Knutsford Community Preschool

08.2 Deployment of volunteers and parent helpers

Volunteers and parent helpers are always under the supervision of a permanent member of staff. They are not included in staff ratios.

The manager ensures that volunteers and parent helpers are deployed to assist permanent staff.

- Volunteers and parent helpers assist staff in ensuring that the equipment in their designated area is used appropriately and that it is left tidy at the end of the session.
- Volunteers and parent helpers give additional support for busy areas.
- Volunteers and parent helpers inform colleagues where they are going if they leave the room at any time.
- Volunteers and parent helpers do not have unsupervised access to children; they do not take them into a separate room for an activity or toileting and do not take them off premises.
- The Preschool manager can direct volunteers and parent helpers to join those outside if the numbers of children warrant additional numbers of staff available.
- Volunteers and parent helpers focus their attention to children at all times.
- Volunteers and parent helpers do not spend time in social conversation with colleagues while they are with children.
- Volunteers and parent helpers allow time for colleagues to engage in 'sustained shared interaction' with children and do not interrupt activities led by colleagues.
- Sufficient volunteers and parent helpers are available to support staff at story times.

Reviewed annually in November by Staff and Committee