

newsletter



Autumn Newsletter – September / October / November 2024

“Together we make a family!”

Follow us on Instagram and like us on Facebook!

Great ways for you to keep up to date with all the latest news from the Wellies gang!

This is our VERY FIRST newsletter with WEST END WELLIES. Welcome to all our new families joining us from West End Wellies!



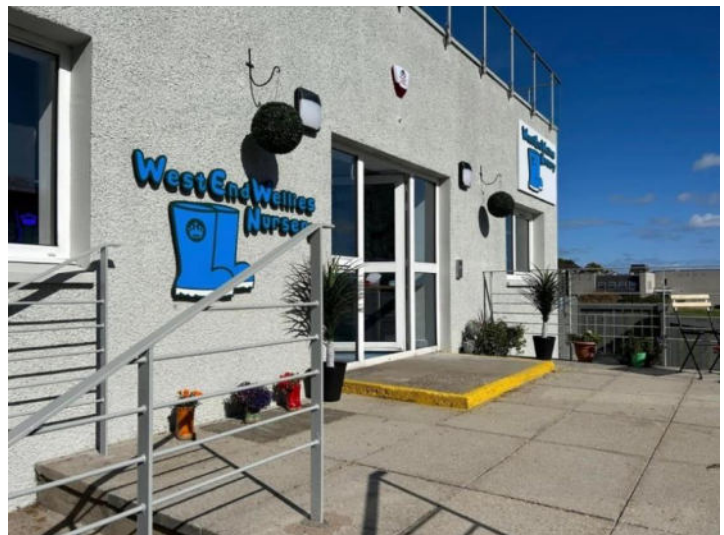
What have the Wellies Gang been up to this time?

We have been as busy as usual. We have been completing the Hands Up Travel Survey, planning our Macmillan coffee mornings, working with our extra-curricular teachers, Opening Wellie Jellies Campsite, Opening Wellies Airport, Visiting Wellies Tots Zoo, Keeping fit at Wellies Babies gym classes, Bees and Bumbles International Airport, Bee Bee Creche, Bumbles Lemonade Stand, National Fitness Day, Recycling Week, planting and gardening, learning about the seasons, exploring our senses, how to keep safe, learning all about different minibeasts, learning all about all around the world – all the different countries and their traditions and celebrations, friendships, rules, all about me – getting to know our new families, colours and textures, getting ready for school and moving to our next rooms, visits from lots of important people who help us, talking about our pets and learning about different animals, exploring our local environments with lots of walks, enjoying a lot of outdoor play in our recently vamped gardens! We have also

opened our new West End Wellies Nursery and have loved welcoming our new families. We never stop learning!

West End Wellies has opened!

We absolutely love our new nursery and have had so many lovely well wishes and positive feedback. We hope that you liked our videos and are keeping up to date with our progress on Facebook and our website. Many thanks to the KingsWellies and QueensWellies parents and staff who also visited us on our open days. We loved showing it off to you all.





2024 Graduates

Best wishes to all of our boys and girls who started school this Summer. We had 50 children leave us to go to school. This was a record! Remember to keep in touch boys and girls and always do your very best in everything that you do!

Graduation – Class of 2024

WE really enjoyed our final graduation party. What a ball we had! We asked for a bouncy castle and a Kids Rock party and that is exactly what we got! Parents and staff gave the boys and girls a very well-deserved standing ovation when they left the nursery for the last time. Congratulations everyone!



Staffing Update

We always plan to have a number of staff over our ratio every day. This is unlike most other nurseries. This ensures that we can accommodate lots of high quality staff training, holidays and staff absences.

Managers and staff will keep you up to date with all of our new staff. You will see our photos up in our receptions and regular updates on Facebook.



BABY NEWS

Huge congratulations to Natalie, Emma, Leah and Faith who have all recently announced they are expecting little bundles of joy! We can't wait to meet all the new Wellies Babies!

Festivals Traditions, Harvest and all things Autumn

As part of our Festivals and Traditions topic, we will be celebrating Halloween. We have lots of exciting activities planned. Keep your eyes peeled for our Festivals, Traditions and Autumnal Newsflash. We will also be asking the children what they would like to learn. Throughout this topic we will be learning about:

1. Concepts of light and dark
2. Seasons – Autumn and Winter
3. Colours
4. What is hibernation and which animals hibernate?
5. Harvest thanksgiving
6. Diwali – Festival of Lights
7. Animals – nocturnal, diurnal and crepuscular
8. Pumpkins and tasty treats
9. Halloween
10. Festivals and traditions

We will be doing lots of baking and food tasting activities too. We will be dressing up, decorating our pumpkins and partying until we drop! Lots of great fun!



