attending, a "How is your child settling in" questionnaire will be sent to parents to complete and send back to us

Data sharing for EYFS children.

Please see or GDPR- Documents and information policy.

This policy was adopted by: Smartkidz Play and Learn	Date: 1/11/2017 Date reviewed: 20/11/2018 Date reviewed: 16/08/2019. Date reviewed: 14/08/2020
To be reviewed: 14/08/2021	Signed: 