

THE LODGE NURTURE PROVISION

HYDE PARK SCHOOLS



What is the purpose of a Nurture Group?

Our Nurture Group continues the ethos of an already nurturing environment within the Hyde Park Schools and provides inclusion for all children promoting PSHRE provision. We have called our nurture room 'The Lodge'. Children are supported within The Lodge to raise their emotional well-being, self-esteem and to have a sense of belonging to the school community. We provide a structured routine with clear boundaries, so the children feel safe and secure.

Nurture Group Principles

- Children's learning is understood developmentally
- The classroom/school offers a safe base
- Nurture is important for the development of self-esteem
- Language is understood as a vital means of communication
- All behaviour is communication
- Transitions are significant in the lives of children

Reasons children might attend a Nurture Group

- Not able to attend to an adult, listen or join-in with their peers
- The pupil is non-verbal or struggles to communicate
- Needs support with social interaction
- Emotional well-being or early trauma is evident
- Low self-esteem
- Easily overwhelmed in a busy classroom
- Needs significant adult intensive interaction

What does Nurture look like?

Children follow a specific structure/routine within their nurture sessions. Children may attend the provision for all or some of their time in school. They maintain a link to their class/peer group and are supported by specialist staff as well as familiar key adults from their classroom. The pattern of their time in The Lodge is the same each time they attend.

Within the session we share snack time together – a chance to talk as a group, listen to each other, take turns to speak and practise using manners.

Whilst we value the importance of mental health and wellbeing, Nurture provision offers stimulating creative lessons and activities which cover each area of the curriculum. Each child in nurture will have an adapted form of the curriculum for their age /stage.

The Lodge is a place where we want to see children have the opportunity to grow in confidence and become engaged and be successful learners in their classrooms and the school community.

How will the Nurture Group help your child?

The nurture group will help to boost confidence and self-esteem and provide children with extra skills to improve social skills and independence for example:

- To engage and settle
- To listen and concentrate
- Find ways to successfully communicate
- To share and take turns
- To build friendship with their classmates
- Opportunities to talk about and understand their feelings
- To work on curriculum-based activities linked to their year group
- To experience and practise the development of positive relationships

How long will my child attend the Nurture Group?

Provision is reviewed regularly with key staff and families. Children will attend the nurture provision as long as it is deemed appropriate, and they are making good progress towards their targets. For some children, they have a mixture of time in class and The Lodge. We ensure that children do not miss special assemblies, guests in school, outings or any special events that the rest of their class are taking part in. The Nurture team plan closely with the class teachers and each child follows the curriculum being carried out in their class.

Are staff trained?

Staff leading the nurture room are very experienced. Mrs Warne has worked with CAMHS and the Communication Interaction Team as well as receiving training to work with pupils with a wide range of additional needs. In particular, she has a wealth of experience supporting children with social interaction and communication needs.

Mrs Burford has worked with SEND pupils for many years, implementing bespoke packages of support, developing strategies for emotional regulation and developing independence for learning.

Through the training staff are taught how a child's brain develops and the impact upon brain development when a child experiences a number of ACES – Adverse Childhood Experiences. Staff have been given training on methods/strategies for communicating with children who may become dysregulated.

The school has received support and guidance from other SEND practitioners including Educational Psychologists, SENDCos and Outreach Support from specialist provisions to ensure we offer the best nurture provision possible to our pupils.

Provision in The Lodge is managed by SENDCo, Mrs Harris and the School Senior Leadership Team.

Are parents/carers involved?

All parents/carers are involved in decisions about the provision for their child at school. For children attending The Lodge there are regular Team Around Me meetings to review progress. In addition, there is an open-door policy where parents/carers can come and chat with the class teacher, SENDCo or the Nurture staff with regard to their child.