Learning and Teaching in KingsWellies, QueensWellies and West End Wellies

Over the next few weeks, we will be focusing on a variety of topics in our playrooms. These will include:

1. KINDNESS – Are you a bucket filler or a bucket dipper?
2. The Scottish Daily Mile - we aim to jog, run or walk for up to 15 minutes every day!
3. Macmillan Coffee Mornings- please give us a donation – dates for each setting are posted on Facebook and displayed posters around the settings.
4. Transport – Visits to see various different types of transport!
5. LOTS of Reflection Time in our interest groups; talking about our learning and what we would like to learn with our key workers



6. Child-led improvement groups – Eco group, kindness group, gardening group, playground group, charity group, celebrations group, Xmas group, Makaton champions, Festivals group, enterprise group. We will keep working hard to improve our nursery.

7. Seasons – Autumn and Winter

8. Weather

9. Hibernation – nocturnal, diurnal and crepuscular animals

10. Festivals, traditions and celebrations

11. Grow well choices – making healthy decisions

12. Guy Fawkes – Bonfire night and firework safety

13. 8th September – International literacy day

14. 9th Emergency Services Day (999 Day)

15. 23rd September – International day of sign languages

16. 28th September – National good neighbour day

17. 1st October – World vegetarian day

18. 1st October – International music day

19. 2nd October – International poetry day

20. 4th October – Grandparents day – Look out for our Grandparent and family members Stay and Play dates!

21. 4th October – world smile day

22. 5th October – world teacher day

23. 6th October – world mad hatter day

24. 7th October – world smile day

25. 9th October – fire prevention day

26. 14th October – national dessert day

27. 15th October – global handwashing day

28. 16th October – national dictionary day

29. 16th October – world food day

30. 17th October – national pasta day

31. 20th October – International Chefs day with Chef Lisa

32. 31st October – Halloween. Festival and Celebration news flash to be sent out soon!





33. 31st October – World Cities Day. Learning all about Edinburgh, our capital city and London, the capital city of the UK.
34. 3rd November – Kindness day. LOTS of bucket filling! Have you got any ideas for us?
35. 5th November – Guy Fawkes Day! Marshmallows and songs and sparklers around the fire.
36. 9th November – British pudding day
37. 11th November – Diwali. Festival of lights.
38. 10th November – Remembrance Sunday. Making our own poppies.
39. 13th November – International kindness day
40. 14th November – World Diabetes day
41. 19th November – Road Safety Week – Lots of walks around the local community to practice our road safety!

42. 20th November – Universal children’s day. What are the rights of the child?
43. 21st November – World hello day. How do we say hello in LOTS of different languages?
44. 28th November – Thanksgiving Day.
45. 30th November – St Andrew’s Day. Celebrating the patron saint of Scotland. Learning about ALL things Scotland and being proud of our Scottish heritage! Remember to wear something Scottish this week.
46. 3rd December – International day of persons with disabilities
47. 4th December – World Conservation day
48. 5th December – World Soil day
49. 9th December – International Xmas Card day
50. 10th December – Human rights day
51. 24th December – Hanukkah begins (Jewish)
52. 25th December – Christmas day
53. 31st December – New Year’s Day



Wellies £10 Snack Shopper – Would you like to do our snack shopping for us?

Number, Money and Measure: “I am developing my awareness of how money is used and can recognise and use a range of coins” MNU 0-079

Our children are learning all of the time. Our main focus for learning is through developing our **Literacy, Numeracy and Health and Wellbeing** skills. As part of the Scottish Curriculum for Excellence, we also develop skills, knowledge and understanding in:

1. **Expressive Arts**
2. **Social Studies**
3. **Technologies Sciences**
4. **Religious and Moral Education**



We would like our Wellies children to develop a good understanding of money. The best way to do this is through using REAL money. If you would like to be one of our “**Snack Shoppers**” over the weekend, please email our Admin team. They will then give you our snack “Shopping List” and the £5 budget. It would be a huge help to us if you and your child could buy some of the items for our snack over the weekend. This will also be a hugely beneficial experience for your child. Why not make this their weekend responsibility? This will provide a vast range of learning opportunities right across the curriculum.

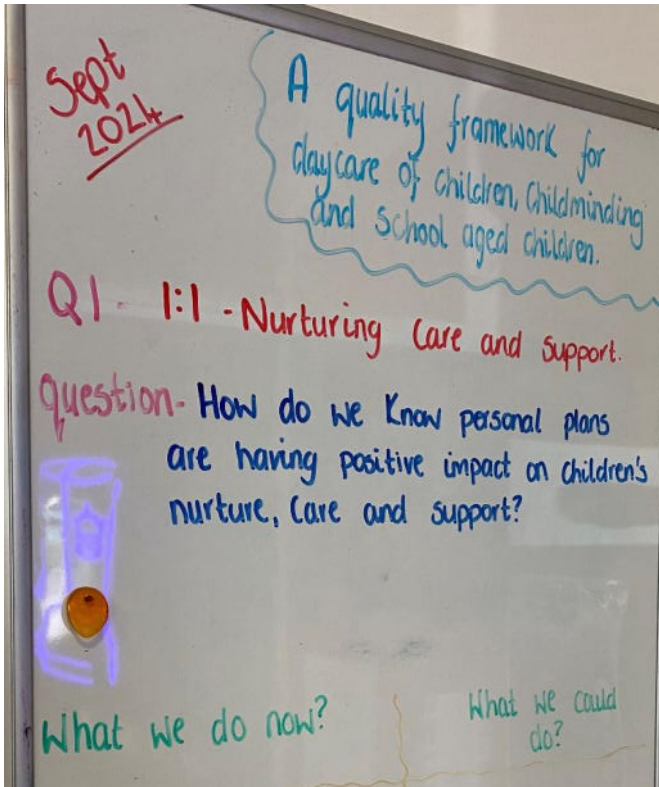
Please just take back the shopping, change and receipt at the beginning of the week. Please also fill out our Snack Shopper Diary so that we can share your shopping experiences with our other children! Feel free to add any photos and also your feedback.

