

Nursery Plus Pen-y-Bryn & Pre Nursery Pen-y-Bryn

Environmental Awareness Policy

To enable the children and adults in Pre Nursery and Nursery Plus to appreciate and value the environment within which they live and play we will do our best to work to the following policy.

The prepared environment

- will include child size furniture and equipment
- will include wall and table top displays at child height
- will be aesthetically pleasing
- will be arranged in ways to help children feel secure and confident.

Children's control over their play/work environment

- children will have choice in their involvement in activities
- equipment will be arranged so that children will be able to access it easily
- arrangement of time and space will be flexible so that children have some control
- children's own ideas will be heard and respected; they will be involved in planning
- children's own work and belongings will be given space
- activities will be open ended so that children can use them creatively.

Natural materials

- there will be a good balance of manufactured toys and natural materials for children to explore
- sand and water play will be made available daily
- a wide variety of natural materials will be made available frequently
- equipment will be stored in baskets and wooden boxes as well as plastic containers
- themes and topics chosen will link with the natural world.

Outdoors

- the outdoor area will be used effectively to observe and explore the natural world
- children will be allowed to play outdoors as often as possible, in all seasons
- children will always wear appropriate clothing while outdoors
- indoor activities will reflect the outdoor environment as far as possible.

Care of living things

- children will be involved in growing bulbs, seeds and in the care of plants
- children will be involved in the care of pets and mini-beasts and other animals as appropriate
- stories will be chosen to reinforce the concept of care for living things
- food activities will be chosen to introduce the idea of growing food
- staff will at all times be positive role models in their respect for living things.

Using community resources

- Pre Nursery and Nursery Plus will make strong links with the local community
- children will be taken on walks around the locality and visit places of interest
- members of the local community will be invited to the group to talk to the children
- themes and topics chosen will link with local resources
- parents will be encouraged to contribute to group activities, using their interests and strengths
- children will be encouraged to respect their local environment
- parents will be informed of local amenities and special events and encouraged to take their children.

Recycling

- Pre Nursery and Nursery Plus will use appropriate recycled materials for creative activities
- parents will be encouraged to contribute to collections of recycled materials
- children will be made aware of the need to recycle materials
- children will be involved where appropriate in local recycling schemes.

The wider world

- themes and topics chosen will introduce children to the wider world
- children's own experiences and interest will be used as the basis for activities
- children will be helped to develop a sense of curiosity, awe and wonder
- the immediate environment will reflect positively a range of cultures
- activities and events will help children to develop an understanding of their place in the wider world.

This policy has been reviewed and approved by the Governing Body

Signed: _____

Date: January 2026

Review date: January 2027