



Registered Charity No 1035670

Curriculum Development Policy

This is Beckley Preschool's curriculum development policy

We provide activities and equipment in a relaxed and happy atmosphere so that children will progress in all areas of development and become independent in preparation for school. We believe that a child's first experience in a learning environment should lay a good foundation for their enjoyment of education and discovering new experiences.

We will offer a range of activities, opportunities and experiences that will enable all children who attend, to develop skills, confidence and independence.

Our aims are to:

- Encourage our children to become independent, confident and resilient learners.
- Enable them to take increasing responsibility for their own learning i.e. to confidently ask questions and choose their own activities.
- Encourage our children to have enjoyment within their learning that will increase their self-esteem.
- Meet our children's entitlement to effective teaching and meeting their individual needs.
- To provide a high quality, early education and childcare

We provide suitable materials and equipment to enable staff to prepare a plan and carry this out.

Planning

Four guiding principles shape practice in early years settings.

These are:

- Every child is a **unique child**, who is constantly learning and can be resilient, capable, confident and self-assured;
- Children learn to be strong and independent through **positive relationships**;
- Children learn and develop well in **enabling environments**, in which their experiences respond to their individual needs and there is a strong partnership between practitioners and parents and/or carers; and
- **Children develop and learn in different ways and at different rates**. The framework covers the education and care of all children in early years provision, including children with special educational needs and disabilities.

There are seven areas of learning and development that must shape educational programmes in early years settings. All areas of learning and development are important and inter-connected. Three areas are particularly crucial for igniting children's curiosity and enthusiasm for learning, and for building their capacity to learn, form relationships and thrive.

These three areas, the *prime* areas, are:

- communication and language;
- physical development; and
- Personal, social and emotional development.

We also support children in four *specific* areas, through which the three prime areas are strengthened and applied. The specific areas are:

- literacy;
- mathematics;
- understanding the world; and
- expressive arts and design.

Through observing, assessing, next steps planning [based on each child's individual development and needs] and our activities and routines we will help your child to achieve the statutory goals.

ACTIVITIES

- The opportunity to help with planning, preparing and clearing away.
- Free choice activities - these are activities, which the children are free to select themselves and move between when they are ready. We encourage the development of language, co-operation, problem solving and self-esteem, to produce something to take home and/or to learn from. Adults are always on hand to interact with the children and their choice of activity ensuring each child gets the maximum learning experience from it. These activities will provide the children with the opportunity to work together or individually.
- Adult-initiated - These are planned activities in which the children work either individually or in small groups with more adult intervention. Activities include woodwork, cookery, I.C.T., crafts.

We maintain close links with our neighbouring schools and work closely with the Reception class staff, arrange visits and help prepare your child's transition into school.

NEW EXPERIENCES

We enable all children to have the opportunity to participate in new activities and experiences. These may include things like taking walks, collecting and using natural materials, introducing new stories and songs. Children learn through their senses. We therefore need to stimulate this as early as possible.

OPPORTUNITIES

The above will be offered to all children regardless of sex, ability or age. Children with developmental delay will be given any extra help that the Nursery staff feel is necessary. All children will be encouraged to participate in activities etc., but will never be forced to do so.

This policy was adopted by the Management Committee of Beckley Preschool on 22nd May 2008. It was updated in September 2012 to include the new Early Years Foundation Stage principles.

It has been reviewed on 8th November 2013.

Signed on behalf of the management committee:

Name of signatory:

Role of signatory:

Date: