

Teaching and Learning Policy 2013 - Appendix 2 A Generic Classroom Model for Early Years

Key Classroom Areas:

Book area:

- The area is well organised and comfy with a selection of fiction and non fiction texts, some of which are themed linked and changed regularly.
- The area encourages sharing of books and stories, speaking and listening activities.

Writing/graphics area:

- The area needs to be well organised with a selection of writing tools and materials including; cards, paper, post it notes, envelopes, whiteboards. Writing tools include; pen, pencils, stapler, sellotape.
- The environment should display a letter rainbow in front of the writing table and children should have independent access to individual letter rainbows for independent writing.
- The area displays a variety of prints including typed and hand written and that in other languages.

Creative area:

- There is an easel, independent access to paint brushes, rollers, whiteboard pens and chalks.
- There is a malleable area/table for developing fine motor skills.
- The work shop area will allow children to independently construct and create using a wide variety of tools and resources which are regularly updated.
- There is an area for children to display their work so that they are fully independent.

Role play:

- The area provides children with a selection of stimulating resources to develop role play skills.
- Children are clear of the purpose of the role play area and roles within this.
- The area provides children with spontaneous role play and ensure all role play areas provide opportunities for mark making and writing.

Construction and small world area:

- · All storage is clearly photo labelled, well organised and provides space for children to display work
- A construction book is provided to allow children to record their work through own drawings, digital photographs and writing.
- Small world offers builder tray activities, animals, cars, play people, dolls house etc and these are imaginatively presented.

Sand and water:

- Children experience both wet and dry sand and the area is well resourced with a range of clearly labelled equipment nearby and accessible to children.
- The sand and water should allow children to access all areas of the early years curriculum.

Exploratory area:

• The area provides children with a range of equipment including, mirrors, magnifiers, magnets, colour slides, kaleidoscopes, marbles and a collection of natural and interesting materials e.g. pine cones, sheep's wools, sand paper, keys.

Maths area:

- There is a range of equipment with photo labelled storage which is readily available.
- Equipment should include scales number cards/fans, number lines, calculators, measuring jugs, comparing resources, heavy and light objects and long and short ribbons.

ICT:

- There is a laptop, interactive whiteboard and opportunities for independent ICT use e.g. remote control cars, telephones, mobiles, cameras, metal detectors and wide range of software for the computer.
- A range of everyday ICT resources including microwaves and tills in role play area.
- Children are trained and have access to use digital camera for recording their work.

Outdoor provision:

- The provision needs to be planned for and resourced as carefully as the indoor area to make it an effective learning environment.
- There should be a designated adult each day to ensure outdoor area is well supervised.
- There should be opportunities for role play, large construction, writing, investigating, maths, small world, PSHE and ICT.
- The area should provide a range of natural materials and surfaces, nature hunts and exploration, gardening, sand and water. Graphics and writing on a large scale, using buckets of water, large brushes, chalks and large paper.
- There should be an area for quiet time and books.
- Creative and imaginative play, using boxes and drapes, making dens, placing and arranging on a large scale.
- Gross motor skills, e.g. climbing, balancing and crawling.
- Small apparatus e.g. balls bean bags are used to enhance throwing and catching skills.

General Areas:

- There is a positive and calming atmosphere in the classroom.
- Temperature is regulated.
- One fan per classroom.
- There is a clear set of classroom rules in line with the schools behavior policy.
- There is a designated timeout area with clear resources.
- There is a clearly labelled recycling bin.
- Each child has access to fresh drinking water.
- Learning and achievement is celebrated in each classroom.
- Children are involved in the creation of their learning.
- Planning files are easily accessible.
- The room is well ventilated and there is adequate lighting.
- The environment is word and number rich.

Health and Safety:

- Staff act as role models for good practice.
- All equipment is used appropriately.
- Children are made aware of potential dangers.
- Wires are kept tidy.
- Children are well informed about equipment.
- Children are well supervised whilst using specialist equipment.

Display:

- All boards should be backed with boarders.
- All children's work is at least single mounted or laminated.
- Displays include key vocab.
- Displays are changed regularly.
- There is always a literacy and Numeracy display.
- All displays are interactive and stimulating and include challenging key questions.
- Displays are cross curricular.
- There are a range of displays including boards, table top and hanging displays.
- Class displays include numberlines, phonics, key words and prompts.