



## **Inclusion and Play Policy**

Inclusion is a human right and it makes good social sense.

All children have the right to play together.

All children are entitled to have the chance to join in a wide range of activities, whatever their race, sex religion, language, ability or family background.

Children should not be devalued or discriminated against by being excluded or sent away because of their disability or learning difficulty.

Research shows that children do better both socially and academically when they are in an inclusive environment.

Segregation teaches children to be fearful, ignorant and breeds prejudice.

Only inclusion has the potential to reduce fear and to build up friendship, respect and understanding.

### **Effective Inclusion**

Effective inclusion is about “engendering a sense of community and belonging and encouraging mainstream and special schools and others to come together to support each other and pupils with special educational needs.”

Inclusive clubs have:

- inclusive ethos;
- systems for early identification of barriers to learning and participation;
- high expectations and suitable targets for all children.

### **Play**

The right to play is enshrined in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.

The Children Act (1989) recognises that all children need good quality play through out childhood in order to reach and maintain their optimum development and well being.

The XYZ After School Club offers a range of structured and unstructured activities in a free choice environment to suit individual children and their diverse needs.

Resources and activities will be made available to support children’s development and enjoyment. All the children are encouraged to make positive contributions in choosing experiences that they will find both stimulating and fun, as well as suggesting new or different ideas for play.

All children’s play at XYZ is freely chosen. Through play, the child explores the world and his/her relationship with it, elaborating all the while a flexible range of responses to the challenges he/she encounters; by playing, the child learns and develops as an individual. Adults will provide support and guidance where needed.

The setting aims to offer the children the chance to stretch themselves, test and develop their abilities without exposing them to unacceptable risks.

XYZ After School Club will take steps to ensure that the risks are managed and controlled so far as is reasonably practicable while allowing the potential benefits to be delivered.

Signed

Adopted: Sept 2009

Reviewed:

Sept 2010 Sept 2011 Sept 2012 Sept 2013 Sept 2014 Nov 2015