

Play Policy

All the Pre School staff understands and values the importance of play in the development of young children as they learn about the world in which they live.

Aims

We aim to provide a sanctuary in which the children can play in a safe and secure environment, with practitioners who support and progress their learning working towards the early year goals.

Opportunities will be made for the children to make choices for themselves and to experience spontaneous, unplanned activities, such as snow or the arrival of a fire engine.

In planning and guiding children's activities, we reflect on the different ways that children learn and reflect these in our practice.

We always consider the three characteristics of effective teaching and learning as stated in the EYFS as follows:

- **playing and exploring** - children investigate and experience things, and 'have a go';
- **active learning** - children concentrate and keep on trying if they encounter difficulties, and enjoy achievements; and
- **creating and thinking critically** - children have and develop their own ideas, make links between ideas, and develop strategies for doing things.

The Environment

Our Pre School has ample space for the children to explore and play in, and has displays, which are changed regularly, and plans that are adapted to follow planning, new topics and the children's next steps. The garden is always used.

The Resources

The staff are creative and use household materials to enhance learning of self-discovery, curiosity, interest and many other learning objectives that are set out in the EYFS. These include:

- Jelly
- Cornflour
- Water Play
- Shaving Foam
- Rice and Pasta
- Icing and other resources of cooking

Evidence of learning

Each child has a folder with his/her work in it, which is observed and evaluated by their key worker. This allows the staff to know what a child can do, and what skills s/he needs support with. The files also demonstrate what learning objectives have been on offer, and allow key workers to plan effectively for the needs of their children.

Review

The policy will be reviewed yearly, in May, and amendments and changes will be carried out in conjunction with the Pre School staff, through liaison by the Proprietor.