



Learning Journey Policy

Updated September 2024

The purpose of this Learning Journey Policy is to outline the principles, practices, and procedures followed by the nursery in documenting, supporting, and enhancing children's learning and development through their individual learning journeys. This policy ensures that learning is tracked, celebrated, and communicated effectively with children, parents, and staff, promoting a holistic approach to each child's growth and achievements.

Commitment to Child-Centred Learning:

The nursery is committed to providing a child-centred, play-based approach to learning. We recognize that every child is unique, and their learning journey is a personal and dynamic process. This policy ensures that children's progress is documented and used to guide their future learning and development.

Holistic Approach:

The learning journey reflects the child's development in all areas, including cognitive, physical, social, emotional, and creative growth. It captures significant moments in a child's learning, their interests, strengths, and areas for growth, and aims to celebrate their progress and achievements in an inclusive, supportive environment.

Key Principles of Learning Journeys:

Individualized Learning:

Each child will have a personalized learning journey that reflects their individual experiences, interests, and learning style. The learning journey will highlight how each child is developing and will guide future learning opportunities.

Observations and Assessment:

Staff will regularly observe children during their play, interactions, and activities to identify their interests, strengths, and learning needs. Observations will be carefully documented and used to assess the child's progress in line with the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) framework or other relevant developmental milestones.

Active Involvement of Parents and Guardians:

Parents and guardians will be encouraged to contribute to their child's learning journey. They will be invited to share observations from home, provide feedback on the child's development, and participate in discussions about their child's progress.

Celebrating Achievements:

The learning journey will be a tool for celebrating children's achievements, both big and small. Positive milestones, whether academic, social, or emotional, will be documented and celebrated to build the child's confidence and self-esteem.

Documenting the Learning Journey:**Use of Learning Journals or Digital Platforms:**

Each child will have a learning journey documented in a format that is easily accessible and understandable. This may include physical learning journals, digital portfolios, or a combination of both, depending on the nursery's resources and preferences.

Types of Documentation:

Documentation of the learning journey may include:

- **Observations:** Written observations detailing key moments in a child's learning or behavior. Observations should be objective, noting what the child has done, said, or experienced.
- **Photographs and Videos:** Visual evidence of the child's learning experiences, helping to provide context to their development.
- **Work Samples:** Pieces of artwork, writing, or other tangible products of the child's work.
- **Developmental Milestones:** Specific milestones from the EYFS or other relevant frameworks to help assess the child's growth in various areas.
- **Child's Voice:** Opportunities for the child to express their thoughts, feelings, and reflections, either through verbal or written means.

Regular Updates:

Staff will ensure that the learning journey is regularly updated, ideally every month or term, with new observations and achievements. This allows for ongoing tracking of the child's progress and provides a clear record of their development over time.

Involvement of Parents and Guardians:**Parental Input:**

Parents and guardians will be encouraged to contribute their observations and reflections about their child's learning at home. They can share achievements, interests, and any significant moments from home life that contribute to the child's learning journey.

Parent-Teacher Meetings:

Regular parent-teacher meetings will provide an opportunity to discuss the child's learning journey and progress. These meetings are a space for parents to ask questions, share concerns, and celebrate the child's achievements together with staff.

Sharing Learning Journeys:

Learning journeys will be made available for parents to review regularly. The nursery may organize special events where parents are invited to explore their child's learning journey and engage with staff in discussions about the child's development.

Using the Learning Journey for Planning:

Informed Planning:

The learning journey will be used by staff to plan future learning experiences and activities tailored to the child's interests and developmental needs. By reflecting on observations, children's progress, and feedback from parents, staff can design activities that extend the child's learning in meaningful ways.

Personalized Support:

The learning journey allows staff to identify areas where children may require additional support, whether it's emotional, behavioural, or developmental. Early identification of these needs ensures that appropriate interventions or strategies are put in place to support the child's growth.

Tracking Progress:

The learning journey serves as a valuable tool for tracking each child's progress across the curriculum or developmental stages. It can highlight both strengths and areas for growth and allow for the development of goals and objectives for future learning.

Confidentiality and Data Protection:

Confidentiality of Learning Journeys:

The learning journey is a private and confidential document. It will only be shared with staff members directly involved with the child's care and development, as well as parents and guardians. Any sharing of the learning journey will be done with the consent of the parents.

Secure Storage:

Learning journals or digital platforms will be stored securely to ensure the protection of children's personal information. Digital platforms should comply with data protection regulations to safeguard any data stored electronically.

Data Protection:

The nursery will comply with relevant data protection legislation, ensuring that children's learning journeys are handled with care, respect, and confidentiality. Parents will have the right to access their child's learning journey and request copies if necessary.

The Learning Journey Policy is designed to ensure that each child's development is accurately recorded, celebrated, and communicated. It provides a clear framework for documenting and supporting individual learning, while fostering a collaborative relationship between parents and staff. This approach enables the nursery to provide a nurturing, personalized environment that promotes each child's growth and success. This policy ensures that the nursery captures, supports, and communicates each child's development through a structured and inclusive approach, highlighting the value of parents' contributions and ensuring privacy and security in documenting children's progress.

Review of Policy:

This policy will be reviewed annually (September 2025), or as needed, to ensure that it remains relevant and effective in meeting the evolving needs of the children, families, and staff within the nursery.

Name:	Position:	Signed:	Date:
David Birkbeck	Owner		
Kayleigh Tydd	Director		
Greg Bamber	Nominated Individual		
Zoe Tydd	Manager & DSL		
Abbie Lloyd	Deputy Manager		
Jade Radcliffe	Second Deputy Manager		
Pamela Lear	Practitioner		
Diane Jones	Practitioner		
Emily Gautrey	Practitioner		