

Children's activities

Aim

To make a place that all children want to learn and explore. To develop at their own pace and to show parents what they have achieved and what they are learning.

Methods

Loseley Fields Children's Children is a stimulating environment for all children to learn through chosen activities where all materials are accessible so the children can use their initiative to choose the activity of their choice.

Both under 2's and over 2's have low level shelves so children can choose activities independently but with the help and guidance of the staff.

In both rooms there are areas for the children to hang artwork or pictures throughout the day and a space for "Construction in progress" work if a child hasn't finished their work or they need to wait for it to dry.

We will invite parents/carers to open evening so they can see what the children are learning and what the purpose of the activity was and what the staff will do with observations they have done on each child and how they will continue developing the children.

Care, Learning and Play

Positive play will be the key to learning, encouraging all children with their efforts no matter how small. The children will be encouraged to try new activities supported by staff in a safe and secure environment.

Each day parents/carers will have a "today I" form which will record what the children have explored and investigated throughout the day. This will also record what they have eaten, if they have slept and any nappy changes or toileting.

There will also be a daily activities board outside each room to give parents/carers information about the day and a sample of what the children have been doing. These will consist of photos, pictures or models.

Key workers will meet with their key child's parents/carers to discuss the progress of their child and to see what area they can help them with. Each child will have a profile which will contain the observations that the staff have made on the child along with any photos or picture evidence.

Learning right from wrong

Children will be able to explore their environment in a safe and secure way. By giving them opportunities to learn about what they are doing and how it can affect others. The children will have nursery rules to follow; these will be up in the base rooms in picture format so the children can remember them and be shown them if they are doing something which doesn't follow the rules.

The staff will act as good role models for the children respecting each other and considering their views and needs, just like they will do for the children. This will show the children good role modelling.

There will be opportunities to learn about people's feelings and what is right and wrong through stories, role play and small world play. This will be supported by the staff members and through images they can see in the base rooms.

Learning and play opportunities

The staff will plan activities for the children following the EYFS guidance. There will be opportunities to do child lead activities, adult lead activities and activities which are out throughout the whole day. Both rooms have free flow to the outside areas which will have access daily to give the children time both inside and out.

There will be opportunities throughout the day for energetic play and for quiet times.

Language and mathematical thinking

The children will be able to see, hear and respond to different types of language throughout the nursery. There will be books in a wide range of languages, posters, display and letters around the rooms so the children can explore text and words.

The children will have name cards so they can put their name on their models or on a jobs board or on the activities board. There will be a time for the children to reflect on the day and talk to others in the setting of what they have done and enjoyed and what they will be doing tomorrow.

The staff will listen and respond to the children in a caring and respectful way. All staff will get down to the children's level when they are speaking to them so not to make the child feel intimidated.

The children will be able to listen to stories on cds, share stories with each other or have an adult read them a story. The children will be able to problem solve throughout the day, like counting out the cups for lunchtime and making sure everyone has a place to sit for tea. There will be times to speak in a group or quietly to a friend or shout really loud. We will encourage children with different languages to the group and ask parents for familiar words or phrases that the staff and children in the nursery can use with the child. We will work together with the family to build the children's vocabulary through planned activities and daily experiences.

Imagination and creativity

All children will have the opportunity to express their creativity and imagination through a wide range of creative activities from listening to music, acting out stories, painting and drawing and modelling with a wide range of materials and media.

All children's efforts will be celebrated and encouraged to make them feel proud of what they have done and what they can do.

The children will be able to show their work off to their peers and to the families.

Planning and recording

The staff will observe the children throughout the day and write observations which will go into the child's profile. These will be part of the daily planning as well as goals for the week. From the profiles the staff can monitor the child's development and see where they need to observe more to see which part needs progressing.

The profiles will be shared with the parents and other professionals to help develop the children in all areas of learning.

Organising resources

All the resources will be at low level so the children can explore the items. The shelves will be labelled so all children can put the items back where they belong and know where they will find them the next day. The children will be able to make choices between a wide range of activities and can be supported by the staff to try different activities.

Useful resources and websites

Early Years Foundation Stages
Birth to three matters
Early learning goals
Every child matters

www.surestart.co.uk

This policy was adopted by for Loseley Fields Children Centre.	
Name:	
Position:	
Signature:	
Date:	Review Date: