

## ***Role of the Adult – Maintaining the Environment***

### **Reggio Inspired Centre**



#### **Expressive Arts**

- Promote a Reggio Emilia centre offering children a wide variety of resources, so not promote mass production, encourage individual child work using materials, glue, pens, rulers, staplers, scissors etc
- Ensure pencils are sharpened weekly for use
- Paper replenished when required and ensure a variety of shapes of paper are on offer as well as envelopes, sticky pads, variety of writing tools
- Continually replenish resources in line with planning documentation. Each container should be adequately resourced; children should be part of this process and have input towards maintaining their environment
- Area's containing expressive art's materials e.g. paint, spillages monitored and cleared away
- Paintbrushes, pots and other resources which may be prone to wear must be regularly cleaned. **Resources which are past their best should be disposed of and staff must alert the Senior Practitioner if we are low on this resource**
- Environments should be literacy and numeracy reading rich; encouraging children to use labels to gain information; for example, dot patterns and object names
- Ensure children gain access to clay and malleable expressive arts
- Books displayed linked to the area

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#### **Playdough Station**

- Playdough station is cleaned at the end of every session, with each container being replenished. The space should not have any debris and the environment is set-up in an attractive manner in-line with child interests. A feature of the Playdough area is open ended resources and materials, such as pasta and/or natural materials. Staff should ensure these are rotated and new materials are made available to enable a continuous level of provocation and curiosity
- Books of interest linked to baking, cooking etc
- Encourage children to take ownership and pride within their environment and educate on how to use resources, such as Playdough, refraining from tipping and pouring
- Encourage children to use prompt cards to have consistent output when making playdoh independently

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#### **Construction Area / Blocks**

- Provide a variety of blocks and small world resources and display in an attractive way for play experiences
- Provide a variety of small world – people, animals, materials etc
- Provide small and large tubes, bamboo, balancing opportunities and well as construction play experiences
- Promote creative skills and imagination using a variety of resources
- Encourage children to respect ‘work in progress’ signs for building work
- Risk taking play encouraged for building; size, length, width of building projects
- Resource the area well and set up with the children ‘provocations’ at the end of session for the next day, build a boat, rocket etc...
- Books in all areas, ensure books are included, cars, roads, trains etc
- Ensure the area is attractive and inviting for children each session

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#### **Home Corner and Cosy Area**

- Continuously refresh the space with new and enticing objects which will capture the interests of the child and encourage a range of dramatic play scenarios
- Ensure clothing and textured materials are clean and free from soilage or mess. Clothing should be presented for children to access freely and a range of items should be available for children to explore and use
- The home corner should have a mixture of materials objects, such as realism and loose parts, to encourage a variety of play styles and enable children to extend their play
- Literature in area should be regularly rotated and have a mixture of child interest books as well as books relating the context
- Jigsaws should be regularly checked to ensure all pieces are within the box. Sets which are missing pieces should be removed from the floor and marked when stored to prevent the set going back out
- Jewellery items and similar beauty-based objects should be regularly maintained to ensure smaller pieces are secure and item is free from potential harm. Jewellery items must be regularly cleaned
- Clothing items and fancy dress should be cleaned weekly, however items must be regularly checked for cleanliness and presented on hangers to stimulate interest from children
- Books displayed linked to the area

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#### **Sensory Den/ Sensory Playroom**

- Variety of sensory resources to promote calm, relaxing play experiences
- Music/Cd music available for relaxation experiences
- Sensory items must be regularly cleaned and maintained
- Items of curiosity should be rotated in order to maintain a steady flow of interest within that area
- Electrical devices should be monitored and changed over if faulty; i.e. fairy lights- report defects to the Janitor
- Items which require batteries should be changed when out of charge
- Sensory objects such as mirrors, should be cleaned daily and/or during service if the mirror is unfit for use
- Soft toys, teddies and blankets may require a wash and should be regularly checked
- Book displayed linked to the area

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#### **Water Tray**

- Water tray must be emptied every evening, tray should be cleaned for the morning staff
- Items in the water area should be regularly maintained and cleaned as appropriate
- The overspill tray located at the bottom of the storage unit should be regularly removed and cleaned
- Provide a wide variety of natural resources, tubes, poring tools, sponges etc
- Provide a variety of animals, people, babies linking with child interests
- Provide cause and effect opportunities for children, tubs, cups, heavy, light opportunities
- Provide a variety of sensory play experiences to include coloured water, pasta, shaving foam, glitter
- Books displayed linked to the area

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#### **Snack/Lunch Area**

- Promote child independence in preparing snack, cutting fruits and setting up tables for lunch experience
- Snack/Lunch images should be presented each day for children to understand what is for each mealtime. Staff should use dot patterns as means for understanding portions
- Snack/Lunch area should be cleaned thoroughly throughout the day, disinfected and sterile
- Children's water butt must be fresh each day and changed frequently throughout the day to maintain fresh water
- Children should be supported to access water and snack throughout the day time
- Children should be encouraged to develop self-service skills during mealtimes
- Staff should be sat at child level as much as possible during mealtimes to encourage children to replicate similar behaviours and promote a 'family feel' to dining experiences supporting a 'home from home' feeling
- Books displayed linked to the area

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#### **Garden**

- Promote barefoot play in line with risk assessment, provide a box for shoes and socks
- Provide a wide variety of resources to promote play experiences such as garden tools, sand pit resources, water play toys
- Garden must be regularly checked and risk assessed at the beginning and end of session. Janitor will also carry out checks and record playground checks weekly. **Staff to report defective equipment to the Janitor**
- Garden resources which are stored in sheds, e.g. bikes, must be brought out and put away as applicable
- Water trays should be emptied and cleaned at the end of every evening. Water trays should be filled at the beginning of each session and maintained throughout the day
- The sand pit must be covered every evening with waterproof tarpaulin and checked in the morning for litter or debris. Sand from the sand pit must be replenished and cleaned regularly. Toys from the sandpit must be cleaned regularly and stored appropriately in the evenings
- Block play items should be regularly checked and maintained
- The garden home corner must be presentable and enticing to child interests. A mixture of natural materials and loose parts should be used to encourage a range of play stimulus
- Basket of books on offer and replenished with child interests

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