

# VERWOOD C.E. FIRST SCHOOL AND NURSERY



Howe Lane, Verwood, Dorset, BH31 6JF - Tel. 01202 822652

## Children's Rights and Entitlements

We promote a child's rights to be strong, resilient and listened to by creating an environment in our setting that encourages a child to develop a positive self-image, which includes their heritage arising from their colour and ethnicity, their languages spoken at home, their religious beliefs, cultural traditions and home background.

We promote a child's right to be strong, resilient and listened to by encouraging the child to develop a sense of autonomy and independence and by enabling the child to have the self-confidence and the vocabulary to resist any uncomfortable situations they are faced with.

We help a child to establish and sustain satisfying relationships within their families, with peers, and with other adults. We work with parents to build their understanding of, and commitment to, the principles of safeguarding all our children. What it means to promote children's rights and entitlements to be 'strong, resilient and listened to'.

To be strong means to be safe and valued as individuals in their families and in relationships beyond the family, such as day care or school; self-assured and form a positive sense of themselves – including all aspects of their identity and heritage; included equally and belong in our setting and in community life. To be confident in their own abilities and proud of their achievements; progressing in all aspects of their development and learning; part of a peer group in which they learn to negotiate, develop social skills and an identity as global citizens, respecting the rights of others in a diverse world; and able to represent themselves and participate in aspects of service delivery that affects them, as well as aspects of key decisions that affect their lives.

To be resilient means to be sure of their self-worth and dignity; be able to be assertive and state their needs effectively; be able to overcome difficulties and problems; be positive in their outlook on life; be able to cope with challenge and change; have a sense of justice towards themselves and others; develop a sense of responsibility towards themselves and others and be able to represent themselves and others in key decision making processes.

To be listened to means adults who are close to children recognise their need and right to express and communicate their thoughts, feelings and ideas. Adults who are close to children are able to tune in to their verbal, sign and body language in order to understand and interpret what is being expressed and communicated, they are able to respond appropriately and, when required, act upon their understanding of what children express and communicate. Adults respect children's rights and facilitate children's participation and representation in imaginative and child centred ways in all aspects of core services.