



General Welfare Requirement:

Safeguarding and Promoting Children's Welfare

The provider must take necessary steps to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.

Inclusion, Special Educational Needs and Disability

English as an Additional Language

Policy Statement

Cherry Blossom Nursery and Preschool aims to create a welcoming environment that values diversity and encourages all children to reach their full potential.

Families and their children with English as an Additional Language (EAL) are treated with full regard to this equality of opportunity.

Procedures

1. It is important to us to value and celebrate each child's culture and home language.
2. Learning language is only one part of a child's total experience at nursery.
3. Negative stereotypes can be harmful to a child e.g. the view that a child may find it harder to learn because they speak a language other than English.
4. All of our children are individuals and will vary in their development of language.
5. Through our planning, observing and assessment systems we work to identify and meet every child's needs.

Helping children learn an additional language

All of the children learning an additional language at Birkdale Nursery must be made to feel fully included and valued.

It is very important that they are treated fairly and equally and that their individual needs are met.

Points for consideration are:

1. Children learn an additional language because they want to communicate using it.
2. Cherry Blossom Nursery and Preschool recognises that children are developing as skillful communicators in their home language and may be in the process of learning one or more languages at home as well as English.
3. We encourage parents to maintain their home language.
4. We appreciate that it may take seven- to-ten years for a child to become fluent and bilingual.
5. Learning language is best encouraged when children are participating in regular curriculum activities and everyday events.
6. Using visual cues to support children. It may be particularly helpful for the child to see and experience what is being talked about.

7. We praise children's efforts and recognise their achievements.
8. We ask parents to supply phrases in their home language to help their settling.
9. 9. We encourage the celebration of festivals and share their cultures and beliefs.

Partnership with parents

We do everything we can to work in partnership with parents, as they know their child best. This includes finding out as much as we can about children before they first start at nursery. Daily contact, communication with parents and keeping them informed about their child's learning and progress is vital. It is important to remember that we gain a great deal of information from parents about how best to meet their children's needs at nursery.

If a child does not appear to have a good standard in English language, it is important to discuss with the parent/carers the child's skills in home language to discover if there is any cause for concern.

Where a parent does not speak English, or needs support to understand, we will do our best to assist them. This might include use of visual aids, interpreters or the translation of key documents or policies into their home language. We will also access support from our local authority and the Travellers and English as an Additional Service (TEALS) of East Sussex County Council as the need arises.

Dated: 11/09/2023

Karen Elliott

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