

## BATHGATE EARLY YEARS CENTRE - ECO POLICY

At Bathgate Early Years centre we encourage children to care for and take responsibility for their surrounding environment and to develop a sense of ownership and pride in the nursery and the centre grounds. We believe that children should actively contribute along with their families and all staff in creating an environment that is not wasteful of energy or materials and that is caring about the health and well-being of themselves and others.

### AIMS

- Each child should be aware of the importance and significance of looking after their environment.
- Each child should be given opportunities to take on areas of responsibility for looking after their environment supported by the staff and parent/carers.
- Each child should be provided with opportunities which develop a sense of pride and identity within the school and wider community.
- The Eco agenda should be an integral part of Focus Group meetings within the school to encourage awareness and to take forward ideas and initiatives on behalf of the whole centre community.

### Bathgate Early Years Focus group - Eco Agenda Position Statement

- Staff work with parents and children to identify and discuss relevant issues on a regular basis.
- The parents group meets regularly throughout the year and more frequently if they are involved in a project, e.g. Litter Management/ Building projects/ Ragbag/ Garden development etc.

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- The School has an Eco-code which is displayed in the foyer and circulated to parents via the school website
- Staff work with parents and partners to actively seek advice from local/relevant organisations and to help with projects and to take forward their ideas.
- Staff regularly discuss eco issues with children during the nursery session including circle time.
- The Eco board is displayed in the nursery cloakroom area and provides a central information point for parents/ carers.
- All children, parents and staff are encouraged to address litter issues around the centre.
- Recycling facilities exist within the centre.
- A yearly 'Action Plan' is in place within the context of the School Improvement Plan (SIP).

Bathgate Early Years centre opened in 2006. The first Green Flag was awarded in May 2010 and second in May 2012.

Through the implementation of this policy and taking cognisance of the nine Eco topic areas when planning for children's learning we aim for our children to develop within the context of CfE as:

**Successful Learners** through using their imagination and creativity, tackling new experiences and learning from them, and developing important skills including literacy and numeracy through exploring and investigation while following their interests.

**Confident Individuals** through succeeding in their activities, having the satisfaction of a task accomplished, learning about bouncing back from

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setbacks and dealing safely with risk.

Responsible Citizens through encountering different ways of seeing the world learning to share and give and take, learning to respect themselves and others and taking part in making decisions.

Effective Contributors through playing together in leading or supporting roles, tackling problems, extending communication skills, taking part in sustained talking and thinking and respecting the opinions of others.

*Policy Updated March 2015 to be reviewed during session 2015-2016*