



Background

“Curriculum for Excellence aims to achieve a transformation in education in Scotland by providing a coherent, more flexible and enriched curriculum for 3 to 18 year olds. The curriculum includes the totality of experiences which are planned for children and young people through their education, wherever they are being educated.”

Learning & Teaching Scotland - 2009

Aims

The aims of Curriculum for Excellence are that every child and young person should know they are valued and will be supported to become a **successful learner, an effective contributor, a confident individual and a responsible citizen**. These are the four capacities.

All children at New Machar Nursery will be provided with a curriculum that includes a range of features at the differing stages of development. In summary, our children will experience

- ❖ a coherent curriculum
- ❖ a broad, general education, including experiences and outcomes which are well planned across all the curriculum areas, beginning from early years.
- ❖ opportunities for developing skills for learning and skills for life with a continuous focus on literacy and numeracy and health and well-being.
- ❖ Opportunities to learn about themselves and the world they live in through play
- ❖ personal support to enable all children to gain as much as possible from the opportunities which Curriculum for Excellence can provide
- ❖ support in making successful transitions within Nursery moving onto Primary School.

New Machar Nursery will use these entitlements, in conjunction with the experiences and outcomes, to plan curricular programmes covering the curriculum areas. The curriculum areas are:

- ❖ Expressive arts
- ❖ Health and wellbeing
- ❖ Languages
- ❖ Mathematics
- ❖ Religious and moral education
- ❖ Sciences
- ❖ Social studies
- ❖ Technologies

Policy for implementation

The purpose of our curriculum at the early stage is to support children in all aspects of their emotional, social, cognitive and physical development. It should enable them to become increasingly independent, responsible and eager to progress in their learning.

Our Staff will help to achieve this through skilled interaction with each child and by providing stimulating contexts for active learning, by recognising each stage of development and building upon the child's knowledge and skills. They will stimulate and utilise children's enthusiasm, inventiveness and creativity to plan learning activities which combine to achieve this purpose.

Active learning is firmly in place at New Machar Nursery. We believe in, and create an environment where:

- the children are fully engaged in their learning, which is interactive, purposeful and defined within the outcomes and experiences.
- the learning environment is relaxed and supportive with opportunity for observation, interaction and further exploration of interests and activities.
- the learning environment is imaginatively resourced and stimulating, with opportunity for engagement in exploratory and spontaneous play.
- the imaginative use of space and resources which creates opportunity for children to work independently or collaboratively.

All members of staff strive to create the above described environment and contribute through:

- open, positive, supportive relationships in which children will feel that they are listened to
- promoting a climate in which children feel safe and secure
- modelling behaviour which promotes effective learning and wellbeing within the nursery community
- being sensitive and responsive to each child's wellbeing.

Children should be encouraged to contribute to the life and work of the nursery and, from the earliest stages, to exercise their responsibilities as members of our 'community'. This includes:

- opportunities to participate responsibly in decision making
- to contribute as leaders and role models
- to offer support and service to others
- to play an active part in putting the values of the nursery community into practice.

Staff will use the experiences and outcomes at the early level to plan coherently for progression in learning across the curriculum, combining experiences and outcomes across the 8 curriculum areas.