



Eastwood at the heart of community with community at heart

Policy: Understanding the World

Date Adopted:

Autumn 2017

Policy Category:

Curriculum

To be revised:

Autumn 2020

Definition:

UW helps children to make sense of the world. It incorporates the safe use of tools, , exploration of the natural environment and real life situations including people and communities. UW forms the foundations for latter work in science, design and technology, history, geography and information and communication technology (ICT).

Rationale:

Children have a natural curiosity and enthusiasm which must be nurtured to extend their skills and knowledge. This is encouraged and developed to give experience of the world at first-hand.

Effective learning about the world in the Early Years involves the development of skills and attitudes alongside knowledge. The nursery environment provides limitless opportunities for exploration, observation, problem solving, prediction, critical thinking, decision making and discussion. Adult interventions can help children to explore and develop the environment and world around them and to observe, predict, explain and develop new ideas.

Aims:

We aim to provide a range of experiences and learning opportunities which enable children to ask the questions to which they need answers and to pursue lines of enquiry which challenge all of their senses and understanding

Objectives:

Learning experiences in the Nursery will include:-

- 1) People and communities
- 2) The world
- 3) Technology

Practitioners will tune into children's learning and accompany and scaffold further learning opportunities through memorable first hand experiences

Procedures and Practices:

People and Communities

We involve parents in their children's learning as often as possible and invite them to share their skills in school – cooking, story-telling, reading with children. We encourage parents, community members and extended family members to share their experiences and knowledge of their own culture with the children and welcome visits to the Centre.

The world

At Eastwood children are encouraged to use their curiosity and to explore how things work. They examine living things such as stick insects and other creatures found in the outdoor environment and learn how to handle and care for living things for example through caring for small animals and gardening

There are key links with the Forest School Programme and children can further explore and develop their thinking in contrasting environments through this whilst learning to be safe

Technology

We aim to ensure that all children have opportunities to use ICT and that opportunities take account of any previous experience they may have gained outside school.

We provide safe equipment to play with, such as torches and explore cause and effect devices, remote control equipment and programmable robots. We prioritise children using technology in dynamic ways that links with and develops their play and exploration and limit the use of technology that could be passive or add to 'screen time'.

Written By: Curriculum & Achievement Committee

Headteacher's Signature:

Chair of Committee

Date: Autumn 2017