



Netherlee Nursery Class Our Curriculum Rationale

Our intention is to provide the very best learning experiences and opportunities for our children. To support them in achieving all that they can, to be successful and confident life-long learners and helping them to be active and responsible citizens who make an effective contribution to their community.

This focus will support our children in developing the essential knowledge, skills and attitudes for lifelong learning and will prepare them to enjoy a full and varied life.

Whilst creating a caring and nurturing setting that allows wellbeing, communication, curiosity, enquiry and creativity to flourish it was important for us to consider:

- ✓ The recommendations of key documentation, in particular 'Curriculum for Excellence', 'How Good is our Early learning and Childcare', 'My World Outdoors', 'Realising the Ambition' and subsequent advice and support presented to nursery both from a national and local perspective.
- ✓ Our children, our families and our local community – their needs, expectations and aspirations.
- ✓ The current situation of our nursery in terms of providing playful learning opportunities of the highest standard.
- ✓ Ensuring that our children are well prepared for their futures – unknown as they are.

We are clear that it is our role and responsibility to ensure that our children's learning experiences is all encompassing. That **all** that our children learn and experience in nursery constitutes their curriculum:

- ✓ What happens within the ethos and life of our nursery.
- ✓ All of the playful learning experiences.
- ✓ Through child led learning explicit links are clear and make sense to the learner.
- ✓ Through the development and recognition of each child's personal achievements.
- ✓ Taking account of each individual's health and well-being.

In striving to meet the wide-ranging needs of all children and families it is important work is done within a **culture of self-evaluation, improvement, professional learning and collegiality**.

Our nursery reflects the values, principals and practice outlined in 'Curriculum for Excellence' and other key documentation. 'Building The Ambition' identifies practical guidance on the experiences and interactions necessary to deliver a challenging developmentally appropriate learning journey for young children. These key messages are the basis for our high aspirations for our children.

It is a child centred curriculum that is **designed** for breadth, depth and progression of learning. It offers challenge and enjoyment and personalisation and choice. In order that our children can make sense of their learning and build on this we focus on delivering learning experiences in a way that is meaningful and coherent.



The Uniqueness of Netherlee

In building a curriculum it is important to consider carefully the context within which we work. The key aspects that have been considered in shaping our current curriculum are:

- ✓ The importance of play
- ✓ The ethos and culture
- ✓ Children's progress and development
- ✓ Children's learning experiences
- ✓ Pedagogy
- ✓ Opportunities for personal achievement
- ✓ Leadership and collegiality
- ✓ Expectations and aspirations
- ✓ Getting it right for every child

Strategic Development of our Pedagogy

We have been focusing as a nursery on **professional learning** that develops and up-skills staff to ensure that our pedagogy actively engages our children in excellent learning experiences where they can achieve and make progress.

Quality Improvement

Continuous improvement and development of our Early Years curriculum is inevitable as we strive to keep up-to-date and prepare our children well for their world. Part of this continuous journey is ensuring quality through rigorous and robust self-evaluation that leads to improvement. For this reason a strategic approach is essential. Our quality improvement procedures focus on:

- ✓ Shared responsibility of meeting needs
- ✓ Shared high standards
- ✓ Learning experiences
- ✓ Monitoring and tracking
- ✓ Support and challenge
- ✓ Reflection using 'How Good is Our Early learning and Childcare'.

Looking Forward

Our curriculum is not static, it will continuously evolve and develop as our thinking and the needs of our children and families and our community change and develop in line with our ever changing and developing society. This is why self-evaluation that leads to self-improvement is central in our quest to provide the very best for Netherlee's children and families.