



Statement of Practice

Learning Through Play

In line with current Early Years thinking, we believe, through play, children learn many skills and concepts enabling them to begin to make sense of the world around them.

Through our carefully planned play environment, children are able to use language to express thoughts and feelings, in real and play situations, make choices and decisions, use all their senses to explore, investigate and problem solve, test their theories and build on them, take risks and learn from their mistakes, practice skills, building on what they already know and have opportunities to create and be creative.

Using our observations, input from home and discussions with the children, we are able to plan a curriculum that follows the interests of the children and supports the learning that takes place beyond the setting. Each child's development is carefully monitored, to ensure their needs and interests are being met, with activities and experiences chosen to stimulate, challenge and progress each child in the six areas of learning. The children are positively encouraged to access our continuous provision of resources to follow their own thoughts and ideas through, we constantly evaluate the effectiveness of our provision to ensure that all children are able to do so independently and confidently.

Recent brain research shows that young children benefit immensely from having the opportunity for outdoor play, it enables them to learn about balance and co-ordination, speed and movement, space and safety, promoting self confidence and a positive self image. All of these are important for shaping future thought processes and thinking. At Peach Tree, the children have continuous access to our outside area and are free to transfer resources between areas to build-on and meet their own learning needs.

As well as child initiated play, the children also have opportunities to work closely with an adult, on activities such as special day cards, cooking, woodwork, as well as activities introduced to promote the learning and development of individuals and the group. Board games are an important activity that many of the children enjoy, learning about counting, adding, identifying numbers, quantities, colours, shapes, matching, turn taking, cooperation, supporting each other and of course going up ladders and down snakes.

Every session the children come together in their groups, where they have opportunities to talk and listen to others, sing and enjoy stories, rhymes and games, building on language and communication skills and supporting personal, social and emotional development.

It is our aim at Peach Tree Pre-school to work closely with parents and carers to provide children with a supportive, stimulating and meaningful early years education.

This policy statement was written by Karen Locke

This policy was adopted at a meeting of

Held on

Signed by the manager of pre-school

Signed on behalf of the management committee

Name of signatory

Role of signatory

Review date