Alternatively, do this at home with own children whereby they buy your own household shopping. This is a great (and easy) way to teach them about money and the concept of budgeting.



Extra-Curricular Activities

We are also really delighted to have all of our visiting teachers back after the Summer. Moo Music, Kids Rock, French, Yoga, Rugby Tots, Chef Lisa, Gym Bunnies and Flash dance have all restarted this term. We have changed the days of most of our classes so that a wider variety of our boys and girls can enjoy these experiences. Please email our admin team on, admin@kingswelliesnursery.com for Kingswellies children and wew@kingswelliesnursery.com for QueensWellies and West End Wellies Children, if you would like any more information regarding these classes.



Parental Consultation – Question of the month

Each month we strive to self-evaluate our practice because we want to be a better nursery. We also need our parents to give us feedback. Each month we have a new self-evaluation question which comes from the Care Inspectorate document “A Quality Framework For Daycare of Children, Childminding + School-Aged Childcare” (Feb 22). Please give us your comments. Your feedback means a lot to us.

Staff Training

We are already very busy with our training for Session 2024/25. Staff will be participating in lots of training during the next session.

Kerry will also continue in her role as a Chair of the Children’s Panel for Children’s Hearings Scotland.

Lost Property

Please label ALL clothes, toys and personal possessions. The nursery CANNOT take responsibility for lost articles which are not FULLY labelled.

Please also ensure that your children are appropriately dressed in warm clothing for the colder weather. We will still be out and about in ALL weathers. Thank you.

KingsWellies Policies of the Month

This month we would like to provide you with the opportunity to review and consult on our Transition Procedure and Early Learning Opportunities and Play Policy. All other Wellies Nurseries Policies and Procedures can be requested from the Offices at all nursery settings.

Christmas Holidays

Just a reminder that we are closed for two weeks over the Christmas and New Year Period. We close at 6pm on Friday 20th December and reopen 7.30am on Monday 6th January 2025. It will be here before we know it!

Christmas News Flashes will be issued in due course with all important dates for your diary!





Individual Learning Diary (ILD)

If you are a NEW parent, please make sure that you speak to your room supervisor or key worker about logging in to this very important tool. Our admin staff will also be able to support you with this. Each child has an individual account which gets updated twice a month. We really encourage our families to also upload observations or achievements your child has made at home too! This is a great communication tool between the child's Key Worker and Parent/Carer.

Comments, Compliments and Concerns

Please give us your feedback – good and bad. It means a lot to us! We only want to keep improving in order to provide the best service possible. Please make us your first port of call if you have any comments or concerns. If we work together, we will be able to achieve the very best for all of our children. Many thanks.

We also have Compliments slips available in reception in relation to our staff. The staff work very hard and we all know that it is nice to hear a compliment from time to time. Many thanks to those parents who have already paid staff members a compliment. We are always looking for Workers of the Week and Workers of the Month.

If you would like this newsletter or any other documentation from nursery translated into another language or an alternate reading format, please do not hesitate to contact us.



Early Learning Opportunities and Play Policy

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|------------------|---------------------------------|
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| Reviewed | March 2016 (V2)/Sept 2017 (V3) |
| Revised | May 2023 (V4) July 2024 (V5) |

Wellies
Nurseries



Early Learning Opportunities and Play Policy

Curriculum and Care

Daily life is bursting with many learning opportunities for your child right from the moment of birth. At Wellies Nurseries, we believe that every day is a learning day. Even the most routine tasks can lead to learning which is not only enjoyable, but helps to give your child the very best start in life.

At Wellies Nurseries we recognise that children learn in different ways and at different rates and we plan for this accordingly. Our aim is to support all children attending the nursery to attain their maximum potential within their individual capabilities.

We provide a very positive play environment for every child. This is to ensure that they have the opportunity to develop good social skills and an appreciation of all aspects of this country's multi-cultural society. We also plan learning experiences to ensure, as far as practical, there is equality of opportunity for all children and a celebration of diversity.

We maintain a personalised record of every child's development, showing their abilities, progress, interests and areas needing further staff or parental assistance.

