

The Jungle Day Nursery & Cheeky Monkeys Nursery Ltd

Policy No 31-08

Planning activities for the children

This policy summarises the arrangements for planning and preparing a range of indoor and outdoor activities, experiences and learning opportunities that promote the child's development and learning appropriate to their age and needs. In this context this will be referred to as the Nursery Curriculum.

1. A plan of indoor and outdoor nursery activities for Monday to Friday calendar week is prepared one week in advance by the qualified nursery staff in consultation with the nursery manager. This will allow sufficient time for adequate preparation of toys, equipment and facilities, and to prepare for staff rotas. Planning however, is flexible to change as needed, to suit the individual needs of the children. Annotations and adaptations on planning are encouraged.
2. Where outings or trips are scheduled in to the curriculum then more than one week notice may be required to ensure that parents/ guardians/ carers are informed and to allow sufficient time for parental consent to be obtained (ref. policy 44-14).
3. The plan of activities will be recorded on a Weekly Activities planning sheet. These planning sheets are retained by the nursery manager as an essential part of the nursery Quality records system.
4. Planning a weekly curriculum of activities will involve consulting the views of the children themselves, and take into account the following factors relevant to the mix of the children in the nursery:
 - The numbers, ages and developmental stages of the children attending the nursery.
 - The racial; origins, and cultural and language backgrounds of the children.
 - The religious backgrounds of the children are reflected in festivals, celebrations, and special day.
5. The weekly activities plan is designed to be flexible, and will provide the following:
 - A suitable mix of noisy and quiet activities, with sufficient time for rest/ naps built into the daily plan.
 - An ethos that allows children to work and play at their own pace.
 - Opportunities for children to play in large and small groups, and on their own.
6. Activities will be child-centred, provide equal opportunity, and will be designed to achieve the following:
 - To develop the child's physical, intellectual and linguistic potential, and social/ cultural values.

Signed by _____

Date _____

Review Date _____

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- To support children who have a range of different needs and abilities, and who are varying in stages of development.
- To encourage children to come to terms with their own lives, to express their feelings, and to enjoy the companionship of other children and to respect their ethnic/ cultural values.
- To stimulate the child's creativity and imagination, and to create habits of listening and concentrating.
- To develop coordinative and manipulative skills.
- To provide opportunities for children to explore and enjoy natural materials, thus expanding their understanding of the world around them.
- To establish the use of patterns and symbols which form an essential basis of literacy and numeracy, and to form the basis of mathematical understanding.
- Through appropriate outdoor activities, to realise their energies, and to run and play and use louder voices than is normally practicable outside.

The planning is wholly centred around the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile (EYFS). Objectives for activities are taken from the EYFS and differentiated for developmental needs/ ages.

Nursery nurses are encouraged to continuously assess, observe which in turn will feed into the planning. Staff are encouraged to continuously evaluate their planning and, make changes where ever necessary. (Staff understand that plans are not to be formal – changes are expected to be made and annotations on plans are encouraged.) Short term planning is done on a weekly basis only. We believe that plans are not to be made too far in advance, to ensure that the different learning experience and development that children are having on a day to day basis, are taken into account.

While staff are planning they are encouraged to continuously refer to the EYFS guidance to help them plan effectively using the objectives.

Throughout our planning we use the 6 areas of learning to ensure that the nursery curriculum caters for all the development areas. These 6 areas are:

- personal social and emotional development
- communication, language and literacy
- problem solving, reasoning and numeracy
- knowledge and understanding of the world
- Physical development
- Creative development

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