

# **Stepping Out: A Guide to Setting Up an Out Of School Childcare Club**

## **Step 10: Club Policies, Procedures and Forms**

### **Children's Participation Policy**

Children who are capable of forming their own views have the right to express those views freely in all matters affecting the child, the views of the child being given due weight in accordance with the age and maturity of the child (Article 12, UN Convention on the Rights of the Child).

'Participation means that it is my right to be involved in making decisions, planning and reviewing any action that might affect me. Having a voice, having a choice" (National Children and Young People's Participation Standards)

In Wales children's rights are also supported by the Rights of Children and Young Persons (Wales) Measure 2011.

At the Club we believe participation should be at the heart of everything we do. We recognise that being listened to and heard, and being involved in decisions will help create a sense of ownership and increase self-esteem in children.

We are committed to providing a club where children can participate fully in all aspects of the club. As a result, the Club will:

Provide all children with enough information to get involved. We will make sure that this information is given in a way that is understandable to all children at the Club.

- Let children decide for themselves if they want to be involved in any activities and decide what they want to do.
- Challenge any discrimination.
- Treat all children with respect. We will listen to what children say to us.
- Work in ways that will help children to get involved, if that is what they want.
- Give children feedback on the things that they have talked to us about. This feedback will be in a way that is understandable for all children in the Club.
- Work with the children at our Club to improve how we work.
- Recognise that children also have the right to not participate if that is their choice.