



Student placements

Policy statement

Southwell Smiley Faces recognises that qualifications and training make an important contribution to the quality of the care and education provided by early years settings. As part of our commitment to quality, Southwell Smiley Faces offer placements to students undertaking early years qualifications and training. We also offer placements for school pupils on work experience.

Southwell Smiley Faces aim to provide for students on placement with us experiences that contribute to the successful completion of their studies and that provide examples of quality practice in early years care and education.

Procedures

- Southwell Smiley Faces require students on qualification courses to meet the 'suitable person' requirements of Ofsted and have CRB checks carried out.
- We require schools placing students under the age of 17 years with the setting to vouch for their good character.
- We supervise students under the age of 17 years at all times and do not allow them to have unsupervised access to children.
- Students undertaking qualification courses who are placed in Southwell Smiley Faces on a short term basis are not counted in our staffing ratios.
- Trainee staff employed by Southwell Smiley Faces may be included in the ratios if they are deemed competent.
- We take out employers' liability insurance and public liability insurance, which covers both trainees and voluntary helpers.

- Southwell Smiley Faces require students to keep to our confidentiality policy.
- Southwell Smiley Faces co-operate with students' tutors in order to help students to fulfil the requirements of their course of study.
- We provide students, at the first session of their placement, with a short induction on how Southwell Smiley Faces is managed, how our sessions are organised and our policies and procedures.
- We communicate a positive message to students about the value of qualifications and training.
- We make the needs of the children paramount by not admitting students in numbers that hinder the essential work of Southwell Smiley Faces.
- We ensure that trainees and students placed with us are engaged in bona fide early years training, which provides the necessary background understanding of children's development and activities.

The following policy also supports our Student Placements Policy:

Induction of Staff and Volunteers

This Policy is applicable to both pre-school and out of school club