

Prestonfield Primary School

Nursery Class



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Learning in the nursery

Children lead learning in the nursery. Their interests are supported and extended by skilled, responsive staff. Staff understand child development and ensure that learning experiences are age and stage appropriate and meet the needs of all children.

All learning in the nursery is 'play-based'. Children learn through play, staff observe children at play and engage in high quality interactions with them. This approach ensures children are motivated, engaged, independent learners. The children's voices are embedded in every aspect of their learning.

Staff support and encourage children's creativity and curiosity, these are key in supporting skills for life and learning.

Wellbeing and Involvement

Staff ensure nurture principles are embedded in planning and provision. The Curriculum for Excellence provides a framework for staff to ensure the positive 'Health and Wellbeing' of all children. Staff provide a safe, consistent, caring environment where children learn to value themselves and each other, following the school values; We are kind. We are responsible. We are ambitious.

Children's self-respect and self-regulation is supported by staff, encouraging them to learn in a respectful, inclusive community. They are actively involved in the life of the nursery and school.



Literacy and Numeracy

Children are provided with a wide variety of learning experiences to support literacy and numeracy skills. Their communication and language are developed through songs, rhyme, storytelling and story sharing. There are opportunities to talk and listen throughout the nursery, indoors and outdoors. Children are encouraged to mark make using a variety of materials, this supports writing skills.

Imaginative role play and sensory exploration provide children with opportunities to develop their literacy and numeracy skills.

Children's numeracy skills are developed through play; water play, block play, baking, and many other areas of the nursery. Block play promotes problem solving, design, planning, higher order thinking, measure, counting.

Children's physical, social, emotional, intellectual and digital learning is embedded in planning and assessment.

Progression

Children's progress is recorded and evaluated by their keyworker and the whole nursery team. Their learning journal evidences their progress. Individual learning plans are developed for all children.

Children's achievements, at nursery and at home, are celebrated. Staff discuss children's progress and assess their learning to ensure progression in learning over time.

Transitions, moving to other settings or into Primary 1 are carefully planned, using a multi-agency approach (if appropriate).



Curriculum for Excellence, Experiences and Outcomes

‘Play is important for the early stages of brain development and playing with your child can help build relationships for later life. But no matter what age we are, play helps to develop important skills for learning, life and work.

Encouraging play is one of the best things you can do for your child, whatever their age, and it's free’.

Children choose where they play and learn within the setting and who they play with. We have a free-flow, open door policy. There are a broad range of experiences for them to choose from every day; cooking/baking, art and craft, sensory exploration – clay, dough, etc, also sand and water play, small world play (animals, people, vehicles, doll’s house, etc.), block play, digital and technological learning experiences, stories, songs, music, home corner, dress up, climbing, cycling, running, balancing, etc. There is a stimulating range of open-ended learning experiences which allow children to take risks, in a safe environment, and challenge themselves.

Children have opportunities to play and learn with Primary 1 children and to represent the nursery, alongside children from P1-P7, on the Pupil Council. Children also contribute to nursery planning, policies and procedures.

<https://education.gov.scot/improvement/learning-resources/realising-the-ambition/>

<https://education.gov.scot/education-scotland/scottish-education-system/policy-for-scottish-education/policy-drivers/cfe-building-from-the-statement-appendix-incl-btc1-5/what-is-curriculum-for-excellence>

