

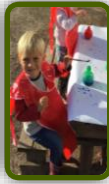


Dunbarney Nursery Sensory & Messy Play Policy



At Dunbarney Nursery, we recognise the importance of sensory and messy play for **high quality, stimulating and curiosity-based learning** in the early years. This policy has been created to ensure a shared understanding of how sensory and messy play experiences are developed and supported in our setting.

Early Years Guidelines & Documents



What do we mean by Messy & Sensory Play?

Our policy is influenced by current documentation in Scotland, relevant to the Early Years:

- Realising the Ambition: Being Me**
Education Scotland
- My World Outdoors**
Care Inspectorate
- Out to Play**
Care Inspectorate & Education Scotland
- How Good Is Our Early Learning & Childcare?**
Education Scotland
- Adventures with Alice-Messy Play**
Play Scotland



Some examples include:

clay dough putty
water glue sand
cooking paint chalk
cornflour rain foam
slime jelly gloop
bubbles puddles
mud snow ice



Clothing & Footwear



Risk Assessment



Aprons are provided for children. Children are encouraged to be as independent in using them as possible. Families are encouraged to provide appropriate clothing for the changeable Scottish weather – wellies/waterproofs! Children should come to nursery in clothing which allows free movement when having fun exploring and learning, and which families don't mind getting dirty. Families provide spare change of clothing in the event children need to get changed. Spare waterproof clothing (wellies and waterproofs) is available for children and cleaned after each use, or when soiled.



We are maximising the opportunities for learning outdoors in all weathers, to reduce the spread of Covid-19.

Children wash their hands between activities, before /after meals and when coming in from outdoors. Handwashing is supervised.

Risk Assessments are in place for all areas of our Nursery and high levels of cleaning and hygiene are maintained throughout.

Children are encouraged not to put items in their mouths, but if this does happen, the items are removed and cleaned.



develop interest in & learn about our natural world

collaborate

develop fine/gross motor skills

communicate
develop creativity skills

make predictions

solve problems

explore

experiment

Through SENSORY & MESSY PLAY our children ...



expand their vocabulary

explore their senses

develop hand-eye co-ordination

express, feelings, thoughts & preferences



develop numeracy skills

enjoy tactile experiences

become curious learners



access their *right* to play

record & share learning



Plan for experiences both indoors & outdoors, that provide appropriate support & challenge.



Are responsive to in the moment learning opportunities & find ways of extending learning in different ways.



Support children in their explorations of different textures, tools & vocabulary.



Take into account any allergy & dietary requirements.



Our Practitioners...



Use open-ended questions to maximise independent thinking skills.



Encourage children to be independent when accessing & putting away protective clothing & resources.



Provide resources which expand learning in science, mathematics & problem-solving to be explored.



HONESTY

AMBITION

Be Your Best Self

RESPECT

KINDNESS

May 2021
Review: April 2022

A little more about the importance of **PLAY** and how it relates to **UNCRC Rights of the Child...**

Article 31 is important to Children and Young People



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● We must have space and time for play, recreation and relaxing
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● Playing helps us stay safe healthy and happy
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● Governments **MUST** find ways to get rid of the things that get in the way of time for play
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● We must have opportunities to explore and understand our own culture
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● We should be involved in cultural and artistic activities and be able to go to places like museums, festivals, theatres, concerts and libraries
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● Governments must make sure that none of us are left out
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● If Governments take all of this seriously, our lives will be happier and healthier


iPa
 Promoting the Child's right to play