Our staff will help your child to enjoy learning by:

- including your child in everyday tasks and making them fun!
- making opportunities for choices, taking responsibility, making decisions and solving problems.
- providing a safe and stimulating environment in which your child feels happy and secure.
- showing we are interested in your child's learning. We will ask questions, listen and give lots of praise when it is appropriate.
- using new and familiar words to extend and enrich your child's vocabulary, understanding and awareness of sounds and language development.
- showing your child how to play, share, take turns, make friends and develop positive relationships.
- providing stimulating and exciting opportunities to engage your child's interest and imagination both indoors and out.
- encouraging your child to reach their full potential!

Learning through play

Play is a fundamental part of childhood. Our role at Wellies Nurseries is to enable and facilitate play. At Wellies Nurseries, the principles of play will underpin and support all of our policies and programmes for our children. Wellies Nurseries children will be able to experience high-quality, stimulating play experiences as part of their daily lives.

Wellies Nurseries Programme

Each child at Wellies Nurseries is involved in a broad, balanced curriculum suited to their individual needs, interest and stage of development. At some activity areas they will work on their own, at others in a small group or larger group, sometimes with an adult and sometimes without.

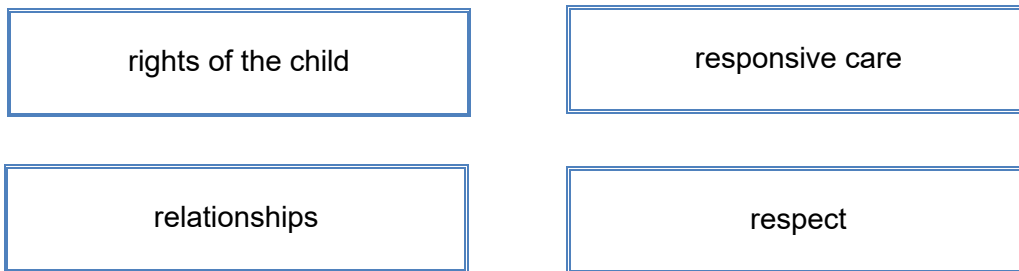
The children choose what they want to do and the adult supports their learning, ensuring that they have breadth and balance. By observing your child at free play and in a group situation, we are able to plan and provide appropriate models of play for each child's development.

It is our intention to assess all children in the nursery. We will use the information gathered from the assessments to review our curriculum so that it is targeted to meet the individual needs of your child.

Pre-Birth to Three: Positive Outcomes for Scotland's Children and Families

Wellies Nurseries will follow the national guidance set out in Pre-Birth to Three: Positive Outcomes for Scotland's Children and Families, whilst working with our youngest children. This national guidance sets the contexts for high-quality care and education. It will also ensure a smooth and coherent transition for all children as they begin to engage with Curriculum for Excellence 3-18

The four key principles are:



At Wellies, each of our younger children will have a Key Person who will offer security, reassurance and continuity and who will be responsible for feeding, changing and comforting that child.

Curriculum for Excellence 3-18

Whilst at Wellies, your child will learn through Curriculum for Excellence which is the curriculum used throughout Scotland. The Early Level provides a framework for children's learning in the pre-school years and in Primary 1. Curriculum for Excellence places a strong emphasis on the development of health and wellbeing, literacy and numeracy.

We implement the Curriculum for Excellence set by Education Scotland that sets standards to ensure all children learn and develop well. We support and enhance children's learning and development holistically through play-based activities.

We view all aspects of learning and development and ensure a flexible approach is maintained, which responds quickly to children's learning and developmental needs. We develop tailor-made activities based on observation which inform future planning of adult-led and child-initiated opportunities both indoors and outdoors.

We value child-led play and ensure we promote this through providing activities that are flexible, take account of ages, development needs and interests. We know that activities provided by staff will allow children to enjoy organised and free play including quiet times.

Health and wellbeing

At Wellies, health and wellbeing is about learning how to lead healthy and active lives, whilst becoming confident, happy and forming friendships and relationships with others that are based on respect.

Literacy

Literacy is an essential part of our everyday lives. It helps us to understand and interpret our world through what we hear, see, say, write and read. Early literacy skills start with babies discovering that they can communicate their needs through their first sounds, facial expressions and body language.

Numeracy

Numeracy is about counting and numbers as well as understanding measurement, money, weight, an awareness of time and how to handle information. It is important for simple tasks, from pairing your socks to paying for your shopping.

Other curricular areas

At Wellies Nurseries, we will recognise the importance of health and wellbeing, literacy and numeracy as key to building our curriculum. We will also focus on developing understanding of the expressive arts, religious and moral education, sciences, social studies and technologies.

Outdoor learning

At Wellies Nurseries the children will be encouraged to get moving indoors and outdoors in all weathers. Learning to enjoy the outdoors in our Scottish climate will help the Wellies Nurseries children to grow and develop into healthy and confident adults. A huge range of activities, resources and games will be provided in our large and unique outdoor play environment.

