

The Early Years - The Hive (Nursery and Reception)

Cultural Capital

The Early Years Foundation Stage is very clear that every child is unique, and that they learn and develop in different ways. Learning for our youngest children is not linear, but equally our children need to be equipped for what the future holds. In The Hive we aim to provide learning activities that have cultural relevance to each and every group of learners that attend our setting. To do this we pay careful attention to what we learn from our families and what our observation and assessment shows us. In this way we believe that the experiences we provide for children meet both Cultural Capital principles and needs of our children.

Conversations and home visits with our families, and observation and assessment of our cohorts- tell us that we can add to and enhance our children's experience by hands on, practical and meaningful experiences. This is supported by our passion for the Characteristics of Effective Learning (COEL) and the belief that our children are resilient learners. We know that hands on and practical experiences lend themselves to COEL, but they are also essential for Communication and Language, Emotional and Social Development, and Physical Development. As seen in the Impact section of our Intent, Implication and Impact statement, these Prime Areas are of relevance to our cohorts.

Therefore, as part of our Core Provision (everyday provision and practice) The Hive offers:

The Dough Making Station – our children make their own dough to use in the malleable area.

Woodwork Bench – we train our children how to use the bench and tools safely.

Plethora of Paint – there are no less than 5 different ways children can choose to paint – these only include the prime colours, so children learn to mix the colour they require.

Tinkering Table – we investigate real life objects by taking them apart and putting them back together.

Creative Clay – our children mould, sculpt and build.

The Weather Station – Resourced with sunny day, windy day and rainy day boxes, as well as an Explore Autumn, Wonderous Winter, Step into Spring and Sizzling Summer boxes.

Finger Gym – we work hard at building our muscle strength!

Our commitment to raising the standards of reading also holds cultural value for our children and families. The following are the experiences The Hive offers to support this,

In the Autumn term we have our special Bedtime Story Morning event for parents and children.

All Nursery children are enrolled at Thirsk Community library.

Nursery children visit Thirsk Community library once a half term, where they listen to a story and choose books to take home.

Thirsk Community Library visits The Hive once a term, a librarian reads a story and then the children choose books to take home.

The Hive has their own Lending Library and all EY children take home a new picture book every week.

The Hive has a Helpful Huddle, trained volunteers who come and staff the Reading/ Book Area – so an adult is always on hand to sing and read with the children.

The Hive has a Getting Ready to Read Rainbow, activities parents can choose can take home which are based on the Every Child a Talker (ECaT) initiative.

The Hive has Time to Talk boxes, resources which parents are directed to, which are based on the Every Child a Talker (ECaT) initiative.

We believe that our practice and provision in The Hive not only has cultural relevance, but are likely to help to develop the necessary dispositions to face future learning situations with confidence and a genuine love of learning.