**Toddler room Curriculum**

**Intent**

We would like our toddlers to gain a better understanding of spoken language, this includes starting to understand simple instructions, and express how they are feeling as well as having a growing vocabulary of new words. We aim for these children to have the confidence to take part in very early conversations with others and be aware of their peers, play alongside and occasionally join in with them. We also aim for our toddlers to develop an interest in books.

We would like our children to be able to make choices and have likes/dislikes, and to express their emotions. We encourage children to develop friendships and begin to understand turn taking. We would like our children to start to enjoy each other’s company and want to play with each other

We would aim that all our children are potty trained when they leave the toddler room. We would like our toddlers to show some independence when using the toilet and with personal hygiene i.e washing hands. We would like them to gain control of their whole bodies and large movements as well as beginning to develop manipulation and control with fine motor skills

We would like our toddlers to develop their interest in books by having a favourite book, from which they can repeat words and phrases. We want our children to enjoy drawing and create marks which are meaningful.

We support our toddlers to develop counting skills, be familiar with number rhymes and start to compare sizes big/small and colours/patterns

We would like our children to have an interest in the natural world and the world around them. As a multi-cultural setting we want our children to notice differences between people and begin to accept these differences.

We support our children to explore different sounds and instruments, and to use their imagination in a variety of different forms.

**Implement**

Staff hold lots of conversations throughout the day with the toddlers, they allow time for the child to process the information and reply. Staff comment on what they are doing, repeat what the child is saying and add new words for the children to learn. Toddlers have a book corner and have storytime/singing every day. Our EAL children are encouraged to speak in their home language as well as English. Children are encouraged to speak to each other and start to use their manners.

We offer a free flow environment where children are able to choose their activities. Staff talk to the children about how they are feeling and provide comfort, reassurance and space when a child becomes frustrated. Through small group activities and staff role modelling play, the children interact with and observe each other. The children are praised for their efforts when following the golden rules

The staff along with the support from parents encourage the children to begin to use the potty/toilet and encourage independence by supporting them to dress/undress themselves. We provide a balanced nutritional menu with fresh food cooked onsite, children are encouraged to feed themselves and begin to pour their drinks. The children access our garden twice daily where they have opportunities to move freely, jump, kick, balance etc. We have a creative area where childrenare provided with a variety of tools to use and explore i.e playdough, different materials, paints, brushes, scoops etc

Our book corner has puppets where children can re-enact favourite stories or read to the cuddly toys. Staff are available to read and answer questions about books. We provide a range of mark making tools indoors and outdoors

Staff use numbers in everyday activities i.e A child may be building a tower and the staff member may count the bricks. Number rhymes are used daily during story/singing and sometimes outdoor play. Children are provided with opportunities to group items together by size, colour etc

We have natural items within the room for the children to explore i.e cones, shells feathers. These can be transferred into other areas such as creative play for further exploration. We have a bug hotel in the garden and frequently talk about the ‘bugs’ we see. Toddlers love to splash in the big puddle in our play area when it has been raining. Festivals and cultural events are celebrated within the room. A selection of multicultural music, clothing and pictures are available. Our menu incorporates food from around the world. The children have their own family books on display so they are able to look at differences amongst their friends and families.

We have a music area with a variety of different instruments. The instruments are also used during singing time and during music and movement when the children are encouraged to dance to recorded music with props including ribbons, pom poms etc Our home corner is available at all times and staff encourage the children to act out real life situations i.e putting baby to sleep, cooking dinner, answering the phone etc

**Impact**

The children are having fun, they can be seen gaining independence with their toilet training and progressing with their language development. The children are beginning to co- operate with each other. They enjoy spending time in the book area as well as dressing up (especially trying on different shoes) and making lunch in our home corner. They are able to make marks and be proud and show off their work. The toddlers progress to pre school with a “willing to have a go” attitude and a curiosity of the world around them as well as being independent with aspects of the nursery routine.