Nursery Curriculum

Our Nursery Curriculum is fully detailed within our Wellies Nurseries prospectus and also within our curriculum policies.

With our children aged from 3-5 years, we follow the 'Curriculum for Excellence'. The Early Level provides a framework for children's learning in the anti-pre and pre-school years and in primary 1. The eight curricular areas are:

- Expressive Arts
- Health and Wellbeing
- Literacy and Languages
- Numeracy and Mathematics
- Religious and Moral Education
- Sciences
- Social Studies
- Technologies and ICT

Building the Ambition

Wellies Nurseries will also use the **National Practice Guidance on Early Learning and Childcare Building the Ambition (2014)** as our core guidance to support us in providing a seamless learning journey from birth to starting school.

We offer all of our children active learning experiences, regardless of age and stage by:

- Providing a safe and stimulating environment in which children feel happy and secure.
- Providing opportunities to engage the children's interest and imagination.
- Encouraging positive attitudes to self and others.
- Extending the children's abilities to communicate their thoughts, feelings and ideas in a variety of ways.
- Encouraging children to reach their full potential.
- Focusing on the development of Literacy, Numeracy and health and Wellbeing skills during all learning opportunities.

During your child's time spent at Wellies Nurseries, we aim to provide them with rich and varied opportunities to develop into successful learners, confident individuals, responsible citizens and effective contributors.

A variety of free-play areas will be set up in each playroom. These will include activities involving:

- Mark-making, drawing and writing
- Books, puppets and listening
- Puzzles and fine motor skill activities
- Building and construction
- Small world play
- Sensory and manipulative skills
- Number and maths
- Exploring and investigating
- Sand and water
- Creative area for painting, modelling, making woodwork, play dough
- Imaginative play including Kitchen and house area
- Music and drama
- Treasure baskets
- Loose materials play using everyday objects
- Interactive resources including smartboard and new technologies
- Cooking and baking
- Planting and growing
- Enterprise and problem solving
- Role play and dressing up

We acknowledge parents as primary educators and encourage parental involvement as outlined in our Parents and Carers as Partners Policy. We build strong home links in order to enhance and extend children's learning both within the nursery environment and in the child's home.

We share information about Curriculum for Excellence with parents and signpost them to further support via the following website:

www.educationscotland.gov.uk

Our guarantee to you

At Wellies, you can be confident that:

- staff are flexible and responsible to your child's personal, emotional, educational and physical needs
- we will provide your child with a range of rich and varied learning opportunities which will help them to develop into successful learners, confident individuals, responsible citizens and effective contributors
- your child will experience and choose from a wide range of high-quality programmes and activities that are planned, designed, evaluated and implemented by staff, taking account of national and local guidelines
- we will promote ambition and high expectations for every child within our care.

Policy on Play

Article 31 of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child recognises that every child has the right to rest and play and to have the chance to join a wide range of activities.

Introduction

Wellies Nurseries recognises that play is central to the health and wellbeing of our children and to enjoyment in their lives. Access to high quality play opportunities leads to the development of confident young people better able to lead their own communities and make a full and active contribution to society.

This Play Policy makes a commitment to all children and young people in Wellies Nurseries to support their right to play regardless of their needs, background or abilities. It acknowledges the significance of children's rights in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child which was approved by the UK Government in December 1991 and adopted by Aberdeen City in 1996.

The purpose of the Play Policy is to improve the quality of current and future play opportunities in Wellies Nurseries and establish links between play and other local and national policies and strategies.

Wellies Nurseries' vision is to develop high quality innovative and inclusive services in partnership with the community, children and young people and all agencies involved in the delivery of play.

A key feature of this Play Policy is to work together with our existing and future partners to best meet the needs of children, families and communities.

Wellies Nurseries will make a commitment to see, hear, listen and respond to children playing in our communities therefore encouraging healthy community activity with active and positive contributions from all generations.

The Play Policy shows the value of freedom to play in the lives of our children. It is our responsibility to ensure the freedom to play is a right upheld in Wellies.

Rationale

Play is an essential part of a happy, healthy childhood and; 'when children play their brains do two things: they grow and become organised and usable.' (Hughes 2013)

Furthermore, the right to play is enshrined in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. All children and young people should have play experiences as part of their daily lives. Wellies Nurseries recognise the vital role of play in supporting children's learning and development. At Wellies, we aim to provide a wide variety of quality play experiences for our children.

Definition of Play

Play is the stimulus for physical, intellectual, emotional and social development – it is fundamental to human development. Children play for enjoyment and creative expression, but through play they learn about the world around them. Play is fun and is an essential part of everyone's life.

What is Play?

Play comes in many forms. It can be active, passive, solitary, independent, assisted, social, exploratory, educational or just for fun! Moreover, it can happen indoors or outdoors. It can be structured, creative, messy, entirely facilitated by the imagination, or can involve using the latest gadgets and technologies.

