

Froebelian Principles in Practice

Importance of Valuing Childhood in its Own Right

- Children are able to make their own choices, decisions and express their thoughts and feelings.
- Children have the opportunity to move freely between indoor and outdoors and experience all weathers.
- Staff encourage children to participate in challenging experiences and manage risk themselves by using real tools, kitchen utensils, exploring height through building and climbing and helping to light the campfire.
- Staff help children develop self-discipline by supporting them in understanding the consequences of their actions and the feelings of others.



Nurturing, Knowledgeable Educators



- Staff observe, support and extend children's play and learning.
- Staff provide opportunities through "Freedom of Guidance" which enables children to take responsibility for their own learning.
- Staff plan in the moment in response to the child's interests.
- Staff work in close partnership with families and the local community
- Staff support and empower families by offering PEEP groups, Stay & Play, Baby Massage Classes and Bookbug sessions.
- We work collaboratively with a number of different professionals such as Health Visitors, Social Work, Educational Psychologist, Bilingual Support, Occupational & Physiotherapists and Speech and Language, to provide the best support for each child.
- Staff commit to professional learning and are reflective practitioners.
- 83% of our staff team are Froebelian trained. We are committed to collaborate with other professionals.

Creativity & the Power of Symbols

- Children create their own images and objects using a variety of materials eg. painting, drawing, blocks, sewing, clay, recycled materials or woodwork.
- Children have the freedom to represent their own ideas, thoughts and feelings independently.
- Children have the opportunity to use their imagination.
- Rich, first-hand sensory experiences are offered so children can express themselves in a variety of ways.
- Staff value children's achievements, making them visible, through the use of displays, learning books, twitter and in their learning stories.



Harness engagement with nature

- Children regularly visit the local woodland areas, where they have the opportunity to engage with nature through a variety of experiences.
- Children have opportunities to help grow fruit and vegetables, which they use in cooking and baking.
- Staff, children and their families work together to help look after our community garden at Larbert High School.
- Children have access to natural sources, such as water, sand, mud, clay and more.
- We are an Eco-Friendly nursery and encourage the children to Reduce, Reuse and Recycle, to promote sustainable living. Families are also encouraged to help, using our 'Rag Bag' recycling scheme.



Link Unity and Connectedness



- Staff build respectful partnerships with families.
- Staff provide meaningful experiences that connect new ideas to what children already know.
- Staff provide opportunities to connect with the local community, including visits to the local shops, Library and accessing local transport.
- We link with Larbert High School and participate in the Generation Programme supporting intergenerational learning.
- Staff ensure a holistic approach to children's learning.
- Staff support children's understanding of the world around them.

Autonomous Learners

- Children have daily opportunities to engage in Block Play, Sewing, Woodwork, Clay, Playdough, Baking, Outdoor Play and Songs & Stories.
- Children are given time to become proficient with materials and are able to revisit experiences to deepen their learning.
- Staff help children reflect on their experiences by asking 'I wonder' questions, to encourage curiosity, deeper thinking, inquiry and make connections with previous experiences.



Importance of Play

- Staff provide rich first-hand experiences, which extend children's interests and open up new possibilities.
- Children take ownership of their play.
- Children have the freedom to choose whether to play indoors or outdoors each day.
- Children are given time and space to play.
- We provide a wide range of open-ended resources to allow children to investigate and explore freely, directing their play in whichever way they wish.
- Staff act as sensitive co-players, providing 'freedom with guidance' to enrich the potential of play as a learning context.



Relationships Matter

- Each child will have a Keyworker, who is responsible for building attachments with the child and positive relationships with their family. This will help the child to feel safe and secure in their surroundings.
- Parental partnership is extremely important to us. We will ensure you are involved in decisions affecting the care and education of your child. We also welcome feedback on the delivery of our service and welcome parent helpers for various projects within the nursery.
- We celebrate the child's achievements at the time of their personal success.
- Staff celebrate each others achievements showing care and respect towards each other, ensuring they are good role models.

