

What is a Nurture Group?

A Nurture Group's aim is to give children the skills to do well at school; make friends and deal more confidently and calmly with the ups and downs of life.

In the group, children are immersed in an accepting and warm environment where they can develop a positive relationship with both staff and peers. The timetabled activities are designed to support the emotional and learning needs of pupils to help remove barriers to learning.

We run Nurture Groups in school. Two members of staff, trained in nurture interventions, work with small groups of between 6 – 8 children. We focus on supporting children with their social, emotional and behavioural needs.

Children attend 3 afternoons a week between 1.30pm and 3pm. The group usually runs for 6 to 8 weeks.



What happens during a Nurture Group Session?

Circle time - a whole group activity where we share children's 'Daily News' or play a game to help develop confidence, memory and listening skills

Make and create - a structured craft activity where children can develop listening skills; practise sharing equipment and learn to take pride in a completed piece of work.

Activities (individual and group) - The choice of what to play is carefully picked by staff to develop sharing, emotional wellbeing, confidence and relationship building.

Teatime - a snack of toast and jam or occasionally a biscuit (for a treat!) The children sit around the table together with the staff. We practise polite table manners and listen to each other while we chat.

Story time and rewards – We end the session with a story and rewards for achievements made towards children's targets.

What are the outcomes for children?

More than 100 academic studies have demonstrated the positive outcomes of Nurture Groups. These include:

Improved Social and Emotional Skills –

Children develop confidence and self-esteem. They learn to take pride in their work and behave positively. They become better at managing their emotions and at empathising with others. As a result, they are able to form positive relationships with peers and teachers.

Improved Attendance- As pupils feel safe at school and in the Nurture Group, they are able to enjoy school more and attendance increases.

Improved Attainment – Language and literacy skills are improved during Nurture provision which in turn, improves overall academic achievement.

Nurture Group Staff



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