



Environment Policy

Bright Start Day Nursery promotes a safe, stimulating environment which acknowledges the importance of caring for our surroundings both within and outside the setting. Children will be provided with age appropriate knowledge and experiences to give them an understanding of our environment, the living world and the impact we have on it. All working practices will support the environment and global awareness and we will encourage our children in the 5 r's - reduce, reuse, recycle, repair and respect.

Aims

- To identify ways Bright Start Day Nursery will include environmental awareness in the everyday life of the setting.
- To focus on the wider world and provide activities which will reflect on multicultural awareness and the introduction of the children to other cultures and countries, and celebrate diversity.
- Children and staff will be actively involved in the planning of activities to ensure our working practice and ethos in the setting supports the environment.

Physical Environment

- Bright Start Day Nursery is welcoming and friendly and the environment is appropriate for the various stages of your child's development.
- The nursery has adequate space and sufficient child size furniture.
- The environment feels safe, secure and is well lit with adequate natural lighting and ventilation. Appropriate temperatures will be maintained.
- Displays and pictures are accessible from a child's height.
- Bright Start Day Nursery is a smoke free environment.

Children's Involvement

- Activities are planned to develop and nurture children's natural curiosity, knowledge and understanding of the world around them to include cultural diversity.
- All children will have access to inside and outside activities.
- Children have choice in their activities and their ideas are heard and valued.
- Children have easy access to toys.
- All children's work will be displayed.

- Children will be offered 'first hand' experiences within the environment of the setting grounds and wider community.

Outdoors

- Planning is developed to include outdoor opportunity to play and explore.
- Outdoor play is accessible to all and will involve exploring the natural world.
- Children can take part and learn to plant and grow flowers and vegetables.
- Children are encouraged to care for living creatures to include pets and minibeasts.
- There is a range of resources and play equipment for children to explore natural materials.
- Children learn to collect water in the outside area and how lack of water affects the local and wider community.
- Children are taken on walks to various locations to learn about the wider community eg. paths, woodland, trips to the beach and local parks.

Recycling

- Children will take part in activities around recycling and the disposal and reusing of waste in and outside the building.
- Children will learn to use the allocated bins for food waste, plastic, cardboard and paper products.
- Staff and parents collect recyclable materials for use with craft and activities within the setting.
- Bright Start Day Nursery uses recycling centres to purchase materials for use with activities and crafts with children.
- Children will learn to help and maintain a compost bin and learn how it can be used for planting and growing.
- Food waste is monitored and disposed of using food waste scheme.
- We are committed to saving water and all our sinks have "turn off the tap" signs.
- We are committed to saving electricity and all our light switches have "turn off the light" signs.

Community Links

- The nursery make links with the community supporting local community and business events. ie, visit local garden centres.
- Children have opportunities to explore beyond the setting. ie woods, parks, pathways, shops and surrounding areas.

- Members of the local community and outside agencies will be invited to talk to children around the environment theme to link in with local themes and issues.
- The setting will have close links with the local schools to ensure a smooth transition.

Global Citizenship

- Bright Start Day Nursery values and celebrates children from different cultures and our planning includes topics which focus upon the wider world and activities which promote multicultural awareness.
- Resources are available to represent the wider world. ie. jigsaws, dolls, toys and books.
- Children are encouraged to develop a sense of curiosity about the environment in which they live.
- Bright Start Day Nursery will support a variety of national and local initiatives which promote environmental awareness eg. Fairtrade Fortnight.

We would like to thank all our parents and carers for their support with our environment policy and as always welcome any comments you may have.