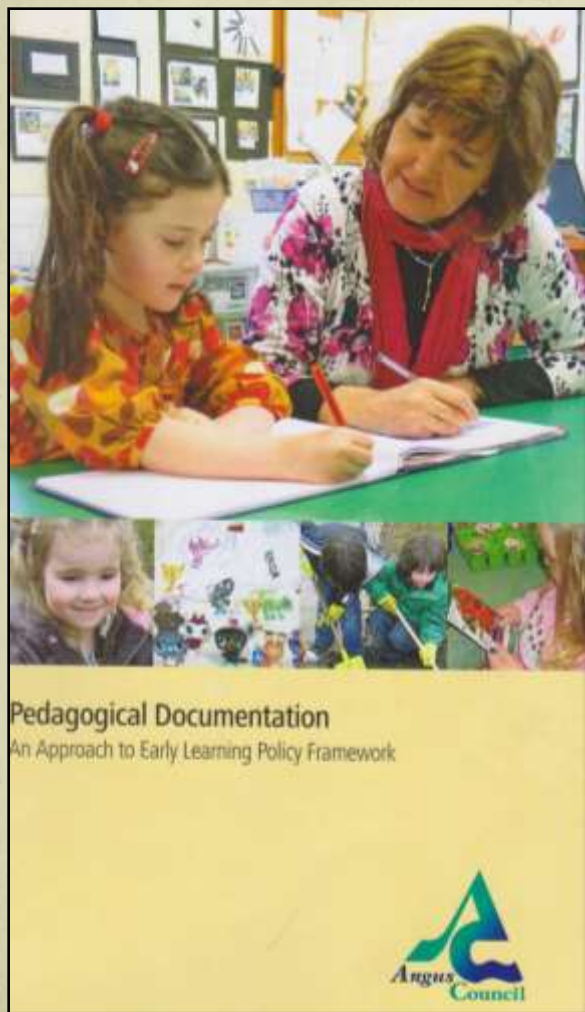


Supporting the Delivery of Curriculum for Excellence at Newbigging Pre-school

A Pedagogical Documentation Approach;
how it looks, feels and sounds

The aim of the following pages are to share the approach, known as pedagogical documentation used here at Newbigging pre-school and in other pre-school settings in Angus.



Our practice is based on A Reggio Emilia approach to working with young children. This is a way of working from Italy which has become a very well respected approach not only in this country but throughout the world. We have been fortunate to have been involved in a wide range of training with regard to these approaches. Examples of our work are featured in the new Local Authority Policy Document, highlighting our good practice.

The Principles of the Approach:

In Angus we believe that each child:

- ❑ has the right to be listened to and valued.
- ❑ is resourceful and Capable.
- ❑ is an active participant in his/her own learning.
- ❑ should be perceived as an individual within his/her own social and cultural background.

At Newbigging pre-school we aim to use these beliefs to :

- ❑ work in partnership with you as your child's first educator to support your child's all round development .
- ❑ build an accurate picture of your child as a person and as a learner.
- ❑ to build our curricular programme around the interests and emerging skills of the children.
- ❑ make children's learning visible through a variety of ways.

What this approach looks like:

We value and respect each child and family by taking time to listen and to build up positive relationships to form bonds and support learning.

We see our children as rich and resourceful and value what they have to say and what they can do. With this in mind our display boards are neutral in colour as we believe the interest and focus should be the children's work and their words, not a brightly coloured backing or border.



Our environment is organised in a way that values and respects the children and their capabilities. This enables the children to be independent and direct their own enquiries and learning with the support of staff.

What you can expect to see:

- ❑ Children will have their own diaries/folio to capture precious memories and your child's personal learning journey.
- ❑ Children will have their own wall panel where they can display items or work that is significant for them.
- ❑ Mind maps will be created of children's thoughts, ideas and developing knowledge.





- ❑ Learning journeys will be displayed on the walls.
- ❑ Large floor books will be created to track our thoughts, experiences, learning and our plans of what happens next.
- ❑ Speech bubbles are available around the room for you to make comments on either individual work or group learning.
- ❑ Neutral wall spaces with the focus on children's work and words.

Learning is made visible by sharing with others in a variety of ways.




Sharing learning in a diary/ folio or floor book




Sharing through learning journey displays and children's wall panels

Ava's Tomato plant



"We bought seeds from my granny Jacqui's B&Q work. They were in the packets and she said where the seed were. We got 'special drinks'(tomato food) for the tomatoes too. When we got back to nursery. I put soil in a pot, then we put 1 seed in 2,3, 4 just incase it didn't grow. We sprayed them with water every single morning put not lots of water because they might die. They got bigger then the tomatoes came and they went green then they went red. Then it was time to eat them when they go red"

AVA



A/A

Sharing learning through recording and evaluating children's words, actions, relationship, experiences and enquiries in their diaries

What this approach feels like:

We aim for Newbigging pre-school to be a welcoming, appealing, inviting and warm space for children, families and visitors.

We want our pre-school to be an environment in which everyone is happy and where everyone knows they are valued and that they are listened to and that their voice matters.



We hope that you feel that our setting feels like a special community in its own right and that you and your child/children have a sense of belonging.

What this approach sounds like:

A respectful environment where everyone is spoken to in a sensitive and thoughtful way.

There's a buzz created by the children and educators engaged in learning together and quality interactions which are focused on all children's capabilities.



There will be a lot of communication about learning and about working together as a community.

About our Diaries & Folios

The diaries & folios act as story of your child's journey through pre-school. The diaries will demonstrate learning processes as each child's capabilities are recorded and their needs interpreted and understood by staff who value children as rich resourceful and capable learners. It will reflect the child, the educator and families responses with evaluations on the experiences and the achievements shown within it. It is a form of record keeping, a source of knowledge, a celebration of achievement and a tool to plan and develop new opportunities.

Staff build a respective rapport with children to support their explorations and enquiries by listening and following their lead. This enables us to adjust our daily plans and experiences to best suit the needs, interests and emerging skills of the children.

The diaries provide an opportunity for you to see your child in a different way, to learn what they are like away from the home environment. We value your input and we would like to learn about your child at home to enable us to see the wider picture of progression in both contexts. We hope that it will become a memory of precious moments that everyone will love to look back on and share.

How you can reinforce our partnerships:

- ❑ Take time to read our “Partnerships in Learning” home sheet, it is intended as a two way communication tool so please use it to share your thoughts and ideas as well as other ways you can support us.
- ❑ Take time to read and comment on your child’s experiences and developments at pre-school especially in their diary/folios.
- ❑ Take time to share your child’s accomplishments and experience from home with us at pre-school so that we too can share, praise and celebrate achievements.
- ❑ Come into our setting and look at and comment on children’s work and experiences on learning journeys, wall panels and displays. Speech bubbles are available around the room for this purpose.
- ❑ Come into our setting and join in with some activities, read stories or share a skill or hobby with the children. Please speak to a member of staff, who will help to arrange this.

We view each child positively as individuals with whom we build a respectful rapport. We believe that each child has a lot to offer and aim to make them shine.

Our curriculum is planned but built around relationships and the interests and emerging skills of the children. You will receive regular information about our plans in our "Partnerships in Learning" note and also on our main learning wall.



We are concerned about every aspect of your child's learning and development and together with you, we hope to learn as much as we can about your child, so we can provide meaningful and sensitive interactions and relevant experiences during time spent in our pre-school setting.

We hope you will join with us to share your child's journey through their pre-school years.