



Learning Through Play

Introduction:

Play underpins all development and learning for young children. It is through play that a child develops intellectually, creatively, physically, socially and emotionally. The nursery is committed to offering every child in its care, as many and as varied a range of opportunities and experiences to play and develop as possible, in a safe and secure environment.

Play underpins the delivery of the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework (EYFS), which is the standards set out by the government for all children from birth to the end of reception year at school.

The EYFS requires providers to ensure a balance of child-initiated and adult-led play-based activities. We use our judgement and knowledge of the children in our care to decide what is the best balance.

The nursery believes that providing well-planned experiences, based on children's spontaneous play, both indoors and outdoors, is an important way in which practitioners support young children to learn with enjoyment and challenge. In playing, children behave in different ways: sometimes their play will be responsive or boisterous, sometimes they may describe and discuss what they are doing, and sometimes they will be quiet and reflective as they play.

Procedures:

The Nursery Staff will:

- Observe and reflect on children's spontaneous play
- Allow the child the freedom to play and learn through their self-chosen task
- Recognise and value every child's efforts and achievements at every possible opportunity
- Share a child's efforts and achievements with parents/carers
- Use every opportunity to support and extend specific areas of children's learning
- Support the child to become a self-confident member of their peer group, able to share, take turns and to recognise the needs of others
- Record the progress of every child in our care so as to be able to enhance their individual learning and aid their development

"Every Child deserves the best possible start in life and the support that enables them to fulfil their potential", Quote from the revised EYFS.

Updated January 2023