



# Killermont Early Years Centre Children's Participation Policy



## Rationale

Child participation is one of the core principles of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), therefore, we aspire to ensure that every child will have the opportunity to express their views, be listened to, and have their opinions respected as reflected in the 7 Golden Rules for Participation.

## Service Aims

Our Service will aim to:-

- To ensure all our children develop an understanding of their rights
- To involve all our children in the life of the EYC and wider community
- Respect the choices that our children make
- Value and listen to their opinions and ideas
- Support every aspect of their development
- Work in partnership with children to build reciprocal relationships
- Respecting children's right to be Involve in decision making, informing them of any next steps

## Methodology

Participation for children is joining in and taking part in activities where they can share their ideas, have their opinions valued and respected and have opportunities to make decisions about their lives. We encourage each individual to take an active role in:

- Contributing to the life of the Early Years Centre
- Self- directed learning
- Personal Learning Planning
- Mind mapping and consultation processes
- Snack and food choices

Participation should be valued and embedded in all aspects of our service delivery creating a culture where children are respected and their views valued.

There are barriers that exist for children that can prevent them from participating.

- Disabilities including speech, visual and hearing impairments
- Language and communication issues
- Low levels of confidence and self esteem
- Issues concerning the meaningful participation of younger children
- Negative experiences of engaging with services leading to disaffection
- Lack of knowledge about methods of engagement amongst professional

Article 12 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) states that any young person has a right to express their views and have them given due weight in decisions affecting them, in accordance with their age and maturity.

Staff at Killermont Early Years Centre will continue to monitor and develop participation methods within their service.

| Policy Updated                                                             | April 2025                                  |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| Review Date                                                                | April 2026                                  |
| Reviewed By:                                                               | Patricia Ross Depute Head of Centre         |
| Documents                                                                  | Document Links                              |
| Quality improvement framework for the early learning and childcare sectors | Children Play and Learn – Play and Learning |
| Health and Social Care Standards                                           | 1.2, 2.3,3.13, 4.7                          |
| Realising the Ambition                                                     | 3.4, 4.4, 8.3                               |
| UNCRC                                                                      | Article 12                                  |