

Orchard Primary Nurturing Approach

At Orchard Primary, we believe that nurturing interventions are vital for our pupils, regardless of their age, stage or circumstances.

Children are treated with respect, have their talents and successes recognised and rewarded, and are valued for their contributions and achievements across all areas of the curriculum and throughout the wider life of our School.

To help us achieve and embed these principles, develop the principles of nurture through our ethos.



Strategies we use are:

We have set up a range of resources that provide pupils with a relaxing, welcoming and safe environment where they can further develop their sense of belonging and feel able to trust and talk openly to their peers and the adult in the room.

Some activities undertaken in the nurture room include: emotional literacy sessions, news sharing, curricular tasks that pupils require additional support with and snack preparation. Timetables are adaptable and take cognisance of the needs of each pupil.

Our hug monkey Mr Cuddles also stays in the nurture room and is kept very busy with children looking for a special hug.

We continue to build our range of resources. Current favourites for our nurture groups are the glitter jars, mindfulness colouring, sand, cosy corner, Lego and Nintendo Wii.



ORCHARD PRIMARY SCHOOL

NARROWING THE ATTAINMENT GAP-

Nurture

Parent Guide



Why is our School Nurturing?

The importance of positive emotional wellbeing in children's learning is well documented. Those with compromised emotional wellbeing having difficulties in learning or settling to learn.



The Scottish Attainment Challenge is about achieving equity in educational outcomes. Equity can be achieved by ensuring every child has the same opportunity to succeed, with a particular focus on closing the poverty-related attainment gap.

The First Minister launched the Scottish Attainment Challenge in February 2015 to bring a greater sense of urgency and priority to this issue.

The Scottish Attainment Challenge will focus and accelerate targeted improvement activity in literacy, numeracy and health and wellbeing in specific areas of Scotland.

One of these targeted areas is *Nurture*

These are the agreed principles of Nurture which we, at Orchard, embed into our policy and practice.

6 principles of Nurture

1. Children's learning is understood developmentally
(There are lots of different ways to learn and we all learn at a different pace)
2. The class and school is a safe place to be.
(We need to have clear routines, and adults who care for us)
3. Nurture is important for self-esteem.
(We all need to feel important and listened to)
4. Language is a vital means of communication.
(We need to encourage others and use words to share our feelings)
5. All behaviour is communication.
(Actions are also a way of seeing how children really feel)
6. Transitions are significant in the lives of children.
(Even small changes can be difficult and we need time to prepare)



Inside Out

In school, we will be using the characters from the film *Inside Out* to develop a whole range of materials and ideas to help our children understand themselves and others.

The message of the film is that all feelings are important and should be recognised and understood. But it is also helpful to see that how we recover from these negative feelings is equally important. We hope that the film will help our children to understand their own feelings.

The film is a way of providing a shared understanding and a shared way of describing some of the feelings our children might be having.

Each session we will share the film with new parents and children.



At Orchard Primary, we strive to ensure that all children feel included in the life of the school and have a sense of belonging and a voice.