



Play, Learn and Grow Together

Curriculum Planning

Statement of Intent

For children between the ages of 3 and 5 years, the Nursery provides "one year of non-compulsory education, delivered in line with a curriculum that builds on the learning that children experience at home and/or in other settings." (Curricular Guidance for Pre-school Education 2018).

Aims

Our aim is to provide activities that will develop the whole child by:-

- Promoting emotional, social, physical, creative and intellectual development
- Developing self esteem, self control and positive attitudes toward others
- Developing language and communication skills to encourage the sharing of thoughts and feelings
- Creating confident, eager, enthusiastic, independent, curious learners with a positive and problem-solving attitude to learning

Method

1. Planning

- Information is gathered about the child from parents / carers and other professionals prior to their start at Nursery
- Planning takes into account what children should learn and how we can promote learning through child-centred activities which are varied and progressive
- Information we have gathered is used to ensure a smooth transition to Nursery
- Plans ensure the learning experiences for each child are broad and balanced and promote continuity and steady progression in the child's overall development
- All staff are involved in planning and observation in order that everyone can reflect on how they can create a stimulating, challenging environment and plan for progression
- A flexible approach is adopted and takes account of the children's responses and the outcomes of plans
- Parents / carers are informed of the learning that is taking place
- Learning is planned around all six areas of the curriculum in the form of long term, medium and short term plans
- We prepare plans before the start of each month, centred on a theme or topic

- Each week's activities are planned so that the activities / resources are changed part way through the week. This is subject to the children's responses and interests
- Parents are informed of the plans for the month and are asked to support their child's learning in school through the song and rhyme sheet, and topic language support. All monthly information is posted on the school website or on the Seesaw app. This is also displayed in the Nursery hallway
- Through parenting programmes, stay and play sessions and information sessions, we discuss the curriculum with parents, the importance of learning through play and how children learn through play in order to empower them to support their child's development at home

2. Observations

Assessment of each child's development is based on day to day observation and interactions with the children in a range of situations.

Observations:-

- Allow staff to gain a better insight into the children's strengths, experiences, interests, needs and areas for development
- Help staff decide how to support and enhance the children's learning
- Enable staff to recognise children's achievements, share these with them and record them

The curriculum provided by Hart Memorial Nursery

Children start to learn about the world around them from the moment they are born. The care and education offered by Hart Memorial Nursery helps children to continue to do this by providing all of the children with interesting activities that are right for their age and stage of development.

The Curriculum Guidance for Pre-School divides children's learning and development into six areas of learning:

- [Personal, Social and Emotional Development;](#)
- [Early Language Development;](#)
- [Early Mathematical development;](#)
- [The World Around Us;](#)
- [Physical Development and Movement; and](#)
- [The Arts.](#)

For each area, the guidance sets out early learning goals. These goals state what it is expected that children will know and be able to do by the end of the nursery year of their education.

For each early learning goal, children are likely to pass through various stages as they move to achievement of the goal. All children do not develop at the same rate and hence they will

be at different stages. Hart Memorial Nursery observations of children during play help us to trace each child's progress and to enable us to provide the right activities to help all children move towards achievement of the early learning goals.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Children will have the ability to:

- show an awareness of personal worth
- display increasing self-confidence, self-control and self-discipline
- enjoy relationships with adults and other children and work both independently and as part of a group
- share, take turns, follow and lead
- be increasingly sensitive to the needs and feelings of others
- demonstrate consideration for others by caring for and helping one another
- understand rules and routines and engage in acceptable behaviour
- show some independence in dressing and in personal hygiene
- eagerly explore new learning; • show an increasing awareness of the importance of healthy food, hygienic habits, exercise and rest
- persevere with tasks and seek help when needed
- take pleasure in their achievements
- treat living things and the environment with respect, care and concern

Early Language Development

Children will have the ability to:

- listen and engage in conversation
- respond to simple instructions and follow directions;
- make an appropriate response or answer a question
- express thoughts, ideas and feelings with increasing confidence
- use a growing vocabulary appropriately
- interact and participate with increasing confidence
- engage in role-play, using appropriate language to express their feelings
- demonstrate increasing phonological awareness, including an awareness of rhyme, syllable and sound
- Share stories with adults and peers or enjoy them independently

Early Mathematical Development

Children will have the ability to:

- listen to and engage in number rhymes, jingles and songs
- listen to and engage in stories that contain elements of mathematics
- appreciate that objects are stored in particular boxes or areas
- use some mathematical language - big, small/ little, full, empty, more, another, long, short, heavy and light
- talk about the steps involved in completing an activity
- talk about being first, last and next when taking turns; • talk about daily routines and seasonal events
- sort, match, sequence and count in the course of their play
- understand some prepositional words - in, on, at, above, below and under
- recognise and talk about shapes in their environment
- solve problems, question, predict and experiment
- talk about photos of familiar objects taken from different angles and decide what objects they are
- observe equipment from a variety of positions, for example talking about what they notice about the play area when observed from the top of the slide
- talk about objects in the distance and those that are near, or close to the reader when sharing story books

The World Around Us

Children will have the ability to:

- **show interest in and care for their environment**
- care for and respect living things and handle them sensitively
- talk about themselves, their families, their pre-school setting and the wider environment
- care for and respect living things and handle them sensitively
- talk about themselves, their families, their pre-school setting and the wider environment
- recognise the role of some people who work within the setting and the local community
- show an awareness of time as they talk about seasonal and festive events and take part in daily routines
- observe, explore, investigate and select materials and equipment in a range of situations
- ask questions about why things happen and how things work

- use skills such as cutting, sticking, folding, pouring and building as they work with a variety of materials
- begin to name parts of the body
- identify a variety of familiar sounds
- talk about their observations and make simple predictions about things, for example what would happen if water was added to sand
- show an awareness of some environmental and safety issues

Physical Development and Movement

Children will have the ability to:

- demonstrate gross and fine motor skills
- show an awareness of space and of others and begin to use space imaginatively
- move confidently with control and co-ordination
- use a wide range of large and small equipment with increasing confidence and skill
- use tools and equipment appropriately and safely and understand simple rules

The Arts

Children will have the ability to:

- explore a variety of materials, appreciating colour, shape, texture and sound
- express their ideas, communicate their feelings, use their imagination and use a range of materials to make simple representations, which will become more detailed as their concentration and observational skills increase
- develop manipulative skills as they handle appropriate tools and instruments
- begin to value their own and other children's work
- express ideas and feelings during role-play and begin to assume different roles
- learn songs, listen and respond to music, and make their own music by singing, clapping and playing percussion instruments

Play helps young children to learn and develop through doing and talking, which research has shown to be the means by which young children think. Hart Memorial Nursery uses the curriculum to plan and provide a range of play activities which help children to make progress in each of the areas of learning and development. In some of these activities children decide how they will use the activity and, in others, an adult takes the lead in helping the children to take part in the activity. In all activities information from the curriculum and learning through play document has been used to decide what equipment to provide and how to provide it.



Reviewed: November 2019