**Enabling Environments Policy**

At Rainbow Nursery we believe that building a child’s esteem and confidence is of the utmost importance. If children believe in themselves they will tackle each exciting challenge with confidence, thus learning for experience. Our team of dedicated staff are committed to creating a secure and loving environment for your child to learn and develop. Each room has been appropriately equipped and carefully planned to make learning fun and exciting for each age group.

An enabling environment is a rich and varied space where risks are minimised and well managed, and children are protected from harm and abuse. To ensure that our learning environments are enabling, we will:

* Create an environment that is warm, welcoming and nurturing and facilitates a sense of belonging.
* Offer a range of resources, which are familiar to the children and babies, as well as activities that are new to them.
* Ensure that the activities and environment offer room for outdoor and indoor play, sufficient space for children to move and collaborate, and encourage exploration and risk-taking.
* Provide a range of activities which serve different purposes: inspire imagination and role play, exploration of personal relationships and feelings, problem solving, quiet time and reflection. This will include a construction area, home corner, a variety of loose parts, books, storytelling times, music and art.
* Ensure the activities and environment meet the needs of all the children who attend, from very young babies to older children.
* Ensure all children feel welcomed and valued by fostering close collaboration with parents and providing a comfortable welcoming area with places for a parent to sit with staff and their child.
* Ensure staff understand the importance of building warm and supportive relationships and the importance of nurturing a child’s development.
* Ensure activities and resources are at child height and accessible and use resources which can be moved and used in a variety of ways.
* Allow children the time and space to focus and reduce noise distractions.
* Involve children in making the setting’s ground rules for behaviour, and creating the behavioural codes of practice, involving them as much as possible.
* Engage children in activities to build their emotional resilience and social skills.

**Date Completed: October 2023**

**Review Date: October 2024**

*This policy will be monitored in line with relevant legislation and good practice guidelines.*