

# Planning in the moment at Our Day Nursery



An approach to planning that relies on practitioners being present and mindful as well as creating a rich, varied environment that provides limitless open-ended opportunities to play and explore. It removes pre planned activities, themes and topics and instead centres on observation of children playing and exploring that can be built upon in the moment to create wonderful invitations to extend their learning.

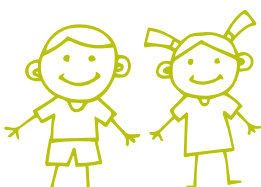
To be implemented by all practitioners and experienced by all children accessing the nursery. People are your most valuable resources to be utilised, when you don't plan ahead of time you might not have all the resources you then want for an activity but you will always have people!

Planning in the moment increases practitioners being able to spend quality time with children rather than focusing on paperwork. It allows them to build on children's genuine interests and extend their learning based on this rather than a topic or theme they may not be interested in.



All day, every day.

Across all rooms, for babies (0-2 year range) the focus is primarily on encouraging interactions and engagement, very young babies will have much more subtle cues that they are interested or curious in something so it is essential that staff have strong foundations in their relationships and are therefore able to pick up on these cues in order to build on them.



# How do we put this into practice at Our Day Nursery?

## We use a 3-step cycle

- 1 Embrace curiosity** (observe the child's interest)
- 2 Teachable moment** (carry out the next step there and then)
- 3 Observe, assess and plan** (carry out this cycle in the here and now)

## Example of this in practice

- 1 - Observe a child playing with a car
- 2 - Join them, bring a piece of cardboard and draw a road for the car
- 3 - Note what happens, do they know what shapes you drew to make the road, can they keep their car within the parameters of what you drew, do they want to create a whole town around the road and roleplay, do they take turns or want to race a car against you? Use the information you gather to think about invitations to play you might want to offer another time if the interest is still there

## WOW moment observations & reports

- Each child receives a report based around their holistic progress approximately every 6 months. This is so that we can keep a log of their learning journey with us and build a profile over time.
- Room staff give an update (including photos) daily to let families know what the children in the room have been showing interest in, what invitations to play and learn came about based on these interests and what areas of EYFS they have developed as a result.
- Practitioners record any 'wow moments' as and when they happen and every key person uploads a monthly update for each of their key children, outlining their progress and favourite activities from across the month.



**Children are most engaged when they are given autonomy or choice over the matter**

Anna Ephgrave, 'In the moment'