

Boston Nursery School

Characteristics of Effective Teaching and Learning



The Overarching Intent for our Curriculum is 'School Readiness'.

We know that the actual learning of young children is not neat and orderly. For that reason, accurate and proportionate assessment is vital. It helps us to make informed decisions about what each of our children need to learn and be able to do next.

We know our children are powerful learners, with every child making progress in their learning when we give them right support. Therefore, we provide carefully organised, enabling environments and adjust our practice to allow for high-quality play. We frequently make time and space available for children to invent their own play, and join in sensitively to support, scaffold and extend our children's learning.

Our children learn through many and varied types of play. Our child-centred, play-based curriculum supports:

- **playing and exploring** - our children investigate and experience things, and 'have a go'
- **active learning** - children concentrate and keep on trying if they encounter difficulties, and enjoy achievements
- **creating and thinking critically** - children have and develop their own ideas, make links between ideas, and develop strategies for doing things



Our intent through supporting children to develop the characteristics of effective learning is that our children will develop the skills consistent with self-regulation, resilience and learning throughout life, as well as for making the most of the learning opportunities provided in school.



[Skills] Through playing and exploring, our children will be able to:

Realise that their actions have an effect on the world, so they want to keep repeating them.



Plan and think ahead about how they will explore or play with objects.

Guide their own thinking and actions by referring to visual aids or by talking to themselves while playing. For example, a child doing a jigsaw might whisper under their breath: "Where does that one go? - I need to find the big horse next."

Make independent choices.

Bring their own interests and fascinations into our Nursery. This will help them to develop their learning.

Respond to new experiences that we bring to their attention.

[Skills] Through Active Learning, our children will be able to:

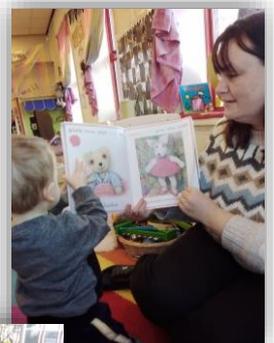
Participate in routines, such as going to group session at the right time.

Predict sequences because they know routines.

Show goal-directed behaviours.

Correct some mistakes themselves.

Keep on trying when things are difficult.



[Skills] Through creating and thinking critically, our children will be able to:

Take part in simple pretend play eg they might use an object like a brush to pretend to brush their hair, or 'drink' from a pretend cup.

Sort materials eg tidy-up time, know how to put different construction materials in separate baskets.

Review their progress as they try to achieve a goal.

Check how well they are doing.



Solve real problems eg to share four strawberries between two friends, they might put one in front of each, then a second, and finally a third. Finally, they might check at the end that everyone has the same number of strawberries.

Use pretend play to think beyond the 'here and now' and to understand another perspective. For example, a child role-playing the billy goats gruff might suggest that "Maybe the troll is lonely and hungry? That's why he is fierce."

Know more, so feel confident about coming up with their own ideas.

Make more links between those ideas.

Concentrate on achieving something that's important to them. They will be increasingly able to control their attention and ignore distractions.