

St Andrew's Nurture Group- The Haven

When children come to The Haven, we begin each session with a check in, in the cosy corner. We always start by acknowledging how the children are feeling and why this might be the case. Over time, we have begun to discuss strategies and tools for helping us to regulate and move zones. The emphasis is being in a place where we can listen, learn and get on well with others. We have a calm corner in the Haven and we spend time in the calm corner as a group exploring strategies and resources that can help us to calm down when needed.

We then move on to a group time where we do an activity as a group, this can include baking, making playdough, drawing, parachute games, learning a new skill and circle games.



After our group time, we have a free play session. Children can choose what play based activities they want to take part in and it gives them the opportunity to practise social skills with their peers. It also gives the adults the opportunity to facilitate play and support to make it meaningful and purposeful. During this time, opportunities to help children in conflict resolution can arise and gives the chance to unpick what has happened and teach the children ways to deal with them. An adult will also take children during this time to do some focussed Boxall profile work focussing on individual targets. Children may work one to one with an adult or in small groups if they have similar targets. The children have access to an outside area most days and are able to take their free play inside and outside.



Half-way through the session, we stop for snack. We have a rota for jobs and children take responsibility for different aspects of preparing, serving and tidying away the snack. When snack is served, we all sit around the table together to enjoy the snack. The emphasis is on being social. This includes the children being encouraged to use manners to each other, have polite conversation or playing a game.



The last part of our session is some focussed teaching. We deliver an aspect of the classroom curriculum in a way that is adapted to the group of children we have. Staff use the planning from classroom teachers and adapt it for the needs of the group of children. The nurture teacher looks at the planning across the week and carefully plots the coverage needed to keep the children's exposure to the curriculum similar to that of their peers.

