



Willowview ELC

Blended Placement Policy

This policy was adopted at a meeting of: February 2025.

On: FEB 2025

Review Date: FEB 2027

Signed: *Aileen Cameron*

Designation: Head of Centre (Acting)

This policy is underpinned by the UNCRC and Health and Social care Standards as reflected below.

Articles of the UNCRC (the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child)	
Article 3	The best interests of the child must be a top priority in all decisions and actions that affect children.
ARTICLE 18	The state should recognise that both parents have responsibility for a child's upbringing and development, and the best interests of the child should be their primary concern. States should assist parents in this through support for care services.
Article 29	Education must develop every child's personality, talents and abilities to the full. It must encourage the child's respect for human rights, as well as respect for their parents, their own and other cultures, and the environment.

Health and Social Care Standards: My support, my life (Health and Social Care Standards - My support, my life.)	
1.0	I experience high quality care and support that is right for me.
1.6	I get the most out of life because the people and organisation who support and care for me have an enabling attitude and believe in my potential.
1.19	My care and support meets my needs and is right for me.
1.27	I am supported to achieve my potential in education and employment if this is right for me.
3.10	As a child or young person I feel valued, loved and secure
3.13	I am treated as an individual by people who respect my needs, choices and wishes, and anyone making a decision about my future care and support knows me.
3.14	I have confidence in people because they are trained, competent and skilled, are able to reflect on their practice and follow their professional and organisational codes.
3.18	I am supported and cared for sensitively by people who anticipate issues and are aware of and plan for any known vulnerability or frailty
4.11	I experience high quality care and support based on relevant evidence, guidance and best practice.
4.17	I am supported and cared for by a team or more than one organisation, this is well co-ordinated so that I experience consistency and continuity.

Statement of Purpose

This blended placement policy ensures that individual children, who share funded ELC hours between two or more settings wellbeing, development and learning needs are well considered and shared regularly and understood by all.

This document will be used to provide guidance to support a shared agreement between Willowview ELC and any other Early Learning and Childcare setting where the child shares their 1140 hours funding between them.

Blended Placements, "The aim of flexibility is to provide options for families which are in the best interests of the child whilst also meeting the needs of the parents. Being able to access funded and discretionary early learning and childcare, where they are required, at the same location can provide consistency for the child and their parent(s). However, there is no evidence to indicate that all of the child's funded early learning and childcare entitlement should be delivered by the same provider.

A mixed model of provision can be beneficial for children and parents, and education authorities should accommodate blended placements across different providers where this meets the needs of the child and parent(s)." (Scottish Government, 2021, page 41)

Best Practice.

Between Willowview ELC and any other ELC provider should:

- Work in an integrated way to ensure that a child's attendance is monitored, and any concerns shared and acted upon.
- Willowview ELC staff will participate in an initial discussion about the child no later than two weeks after a blended place commences.
- Willowview ELC will liaise a minimum of once per term with regards to the child who attends a setting on a blended placement. This liaison may be in person, over the phone or on Teams. Any support for the child will be agreed and form part of the child's personal planning documentation.
- Willowview ELC staff will agree learning and development priorities for the child. Learning priorities may differ across settings, but it is important that these are shared and understood by all.
- Where and if possible, both Willowview ELC and any other identified ELC setting will share the child's learning journals with each other on a termly basis, **prior consent must be given by the child's parent/carer.**
- Willowview ELC agree to collaborate regarding deferral, transition or any professional involvement referrals such as Speech and Language.
- Willowview ELC agree that any relative paperwork such as deferrals and referrals should be completed in collaboration across both settings.
- Willowview ELC agree that transition information should be considered regarding the child moving on to a new ELC setting or on to primary school.

- Willowview ELC staff will collaborate if any individualised care, medical or education plan is in place for the child. Both settings should have input into this and should be invited to attend meetings and have minutes shared with them.
- Willowview ELC evaluates the quality of blended placements to ensure that their blended service is under continuous improvement.

References:

Scottish Government, 2021 "Early Learning and Childcare Statutory Guidance"
[Early learning and childcare: statutory guidance - July 2021 - gov.scot](https://www.gov.scot/publications/early-learning-and-childcare-statutory-guidance/pages/1-2-introduction.aspx)
(www.gov.scot)

Appendix 1

Blended Placement Agreement Parent/ Carer

Child's Name	
Child's DOB	
Child's Address	

Agreement	Parent/carers signature
I agree to my child's relevant funded providers communicating regularly with each other, and I am happy for communication to be in person, over the telephone or electronically.	
I agree for the funded providers to share my child's learning priorities with each other and myself.	
I agree to complete information sent by all settings	
I agree that all settings should collaborate with each other regarding deferral, transition or any professional involvement referrals to external agencies.	
I agree, where possible to my child's personal learning journals being shared with all ELC providers and myself.	
I agree that all ELC funded providers should collaborate if any individualised care, medical or education plan is required for my child.	

Please provide details of where and which days your child attends an additional setting(s) for their 1140 funded ELC provision.					
Setting Name	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri

Parent/Carer Name	
Parent/Carer Signature	
Relationship to the child	
Date	

Received by	
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Received by signature	
Setting name	
Date	

Appendix 2

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