Rowley View Nursery School
Curriculum Intent

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

All children are shown they are unique and respected for their differences. We encourage their independence, turn taking and sharing skills through play. We value their individual thought processes and support them to develop positive relationships with both the adults and other children within the classroom. We help them to label their emotions and then encourage them to share their feelings with those around them. Our family group times develop their understanding of our daily routine and provide opportunities to develop relationships with those around them. Each group has a 'special helper' who is given daily tasks to complete. This teaches the children responsibility and develops their confidence within the group. The children are given the time and space within the classroom to put these skills into practice. We promote and embed 'British Values', encouraging respect, co-operation and positive relationship and mutual respect. We support children to talk through conflict within the classroom and we use positive praise to support our group time rules. We use 'pebble jars' as a system to reward and promote expected behaviour.

Communication and Language

Our curriculum values all communication, both verbal and non-verbal. Developing children's communication is the basis to all learning in our school and we provide a curriculum rich in song and stories. Reluctant talkers are supported with the use of Makaton signing, Listening Lola activities and Early Talk Boost groups. Visual prompts and pictures are provided to encourage non-verbal communication. Children are given time to be listened to, time to talk and time to listen and respond. They are given daily opportunities to learn the importance of listening to those around them, both in small group discussions and play. Their listening skills are challenged with 'Letters and Sounds' phonics activities. We model and expand new vocabulary to move children's learning on and teach our children to follow a range of instructions. All languages are respected and discussions of a child's home and culture is encouraged.

Physical Development

Our Physical Development curriculum promotes children's independence within nursery school. Children learn to use cups, plates and tools such as paintbrushes and glue spreaders. They are encouraged to put on their own coat, shoes and dressing up clothes and use the toilet independently. They develop their skill in making marks through sensory play, using materials such as paint, shaving foam and cornflour as well as pencils and pens. Children join in with a variety of physical exercise to develop the large muscles in their body. These include: yoga, brain gym, dance and movement. We encourage risk taking and discovery to challenge children's physical skills outside, which helps to develop their co-ordination and balance. We show children the positive effects of physical exercise on their body; listening to how fast they are breathing and feeling the speed of their heart beating. We teach children the importance of making healthy food choices and include these in cooking activities.

Reading

We support children's early reading skills by providing a curriculum rich in a variety of different texts and print. We share a 'story of the week' at group times, incorporating different cultures and

themes. Story telling is promoted in a fun, interactive way so that the joy of stories is shared. Verbal story telling is encouraged through using story sacks, props, role play and drama. We value the children as storytellers as well as the adults. Children see print in the classroom in a range of ways, such as menus and cookbooks in the home corner and their name cards and labels. They self-register each morning by finding their own name to display on the board. We teach early phonics through 'Letters and Sounds' activities, teaching children to explore the sounds around them and to develop their understanding of rhythm and rhyme.

Writing

Within our curriculum we take a multi-sensory approach to mark making using a wide variety of media. This includes mark making in sand, salt, flour and shaving foam. Opportunities are provided throughout the classroom and all mark making is encouraged and valued. We teach children to ascribe meaning to their marks to represent pictures, letters, numbers and symbols. Fine motor resources are provided to develop the muscle strength to enable effective writing.

Mathematics

Our curriculum teaches children to be confident mathematicians. They experience number through counting, games, songs and stories. We give them opportunities to practice and apply their skills in a variety of ways through play. Such as using number lines and counting bears and exploring 'numicon'. They explore capacity, length, height and weight through activities such as construction, cooking and sand and water play. We give them the mathematical language needed to reason and problem solve.

Understanding the World

We develop the children's cultural capital of the environment around them and give them the opportunity to explore the world using all of their senses. They learn about the changes that take place outside across the seasons and how the world works. We instil 'British Values' throughout our curriculum by learning about British festivals and events as well as those of other religions and cultures. Children learn how to use a range of technology and its purpose within our lives. Children learn about the different roles people play in the world and develop their understanding of the natural world.

Expressive Arts and Design

We encourage expression in all forms and introduce all varieties of dance, singing, role play and media. Our curriculum gives children the opportunity to use their imagination freely, creating a wide range of artistic projects. Children explore different textures such as paint, glue, collage materials, jelly, gloop and spaghetti. We value their representations and encourage them to mix media and talk through their creative ideas. They have daily opportunities to explore musical instruments, the sounds that they make and learn to keep a beat. We learn how to move rhythmically to music. Children are encouraged to use their imagination during play, to use props to support their play ideas and to share their ideas with others.