



Bowerdean Nursery School

'Learn to Play... Play to Learn.'

Curriculum Intent

Our curriculum is designed to inspire and enable children so they can play an active role in their own lives and fulfil their individual potential. It is built on a set of core experiences, unique to our setting, which we have developed to meet the specific needs of our community. These core experiences are used to develop a set of key skills and characteristics we believe are essential foundations for learning.

Our learning experiences are based around the seasons our children encounter each term and are always story focused. This directly addresses the high levels of disadvantage within our cohorts in a tangible, experiential manner.

Most of our children live in flats, with very limited outdoor play or exploration and increasingly parents are reluctant to take their children outside, which has been further exacerbated by the impact of Covid policies. To address this nature deficit, it is paramount our children are explicitly taught about the changing seasons, how this impacts nature and their own self-development.

This seasonally led curriculum is underpinned by our goal to ensure that all children enjoy at least one story every day. For some of our children, Nursery may provide their only exposure to books and reading. Each week our planning is constructed around a story, offering opportunities to recall, develop, extend and enrich vocabulary and wider knowledge.

Interwoven through our seasonal stories are a range of broader experiences, such as exploring art, developing resilience and community involvement. We acknowledge that our children face many barriers to accessing rich and varied life opportunities. The learning explored through our topics helps bring the wider world to our children and provide experiences, which they might never otherwise access.