From the earliest days and months, play helps children to learn to move, share, negotiate, investigate, manipulate, take on board the points of view of others and cultivate many more skills. It remains equally important throughout infancy, childhood, the teenage years, through adolescence and beyond into adulthood. Play plays a crucial part at all ages, stages and abilities.

A Vision of Play

Wellies Nurseries is a nursery where all children and young people are empowered to play, are encouraged to direct and define their own play spaces and have access to high quality play opportunities and resources.

Wellies Nurseries is a great place to Play.

Significance of Play

In order to support children's play opportunities and promote the benefits of play within the context of their lives, it is important to understand that there are competing elements for children's leisure time and other challenges that can make play opportunities difficult to deliver, these include;

- 1. The time spent on electronic games and watching television rather than active play.**
Children playing alone in front of an electronic device has become the norm for a generation. Research shows that children spend a much higher proportion of their time inactive than in years past. This has been linked to the rise in obesity in childhood – we seek to challenge this and promote children's imaginations as well as their physical and mental health and wellbeing by encouraging them towards active, preferably outdoor play.
- 2. The importance of the suitability, attractiveness and children's feelings of "ownership" relating to where they play.**
Many play spaces are not clean nor attractive, and unfortunately some are unsafe. This makes getting to a quality, clean play space is difficult for many young people, parents and carers. Guidance states that children should be no more than 400m from local play area, however these can be of variable quality. Parents, children and communities should be supported to improve, develop and enjoy their play spaces.
- 3. The weather.**
A shift in attitude towards the weather and outdoors is needed. This teamed with education and supported about obtaining and using appropriate outdoor clothing is part of making all weather outdoor play is more attractive. "There is no such thing as bad weather – only inappropriate clothing."

Play at Wellies Nurseries

All learning environments need "free play". This is commonly defined as "behaviour that is freely chosen, personally directed and intrinsically motivated". This form of play has the potential to contribute powerfully and positively to some of the most significant areas of nursery, school and future life. At Wellies Nurseries, we recognise that play supports the development of social skills and collaboration. It stimulates physical activity and the development of important physical competencies. It encourages

creativity, imagination and problem solving. When children have access to natural spaces for play, it fosters a sense of close connection with and respect for nature.

Learning through play is widely acknowledged as a key component of good practice in the early years, both indoors and outdoors. At Wellies Nurseries, we use our outdoor and indoor space as well as the local area to provide children with opportunities for structured and free play activities.

In order to support play effectively, Wellies Nurseries staff are sensitive about the timing and nature of interventions and interactions. We work with the children to ensure that they have the time, space and freedom to initiate, plan, lead and conclude their own play.

Wellies Nurseries Play Policy Objectives

- * Provide play opportunities within the nursery that are accessible for all children, high quality, imaginative, challenging, well maintained and safe.
- * Ensure children and young people with disabilities have access to quality play opportunities.
- * Promote positive attitudes towards outdoor play in both adults and children.
- * Promote use of indoor and outdoor play areas, parks and open spaces.
- * Provide information to planners and developers so that play is considered during community planning.
- * Ensure that council policies and strategies support the development of play opportunities.
- * Consult and provide feedback to children and young people on play issues.
- * Ensure that relevant training and qualifications are available to those involved in play services.
- * Whenever appropriate, play opportunities should be delivered using partnership approaches which include, actively involve, local schools and communities.

Every day is a learning day

At Wellies Nurseries, our philosophy is that 'every day is a learning day.' We recognise that daily life is bustling with many learning opportunities for your child right from birth. Through lots of high quality play opportunities, we will support our children to learn about the world, develop their interests, feel involved, and become engaged and happy..... And all the time, we will be making every day a learning day!

