



## **17. Participation: Involving and Consulting Children/Adults Policy**

This policy was adopted by *Wigod Way Wallingford Family Centre* on January 2023.

**Wigod Way Wallingford Family Centre (WWWFC) are committed to the principle of involving and consulting children to participate in the design and planning of the services that the organisation provides.**

The commitment to involving and consulting children stems from the 'listening to children' provisions set out in Articles 12 and 13 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. These state that:

- A child's opinion should be taken into account in anything that affects them.
- Children should have information disseminated in a way that enables them to make choices and decisions.

Age, maturity and the type of decision being made will determine the extent and nature of children's involvement. However, the emphasis should always be strongly in favour of involving children.

WWWFC services are driven by need so participation in decision making is essential.

Centre users will be consulted through feedback and evaluation mechanisms. The results of this will be made widely available.

WWWFC social media will enable parents and carers to make their views known.

WWWFC staff/volunteers will actively try and engage families who may not access information electronically through school newsletters and other community events.

Consultation and involvement will be regularly monitored and acted upon so that children and adults are able to see that their input has led to visible outcomes. WWWFC will also be clear about what decisions children and parents/carers will be involved in and attempt to offer clear explanations if and when consultation and involvement are deemed inappropriate.