

Primrose Hill Primary School



*A Guide to
Rainbow Class*

Welcome to the Nurture Group

This booklet has been designed to help you understand the Nurture Group and hopefully answer some of your questions.

What is the Nurture Group?

At Primrose Hill Primary School our Nurture Group is called 'Rainbow Class'. We offer this intervention to Y1 children and in special circumstances to Y2 children. The group has a maximum of 8 children at any one time.

The home-play area in our room

The group is called 'Nurture Group' because we work in a way that is very similar to a home environment. The Nurture Group room is a classroom within the school house with a home play area, comfortable seating, kitchen/dining area, reading room and infant size table and chairs for group working.

The work and play space has a range of equipment and toys for children from Nursery age up to 8 years of age.

The group is staffed by Amanda Aplicano (our Leader of Learning for Children with Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs) and Kerri Ballard (Teaching Assistant).



Amanda Aplicano



Kerri Ballard

The children will experience a stable environment where adults and children work together; a place where mistakes and accidents are discussed, where firm boundaries are put in place and where children gain confidence. The children will learn about themselves and their world, at a pace and in a way which suits them.

Why should my child attend the Nurture Group?

A child may come to the Nurture Group when they are experiencing difficulties in coping in a busy classroom. Children may have a variety of barriers that prevent them thriving in a large class. These may include being quiet and withdrawn or having low confidence or self-esteem. In all cases, the child's behavior or interaction with others may prevent him/her from progressing and gaining access to the school's curriculum and they may have difficulties making and sustaining relationships with both adults and other children.

There may be many complex reasons for these difficulties; whatever the reason, some time spent in 'Rainbow Class' will be of tremendous benefit to the child and their family.

What will be my child's daily routine in Rainbow?

- You will take your child to their classroom in the morning and you will collect them from there at the end of the day.
- The children are registered with their own class in the morning. They retain their peg, drawer and place in class.
- The children are collected from their classroom by the Nurture Group staff after registration in the morning.
- The group has breakfast at 9.15am. This is a social time around a dining table sharing a meal. It involves socializing, co-operating, taking turns, waiting, being last, speaking and listening and also having breakfast.
- Mornings are usually devoted to the curriculum areas of English and Math's. Children will complete work appropriate to their level and relevant to their current class work. We are aware of each child's individual needs when planning, delivering and assessing their progress. We will also be working on their communication, social skills, building their self-esteem and self-confidence in everything we do. We promote a growth mindset approach in all that we do.
- The children will spend lunchtimes and playtimes with their peers. They will be escorted to the dining room at the same time as their class in time for lunch.

Can I help my child if they're going into 'Rainbow Class'?

Please explain to your child that they will be coming to 'Rainbow class' and that you are pleased and are sure they will be happy and have lots of lovely, interesting things to do.

You are the expert and know your child best. Discussion with you helps us to understand and help your child. It is important we know what they are like at home and what they enjoy, and that we discuss any concerns you may have.

We will continue to meet with you regularly. We will always try to arrange a time that is convenient for you. All children benefit and make better progress when staff and parents work in partnership, so it is important that we communicate regularly.

What will the Nurture Group staff do?

We try to make the Nurture Group accessible and familiar and to have a warm relaxed atmosphere. It is our practice to be non-judgmental. We are always available for advice and support and have the individual needs of your child at the center of our work and planning.

Amanda Aplicano is available to speak to you daily from 3pm - 5.00pm (by arrangement). Amanda is also available for appointments and informal chats before school.

How long will my child be in the Nurture Group?

Children are in the Nurture Group for a maximum of 4 terms. Your child will know when they join us that they will eventually return to their own class full time.

When it has been agreed that your child is ready to rejoin their own class full time, a re-integration program will begin. You will be told when this is going to happen so that you can discuss this with your child.

The programme is discussed fully with the class teacher, the Inclusion leadership team and yourself.

What happens when it is time for my child to return to their mainstream class?

The return is carefully planned with the class teacher. Your child will usually return to their class for a morning activity that they enjoy and are good at. They will gradually increase the time they spend in the class as the date of leaving the Nurture Group becomes closer. The length of the reintegration program will vary, depending on each child, their individual needs and relevant circumstances.

On their last day in the Nurture Group a graduation party is held to say goodbye.

Please have a look at the Rainbow section on our website.

*We look forward to welcoming your
child into **Rainbow** Class*

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