**Curriculum for Excellence
Outcomes and Experiences that Relate to Play**

| | | |
|--|--|---|
| I know that friendship, caring, sharing, fairness, equality and love are important in building positive relationships. As I develop and value relationships, I care and show respect for myself and others. HWB 0-05a | I am developing a sense of size and amount by observing, exploring, using and communicating with others about things in the world around me. MNU 0-01a | Throughout my learning, I share my thoughts with others to help further develop ideas and solve problems. TCH0-11a |
| I understand that people can feel alone and can be misunderstood and left out by others. I am learning how to give appropriate support. HWB 0-08a | I have experimented with everyday items as units of measure to investigate and compare sizes and amounts in my environment, sharing my findings with others. MNU 0-11a | Within real and imaginary settings, I am developing my practical skills as I select and work with a range of materials, tools and software. TCH 0-12a |
| I make full use of and value the opportunities I am given to improve and manage my learning and, in turn, I can help to encourage learning and confidence in others.HWB 0-11a | I have spotted and explored patterns in my own and the wider environment and can copy and continue these and create my own patterns.MTH 0-13a | Through discovery, natural curiosity and imagination, I explore ways to construct models or solve problems. TCH 0-14a |
| I value the opportunities I am given to make friends and be part of a group in a range of situations.HWB 0-14a | I enjoy exploring and playing with the patterns and sounds of language and can use what I learn. LIT 0-01a/Lit 0-11a/Lit 0-20a | Throughout my learning, I explore and discover different ways of representing my ideas in imaginative ways.TCH 0-15a |
| I am developing my understanding of the human body and can use this knowledge to maintain and improve my wellbeing and health. HWB 0-15a | As I listen and talk in different situations, I am learning to take turns and am developing my awareness of when to talk and when to listen. LIT 0-02a / ENG 0-03a | As I play and learn, I am developing my understanding of what is fair and unfair and why caring and sharing are important.RME 0-09a |
| I am learning to assess and manage risk, to protect myself and others, and to reduce the potential for harm when possible.HWB 0-16a | I have the freedom to choose and explore how I can use my voice, movement and expression in role play and drama.EXA 0-13a | As I explore stories, images, music and poems, I am becoming familiar with the beliefs of the world religions I am learning about.RME 0-04a |
| I know and can demonstrate how to keep myself and others safe and how to respond in a range of emergency situations.HWB 0-17a | I use drama to explore real and imaginary situations, helping me to understand my world.EXA 0-14a | I make decisions and take responsibility in my everyday experiences and play, showing consideration for others.SOC 0-17a |
| I know and can demonstrate how to travel safely.HWB 0-18a | Working on my own and with others, I use my curiosity and imagination to solve design problems.EXA0-06a | Through everyday experiences and play with a variety of toys and other objects, I can recognise simple types of forces and describe their effects. SCN 0-07a |
| In everyday activity and play, I explore and make choices to develop my learning and interests. I am encouraged to use and share my experiences.HWB 0-19a | I explore and discover the interesting features of my local environment to develop an awareness of the world around me. SOC 0-07a | Through creative play, I explore different materials and can share my reasoning for selecting materials for different purposes. SCN 0-15a |
| I am learning to move my body well, exploring how to manage and control it and finding out how to use and share space.HWB 0-21a | I explore and appreciate the wonder of nature within different environments and have played a part for caring for the environment.SOC 0-08a | I am aware of my own and others' needs and feelings especially when taking turns and sharing resources. I recognise the need to follow rules. HWB 0-23A |
| I am developing my movement skills through practice and energetic play. HWB 0-22a | I am enjoying daily opportunities to participate in different kinds of energetic play, both outdoors and indoors.HWB 0-25a | |

Wellies Nurseries

Transitions Policy + Procedures

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Wellies
Nurseries



Wellies Nurseries Transitions Policy & Procedure

Purpose of Procedure

To ensure that all children and families are supported sensitively, inclusively and positively through transitions that are consistently well managed and individually planned for with a multi-agency approach.

During the COVID-19 Pandemic all staff should ensure they are also following the latest Scottish Government guidance. As guidance will be constantly changing, all staff must ensure that this is continually monitored and that individual COVID-19 risk assessments are being updated in line with most current guidance. [Scot-Gov - Coronavirus Early Learning and Childcare Services](#)
Where parents cannot access the setting in person during COVID-19, the transition procedures will take place over phone/video/outdoors. Staff should do their utmost to ensure that this procedure is thorough, supportive, and settling for parents and children.

Who is responsible?

The child's Key worker will take the lead in all communications with the family and other relevant professionals to plan and support transitions and ensure that all staff who need to know this information, regarding how to support the child's needs, do so.

However, it will be ALL members of staff's responsibility to ensure that they:

- Understand the impact of transition, loss and change on individual children.
- Take time to understand the transitions that are relevant to the family.
- Communicate effectively with the child and give reassurance.

How will the procedure be implemented?

Transitions could include:

- Moving to or from a service.
- Moving to a new house.
- Change in family dynamics (births, deaths, marriage, divorce, health, pets, employment, income etc).
- Moving to a new room
- Moving to P1

On Application, families will be:

- Given information about the service to support them in making an informed decision to apply (this may be in the form of discussion, leaflets or relevant forms) and Prospectus Pack.
- Encouraged to ask questions and share any concerns.
- Encouraged to visit (virtually or in person) new settings where a move is the reason for transition.
- Offered the widest choices of provision available to suit their needs and will receive a personalised approach to their placement planning.

