



English as an additional Language Policy

At Puss n Boots Day Nursery all Practitioners value linguistic diversity and provide opportunities for children to develop and use their home language in their play and learning. These children will be at many stages of learning English as an additional language.

- Some children are bilingual from birth, because their families have talked to them in more than one language.
- Some children will be acquiring English as an additional language. As with their first language, this needs to be learnt in a context, through practical meaningful experiences and interaction with others. These children may spend a long time listening before they speak English, and will often be able to understand much of what they hear, particularly where communication through gesture, sign, facial expression and using visual support is encouraged.

Learning opportunities are planned to help children to develop their English, and support is provided to help them to take part in other activities by, for example:

- Building on children's experiences of language at home and in the wider community by providing a range of opportunities to use their home language(s), so that their developing use of English and other languages support one another;
- Providing a range of opportunities for children to engage in speaking and listening activities in English with peers and adults;
- Ensuring that all children have opportunities to recognise and show respect for each child's home language:
- Providing a bilingual support, in particular to extend vocabulary and support children's developing understanding;
- Providing a variety of writing in the children's home languages as well as English, including books, notices and labels;
- Providing opportunities for children to hear their home languages as well as English, for example through use of audio and video materials.
- Providing parents with an EAL form on settling in so practitioners can ask the child words that are familiar to them to give the child reassurance, be able to communicate their wants and needs and allow other children to communicate with them.

