



Information & Communications Technology (ICT)

Ashfield Play Care Scheme aim to develop children's skills in all areas of learning using the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) as a working document to aid practitioners. The Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundations states that by the end of the EYFS, children should: "recognise that a range of technology is used in places such as homes and schools. They select and use technology for particular purposes"

In order to support children in acquiring these skills, we will endeavour to provide children with age appropriate resources that promote the use of technology to enhance their learning experiences. All children have access to resources such as musical/ light up toys, cause and effect toys, digital camera, computer and defunct equipment amongst many other resources.

We welcome donations of any ICT equipment from staff, parents and carers to enhance children's role play.

When children are using ICT, staff take into account DATEC's principles for good practice:

1. Ensure an educational purpose
2. Encourage collaboration
3. Integrate with other areas of the curriculum
4. Ensure the child is in control
5. Choose applications that are transparent
6. Avoid applications containing violence or stereotyping
7. Be aware of health and safety issue.

We understand that the children's health and safety is of paramount importance. We understand that prolonged use of inactive ICT equipment such as a computer can lead to health problems such as obesity, we therefore limit the children's time on these apparatus to twenty minutes as suggested by DATEC. All internet sites will be vetted by staff to ensure their appropriateness before children are able to access them.