**Participation and Engagement with Parents Policy**

At St. Colum’s Pre-School we recognise the importance of working in partnership with parents. This policy aims to ensure that all families are actively encouraged to participate in the work of the setting and contribute to the learning environment we provide for their children.

All parents are issued with a registration/welcome pack, which provides detailed information on the policies of the group.

At St. Colum’s Pre-School we aim to encourage parental involvement through:

* All parents are issued with a registration/welcome pack, which provides detailed information on the policies of the group.
* Operating an open door policy where parents are welcomed daily within the setting at drop off and collection time and have the opportunity to ask questions at any time with staff or leave comments in the suggestion box.
* Encouraging parents to share with the children their skills and talents – we have a volunteer rota system which parents and carers can contribute to.
* Relying on the involvement of parents for the daily running of the setting.
* During the COVID19 pandemic we also encourage parents to support children’s education through our Blended Learning program during any lockdown situations.

Parents can join the committee throughout the year or come forward at our annual AGM, or:

* At St. Colum’s Pre-School we have a parents’ committee which actively encourages parents to share their talents and assist with various events within our setting throughout the year.
* Parents are asked to take part in fundraising events, e.g. coffee morning, cake sale, quiz.
* Our newsletter informs parents of all the great work completed each month and notifies them of any upcoming events they can come along to.
* St. Colum’s Pre-School have a noticeboard and a comments and complaints box which are accessible in our entrance for parents to add their suggestions.
* St. Colum’s Pre-School regularly review the child’s development through transition reports and meetings with parents. We consider how we can work best together on areas for development.
* St. Colum’s Pre-School have open days and family fun days – these are open to all and parents can contribute to them.
* All parents will be asked to fill out a questionnaire at the end of every year. This will enable staff to further develop and implement changes to ensure that our setting continues to deliver a quality provision for the children in our care.

The contribution from parents is of pivotal importance to our setting. At St. Colum’s Pre-School we recommend that anyone who is interested in becoming more involved should speak to the pre-school leader or the management team.