

The skills and values we practise support the schools Christian ethos and values. We ensure these values form part of our discussions and underpin our activities.

The skills we practise include; Looking, listening, concentrating, kind hands, sitting nicely, taking turns, patience, tolerance, kindness, respect, honesty, teamwork, sportsmanship, courage and celebrating differences.

We ensure that our practise supports
'The Six Principles of Nurture'
Children's learning is understood developmentally.

The classroom offers a safe base.

The importance of nurture for the
development of self esteem

Language is a vital means of communication.

All behaviour is communication.

The importance of transition in children's lives.

I love it when we cook. I like making and eating fruit kebabs because I LOVE strawberries!

Little Acorns has helped me make new friends .

I can name the 6 skills of circle time which we practise every time.

Little Acorns Nurture Group



We are a nurture group and members of the nationwide organisation the Nurture Group Network. We take children of all ages and our aim is to provide guided structured support to children experiencing challenges in their lives , whether this be short term due to family illness or bereavement or longer term related to issues of confidence or self esteem. We practise the skills required, based on the children's needs, whilst promoting core values such as respect, sharing, patience and teamwork within the schools Christian ethos. Our classroom is calm and organised with consistency of approach. The children are encouraged to take part, to share and celebrate their personal achievements. Our Nurture Group is run by 2 specially trained members of staff, overseen by our Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator and Headteacher.

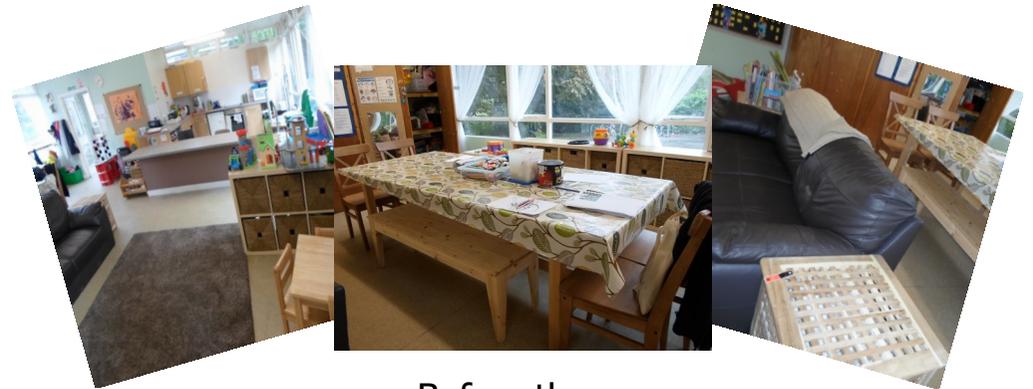
In Little Acorns we strive to practise our activities in a fun and engaging way. This includes playing games alone, together or as part of a team. These can take place both indoors and outdoors and help with our listening and concentration skills. We also cook on a regular basis supporting concentration and observation skills as well as sharing and turn taking.

On cooking days we lay the table and eat together practising our table manners, we clear up together and share jobs. We also craft regularly, anything from spring pictures to Christmas cards, we often garden, play traditional games and sing songs too. All these activities support the fundamental skills required in a classroom setting.

Each child has a special box that they have decorated in which they can keep their work, crafted items or items that are special and precious to them. They also have their own pencils, rubber and glue giving them responsibility for their possessions.

We would stress that the nurture group is there to support your children and to provide a safe and relaxing setting for all. Referral to nurture group is done either through a staff member approaching you and no child will ever attend nurture group without parental permission. Of course as families you too can self refer and we will try and accommodate your request as soon as we can.

Our room is set out as a traditional lounge/diner room might be at home, and we aim to provide a stepping stone between home and school. With this in mind we are keen to involve parents as much as possible in the group. We are hoping to organise regular afternoon sessions when parents can cook and eat with the group too.



Before they start attending the Nurture Group each child is assessed using a diagnostic questionnaire called the Boxall Profile. This ensures that we tailor the needs of each individual child to the experiences we provide. It also helps us monitor progress. When we feel that a child is ready to leave the group having made excellent progress, they are informed and the leaving process commences. They usually have 6 sessions notice of leaving, and will receive a continuous countdown in preparation. Each child has a leaving party to celebrate their progress and achievements at which they are the star guest.

The door is always open in Little Acorns to previous members to attend sessions, usually for a short time, if it is felt they need our support again.