**Curriculum Policy**

**Purpose of Policy**

Rainbow Nursery recognises the importance of quality care and education for young children. It is committed to providing a stimulating and challenging environment which will develop and broaden children’s learning experiences, leaving them confident, eager, highly motivated and disposed to learn more.

Rainbow Nursery believes in a developmentally appropriate curriculum which takes into account the importance of the whole child and the stage of development he or she has reached. It recognises that people learn in a variety of different ways and that for very young children the following opportunities make powerful contributions to a child’s learning:

* The opportunity to have first-hand experience of a range of different activities and learning situations.
* The opportunity to play.
* The opportunity to talk, interact and socialise with other people.

**The Importance of the Child**

The group aims to provide a curriculum which has regard to the best interests of the children. It will do this by:

* Identifying and assessing the individual needs of the children.
* Building on the children’s previous experience.
* Keeping profiles on individual children to monitor progress and inform planning.
* Recognising the interdependence of care and education by paying due regard to the welfare, safety and wellbeing of the children.
* Adopting a flexible approach to planning the curriculum to incorporate ideas, interests and concerns indicated by the children and/or parents or carers.
* Encouraging all children to participate in the full range of activities and experiences offered.
* Working with parents and carers, and involving them in their child’s learning and development in the group setting.
* Fostering equal opportunities between adults and children involved in the setting.

**The Curriculum**

The curriculum refers to the activities and experiences, planned and unplanned, offered to the children from which they can learn, either formally or informally. It offers a framework, which combined with the children’s previous experiences and learning, aims to support and guide their learning and development by enabling them to:

* Develop knowledge and understanding.
* Practice and acquire skills.
* Acquire values and attitudes.
* Acquire confidence, self-esteem and resilience.
* Make friends and form relationships.

The curriculum framework will emphasise the processes by which children learn for example communicating, playing, observing, investigating, problem solving, experimenting, reflecting, and practising. It will offer a wide range of situations, experiences, events and activities which will excite children’s curiosity and motivate and stimulate them to learn. It will offer a broad and balanced approach to the learning opportunities necessary to promote and support children’s learning and development.

Rainbow Nursery recognises the importance of play to children’s all round development and will ensure that a variety and range of play activities and experiences are planned and provided which supports their learning. The nursery will offer a safe, stimulating indoor and outdoor environment, where children feel secure and confident to explore, to experiment, interact and take up new challenges in their learning and development.

**Curriculum for Excellence**

The setting will plan learning and development opportunities using the Curriculum for Excellence which sets out to enable all children to become:

* Successful Learners
* Confident Individuals
* Responsible Citizens
* Effective Contributors

The following curriculum areas, identified in Curriculum for Excellence, will be followed at the early years level:

• Health and Wellbeing

• Literacy

• Mathematics

• Sciences

• Social Studies

• Expressive Arts

• Technologies

• Religious and Moral Education

The setting will follow the principles of curriculum design:

• Challenge and Enjoyment

• Breadth

• Progression

• Depth

• Personalisation and Choice

• Coherence

• Relevance

**Pre-Birth to Three**

Pre-Birth to Three: Positive Outcomes for Scotland’s Children and Families is a document introduced by the Scottish Office, in association with Learning and Teaching Scotland to provide guidance for all those whose work, involves caring for babies and young children.  The four key features of Pre-Birth to Three are closely linked:

* Rights of the Child
* Relationships
* Responsive Care
* Respect

Our nursery staff work very closely with the Pre-Birth to Three documents to provide the quality experiences children under 3 years need:  from feeding, cuddles and nappy changing to sensory experiences, outdoor play and music.

**Date Completed: October 2023**

**Review Date: October 2024**

*This policy will be monitored in line with relevant legislation and good practice guidelines*