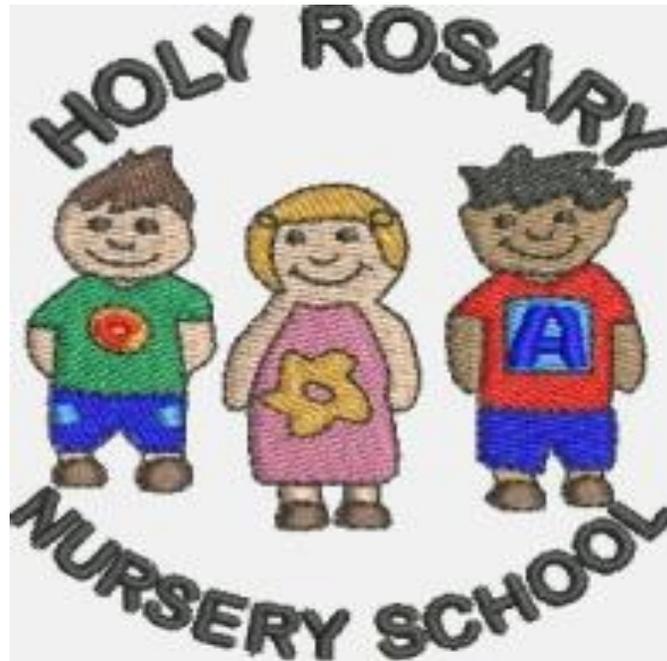


HOLY ROSARY NURSERY SCHOOL



Reduced Nursery School Day Policy

Ratified by B.O.G. January 2019
Reviewed - September 2022

Policy for a Reduced Nursery School Day

Vision

Every child is stimulated and happy in their learning. Additional needs of children are recognised and supported. The high levels of professional experience in our teaching team are utilised in identifying and beginning to meet needs. Sometimes, the length of a child's day will depend upon their 'readiness' to cope with the routines and rules of the nursery. This policy places the well being of all children at its core.

- Our school provides access to a broad and balanced curriculum for all children. The pre school curriculum is our starting point for planning and evaluating what meets the specific needs of individuals and groups of children.
- When planning, teachers set suitable learning targets and respond to children's diverse learning, toileting and other needs. Some children have barriers or delays to learning that mean they require an adapted curriculum according to their needs and readiness.
- These requirements are likely to arise as a consequence of a child having additional educational needs. These needs can include learning and toileting difficulties. Teachers take account of these requirements and make provision, where necessary, to support individual children and thus enable them to participate effectively in curricular activities as much as possible.
- Such children may need additional or different help from that given to other children of the same age. This can impact on the length of their school day depending on how available additional support is within the setting.
- We recognise that a child who experiences barriers to learning can struggle in a mainstream nursery environment. Our adult-child ratios are 1:13 and there is little or no support from EA in terms of additional needs assistance. Some children may need one-to-one assistance in the classroom.
- Holy Rosary Nursery School do not have a pupil/ staff ratio that can accommodate pupils who are not toilet trained. If EA provide additional support for these pupils they may attend school while still wearing a nappy.

Procedures

- Staff regularly and skillfully observe each child in a range of learning situations.
- Much information / recommendation / advice is gathered from the child's family and other agencies involved with this child.
- Where a child is not coping with the rules and routines of nursery, staff will endeavour to amend the curriculum on offer.
- Information gathered is regarded holistically and an Individual Education Plan is created. His/her plan is shared with the home.
- Staff will keep parents updated on a regular basis and keep them informed of learning and progress. The IEP is reviewed and parents are included in this process. Parents can make an appointment with the teacher after school if they need information.
- In this way, an accurate picture can emerge of the progress each child is making in each area of learning and development. Effective means of supporting the child in the learning process can be utilised. It is vital that parent and school work together, supporting goals and targets so the child can benefit.
- Staff must also consider the needs, safety and well being of the 25 other pupils in the class whilst working with the pupil with additional needs.
- We recognise that change does not happen overnight. It is through the hard work of the child while supported by home and school that change and progress will come slowly. Our ethos is totally committed to supporting all pupils by utilising all resources available to us.

External Agencies

A number of agencies are available to support children with additional needs. Holy Rosary Nursery School liaises closely with these services, which include;

- Educational Psychology
- RISE NI
- Health visitors
- Behaviour support team (EA)
- Harberton Outreach Service
- Oakwood Advisory Unit

- Child Development Clinic
- Surestart
- Speech and Language Therapy
- Local GP's
- Others as appropriate

Partnership with parents

- In Holy Rosary Nursery School we value the knowledge, experience and views of parents.
- Parents are welcome in our school and are encouraged to take a active role working as partners in the education of their children.
- We aim to maintain good channels of communication with all parents. Parents are kept well informed of their child's progress and are included in the decision making progress regarding special needs provision. **A relationship of trust between home and school is key to the child's positive progress in learning.**
- An interview is offered by the SENCO / class teacher to meet with the parents of any child who is identified as having special individual needs and is to be given individual / group support, in order to discuss the special provision to be made.
- Parents are invited to special needs interviews and parent / teacher interviews throughout the year. Parents may arrange additional interviews as required, by contacting the class teacher.
- Any concerns regarding SEN / Disability provision should be addressed following the schools complaints procedure.

Monitoring and evaluation This policy will be reviewed and monitored in line with the school's policy review schedule.