



Teaching & Learning Policy

Vision Statement

At Oxclose Community Nursery School we are passionate about learning and as a team we are committed to providing the best for the children in our care, their families and the wider community. We aim to provide a learning environment where children can experience a sense of awe and wonder, enabling them to develop a love for learning. Our stimulating curriculum enables children to become independent, confident, enthusiastic and caring individuals inspired for life.

Aims:

The aim of this policy is to communicate to parents, carers, governors and staff how we aim to:

- Provide a high quality teaching and learning culture.
- Support children to become independent learners
- Educate and develop the whole child
- Provide a safe, happy and stimulating environment
- Build positive relationships with parents and the wider community
- Develop responsible citizens for the future
- Involve parents in a partnership
- Encourage lifelong learning

Characteristics of Effective learning:

We acknowledge that people learn in different ways and we recognise the need to develop strategies that allow children to learn in the ways that best suit them. We promote and encourage learning behaviours and dispositions that support children to learn and think for themselves. Through play and self-initiated experiences children are able to

- Play and explore in an environment that respects children's ideas and interests.
- Actively engage in self-motivated activities that develop concentration and resilience to keep trying.
- Thinking creatively and critically, having their own ideas to make sense of their experiences.



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Children Learn Best When

- They are happy, healthy and secure
- Have positive relationships with adults and peers
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- Are able to ask questions and learn from their mistakes
- Freedom and time to explore and investigate
- Expectations, routines and boundaries are appropriate and match their ability
- Supported by knowledgeable adults to take risks
- The environment is stimulating and resources are accessible

Effective Teaching

At Oxclose Community Nursery School we base our teaching on the three prime areas of development, personal, social and emotional development, communication and language development and physical development with the specific skills and knowledge of literacy, mathematical understanding, understanding of the world and expressive arts and design being taught in a meaningful context. We encourage children in following their interests, supporting and scaffolding learning through play.

Curriculum design

We have structured our curriculum intent around four overarching principles that are key to children's learning and development.

- Positive Relationships
- Effective Communicator
- Health Body & Mind
- Critical Thinker

We Teach Best When

- We show knowledge an understanding of each stage of development that the child has reached
- We have positive relationships
- We are well prepared and plan effectively
- Learning objectives are clear and match the child's ability
- We know the children well and build on previous experiences
- We have high expectations
- We use resources and time effectively
- We are flexible to changing situations
- Assessment is detailed and accurate

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Monitoring and Evaluation

We engage in a cycle of monitoring and evaluating the impact of our work throughout the year to help us support and develop all aspects of teaching and learning.

What do we monitor/evaluate?

- Children's progress
- Staff performance and development
- Learning environment
- Resources
- Curriculum
- Routines

How do we monitor/evaluate?

- Performance Management
- OFSTED judgement
- Parent questionnaires
- School Development Plan
- Observations of children's learning
- Share planning and assessment information
- Track children's progress to identify gaps
- Moderate evidence of learning
- Share information with parents and carers
- Observe each other in our daily practice

Parents as Partners in Learning

We believe that children's learning is enhanced by positive relationships between parents and school. Parents have a fundamental role in helping children to learn. We inform parents of their children's learning by:

- Visit the home before the child starts at the school
- Parents have access to their child's key worker daily
- Hold parent interviews in Autumn and Spring term
- Document children's achievement in learning journals to share with parents
- Send an annual written report which details progress
- Document children's achievement in learning journals
- Hold family learning days to share early learning experiences with parents
- Hold regular meetings for children with barriers to learning.

We encourage parents to support their children's learning in a variety of ways

- Making sure the child is on time and attends every day except if they are ill
- Inform the school of any issues which might have an impact on the child's learning or behaviour
- Promote a positive attitude to learning

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Role of the Headteacher and Governors

The Headteacher and governing body determine, support, monitor and review the school policies by:

- Support the use of appropriate teaching strategies by allocating resources effectively.
- Ensure the school building and premises are best used to support teaching and learning
- Follow health and safety regulations
- Monitor impact of teaching and learning in terms of raising pupil attainment.
- Ensure staff development and performance management policies promote good quality teaching
- Take an active role in the life of the school through link visits and attending special events.
- Support the use of the school premises for use by community groups

Inclusion

Our school has an inclusive philosophy, building relationships on mutual respect and tolerance. We offer consistent support and encouragement to one another. All children at Oxclose Community Nursery School regardless of physical, emotional, academic ability, gender, religion or race will be given equal opportunities at accessing and thriving within all aspects of school life.

References to policies/ documents

- Revised Early Years Statutory Guidance 2021
- Equality, Diversity & Community Cohesion Policy