On Admission, families will be:

- Given a warm welcome by the team and introduced to all members of staff
- Given time and support to share information that will support the development of a Personal Plan to best support the child's learning and care needs
- Allocated a Key Person
- Supported by the Key Person to plan for an appropriate settling in period (we recognise that all children react differently to new transitions and therefore settling in periods will be adapted where required to meet the current needs of each child)

During Placement:

- On first day child will be given lots of reassurance, if they require a comforter or a favourite toy, they can bring this along
- Parents are encouraged to stay for a time during their first session, so they as well as the child feels welcomed in the setting
- Personal Plans will be regularly adapted in partnership with families to ensure the care and learning needs of children is kept relevant and up to date as they progress. This will happen at least every six months
- Families will be offered regular support and feedback on their child's progress in the form of regular reviews, Personal Plans, Learning Journeys, and informal chats, daily handover feedback, Parent's Evenings
- Parents/Carers are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's learning and care experience and their knowledge, input and experience is valued
- Transition from room to room, will be planned appropriately and with the children's individual needs at the core

When Moving On:

- Families will be supported in planning for all onwards transitions and the setting will ensure that agreed information is passed on to the new setting i.e. Transition Passports, reports from your service and external agencies, child's strengths and individual needs, chronologies, care plans, ILD's
- Families will be given a collection of 'keepsake' information that has been gathered through the child's early learning and childcare experience. This include their Learning Journey, artwork, and summaries of any reviews etc
- The setting will provide the new school with all appropriate information i.e., ILD, Care Plan, Chronology, Confidential File and Report

Transition from room to room.

As you are aware, transition to the next room in any Wellies Nurseries settings is dependent on a number of things:

- The age of the child
- The child as an individual. All children develop at different rates. Some may be ready to move before others (age and stage)
- Whether there is a space available in the next room.

Our rooms are broken down into the following age categories:

- Lower room - aged 0 to 2.5/3 years.
- Pre-School - aged 2.5 years to 5 years. Some children may start in the pre-school room earlier and some may start later

If there is not a space available for your child in the next room, please be rest-assured that they will still be working at the appropriate curricular level within their current room. If there is not a space available for your child in the next room, then they will be moved as SOON as one becomes available. You will be kept fully informed and transition will happen in full consultation with you.

Parents will still receive their full funding allocation for all children aged three and above, regardless of the room that their care needs are being met in.

For example, if there is not a space available for your child in the pre-school room, then they will still follow the Early Level Curriculum from Curriculum for Excellence (in the Toddler room) until a space

becomes available. They will also fully participate in a number of activities with the pre-school staff and children (Covid restrictions dependent). These will include:

- outdoor education and play
- following the Early Level curriculum and planning from the pre-school room
- reflection groups with their pre-school key worker
- trips and visits with the pre-school room
- all pre-school extra-curricular groups and activities
- story times and music times in the pre-school room
- art and craft activities with the pre-school room
- celebrations and festivals with the pre-school room
- join breakfast club
- join for snacks/ Lunch
- 'Cricket Tots'
- Flash Dance
- Kids Rock
- Yoga

We will continue to review this on an ongoing basis and will be in touch to inform you when the move will take place.

Transition to P1:

These children will come from The Wellie Badgers. We have lots planned to make this transition process as easy for them (and parents) as possible. Activities will include:

- Visits to their own school (schools to provide dates)
- Visits by their new teachers to Wellies Nurseries (we have already invited them all)
- Visits to Kingswells School and Playground
- Practicing how to line up, get our own coats on, change our shoes, pack our bags, and eat our play piece
- Can we write our own names? Can we recognise our own name?
- Developing our independence and resilience
- Completing our Life Skills Awards
- Bus journeys and lots of community visits
- Focus on Literacy, Numeracy and Health and Wellbeing
- School Uniforms
- Rules, Routines and Friendships
- Looking at our school websites with our friends
- Wellie Beans and Wellie Jellies spending lots of time together to discuss P1 and prepare for school
- Individual Learning Journeys sent to each school
- Lots of "school" stories and "school" topic activities
- Parent's Night
- Key Workers to contact each school to pass on all relevant individual information
- Stay and Play dates for parents to join us
- Learning Packs/bags available at each door to take home
- Parents invited to visit each school (schools to provide dates)
- Graduation!! We can't wait for our Graduation committee to start planning the party for all parents!
- Wellies Nurseries will provide the new school with all relevant information e.g. ILD, Care Plan, Chronology, Confidential File and Report

Here are some suggestions to help prepare your child for starting school in August.

- Do they recognise their own name? if not make a sign together for their room and where they hand their jacket at home so that they are used to seeing it
- If you are going to teach them to write their name, please only teach the first letter as a capital- if they learn their whole name in capitals, it then takes time for them to unlearn it
- Remember school is different from when you went, they will be unlikely to have their own desk, but they will be very used to the set up as it's similar to Nursery
- Label EVERYTHING!
- Encourage them to open their own snacks so that they are able to do it at playtime and lunchtime
- Velcro shoes are best!
- Don't share your concerns with them and don't talk about how they are your baby, and they aren't ready! They are taking their lead from you!
- Can you put on your own jacket and zip it up? If not, start encouraging them now!
- Can they use the toilet independently and wash and dry their hands independently? Now is the time to work on his
- When you find out their gym days it's best not to put them in shirt and tie those days
- In Scotland all Ps-P3's get a free lunch – when you get a menu pop it somewhere in the house and let them know what the choices are each day and decide what they will have together
- This year is unique as there hasn't been visits to school but remember that all the children are in the same position
- P1 teachers are angels in disguise, we promise you can trust them with your baby!