



Stow ELC Curriculum for Excellence Learning and Teaching Policy

“Curriculum for Excellence aims to achieve a transformation in education in Scotland by providing a coherent, more flexible and enriched curriculum for three- to eighteen-year-olds.

The curriculum includes *“the totality of experiences which are planned for children and young people through their education, wherever they are being educated.”* (Learning & Teaching Scotland)

The aims of Curriculum for Excellence are that every child should know they are valued and will be supported to become:

- **Successful Learners**
- **Confident Individuals**
- **Responsible Citizens**
- **Effective Contributors**

All children at Stow Primary Nursery ELC will be provided with a curriculum that is suited to their individual needs, and will be appropriate and meaningful as the child's abilities develop.

In summary, our children will experience:

- **A Coherent Curriculum** - Taken as a whole, children's learning activities should combine to form a coherent experience.
- **Challenge and Enjoyment**- To ensure the children find their learning challenging, engaging and motivating. The curriculum should encourage high aspirations and ambitions for all.
- **Breadth** - A broad, general education, including experiences and outcomes which are well planned across all the curriculum areas, beginning from early years.
- **Progression** - The children should experience continuous progression in their learning from 3 to 18 within a single curriculum framework.
- **Depth** - Opportunities for children to develop their full capacity for different types of thinking and learning.

- **Personalisation and Choice** - The curriculum should respond to individual needs and support particular interests.

- **Relevance** - Children should understand the purpose of their experiences. They should see the value of what they are learning and its relevance to their lives, present and future.

- **A broad, suitably weighted range of experiences.**

- **Opportunities for developing skills** for learning and skills for life with a continuous focus on Literacy, Numeracy and Health and well-being.

- **Personal support** to enable them to gain as much as possible from the opportunities which Curriculum for Excellence can provide.

- **Support in making successful transitions** within nursery to primary school.

Stow Primary Nursery ELC staff will use their knowledge of the child in conjunction with the experiences and outcomes, to plan curriculum programmes, covering the curriculum areas.

The Curriculum areas are:

- Languages
- Mathematics
- Expressive arts
- Health and wellbeing
- Religious and moral education
- Sciences
- Social studies
- Technologies

Purpose of the curriculum at the Early Level stage

The purpose of our curriculum at the early stage is to support children in all aspects of their emotional, social, cognitive and physical development. It should enable them to become increasingly independent, responsible and eager to progress in their learning.

Our Staff will help to achieve this through skilled interaction with each child and by providing stimulating contexts for active learning, by recognising each stage of development and building upon the child's knowledge and skills. They will stimulate and utilise children's enthusiasm, inventiveness and creativity to plan learning activities, which combine to achieve this purpose.

Active learning is firmly in place at Stow Primary Nursery ELC, we aim to create an environment where:

- **The learning environment is imaginatively resourced and stimulating**, with opportunity for engagement in exploratory and spontaneous play.

- **The children are fully engaged in their learning**, which is child led, purposeful and defined within the outcomes and experiences.
- **The learning environment reflects children's interests, previous experiences and stage of development** and extends to and includes the outdoor learning environment.
- **There is an imaginative use of space and resources**, which helps to create opportunities for children to work independently or collaboratively.

All members of Staff strive to create the above-described environment and contribute through:

- **Open, positive, supportive relationships** in which children will feel that they are listened to.
- **Promoting a climate** in which children feel safe and secure.
- **Modelling behaviour** which promotes effective learning and wellbeing.
- **Being sensitive and responsive** to each child's wellbeing.

Children should be encouraged to contribute to the life and work of the nursery.

This includes opportunities to participate responsibly in decision making and planning, to contribute as leaders and role models, to offer support and service to others and to play an active part in putting the values of the nursery community into practice.

Staff will use their observations of children's learning along with experiences and outcomes at the early level to plan coherently for progression in learning across the curriculum.

Assessment

Assessment and Record Keeping are part of the education process and help us to understand the needs of each child.

Careful observations of children enable staff to plan for children to be supported to achieve next steps in learning. Observations are recorded on Showbie and floor books.

Planning

The Scottish Government has identified health and wellbeing, literacy and numeracy as key areas of learning and development for all and we will ensure that opportunities to foster learning and skills in these areas permeate our curriculum and all aspects of the setting's life. Seasonal activities and the celebration of festivals will form a backdrop to our planning as appropriate, rather than the key focus of learning, which will be dictated by children's needs and interests. We will also be guided by 'Realising the Ambition: Being Me' with regard to what the young child needs, taking cognisance of its advice on experiences, adult input and environment.

Recording

A variety of methods are used for recording of learning, these comprise of:

- **Samples of work**
- **Photos/videos**
- **Observations**
- **Child consultations**
- **Information for parents and outside agencies**

Reporting

Parents can find out about what their child is learning in nursery through Showbie and Nursery Communication Board.

Parents are invited to attend Stay and Play sessions where they can learn about the experiences on offer for their child. Parents can discuss their child's progress in an informal setting.

There are two parents' evenings each year to discuss each child's progress with nursery staff.

Care Plans are updated termly and parents will be invited to participate in the process.