



## Education Recovery Plan

### **Our Vision:**

At Crossens Nursery School, we intend for our children to be happy, caring, considerate and curious learners who are confident to attempt challenge, build resilience and feel secure within themselves.

We recognise that all children are victims of trauma as a result of the Pandemic and this means each have had more varied starts in life than ever before. Our priority is to ensure that the children feel happy, safe and secure at Nursery because if they do not feel so, they will not be ready to learn.

Following the tragic events at 'The Hart Space' in July 2024, Crossens Nursery School also recognises that our families have been directly and indirectly affected by such. Our focus on children feeling safe and secure is more important than ever.

The following document outlines our recovery plan.

### **Priority 1: The children feel safe and secure**

During the Autumn term 2024, our staff received weekly training over 10 weeks for supporting 'Community Trauma' by Jenny Nock. This has helped staff to support each other as well as our children and their families. It was a great refresher of our Attachment and Trauma training also.

We were accredited as an Attachment and Trauma Sensitive Setting with the Bronze Award in June 2023. This means we ensure that the basic needs of the children are considered and met as part of our 3 Cs approach. If a child is hungry, thirsty or tired, these factors may be impacting upon their reactions to given situations.

We aim to ensure that basic needs are met and identified at the start of each session. This may mean giving a child breakfast or a drink/ snack, or even getting a bed for them to have a sleep, as required.

'Love Bomb' – Some children just need that big hug and the reassurance that they belong here and that they are loved. Staff are skilled at knowing which children respond to this approach and who in particular may even like a 'deeper pressure' embrace. By reiterating how welcome and loved our children are when they enter Nursery, we can perhaps further ensure that 'emotional moments' are reduced, as the child has a more manageable 'emotional bucket'.

At Crossens Nursery School, we understand that every child is different and may require a different approach to support their learning. Our SEND pupils each have a 'One Page Profile' which is written alongside parents and carers to outline how best to support each particular child.

For those children who may not be on the SEND register but find elements of our day more challenging, staff complete 'Windows of Tolerance'. This helps the team to evaluate what interests the child, identify when they are at their happiest, and what stimulus may push them 'out of their window' and trigger an 'emotional moment'. The team discuss ways to support these children and this is documented in their 'Window of Tolerance'.

Some children may struggle to sit and listen at group time, so here at Crossens Nursery School, we are finding ways to encourage children to join in and be a part of their group. This includes having bespoke 'cosy' areas in which the children can sit and listen, some even like to be wrapped in a blanket! Once settled, these children can be ready to participate in their session.

## **Priority 2: The children feel happy**

We greet the children 'with open arms' and ensure that they feel welcomed and valued in our Nursery. In order to thrive, the children need warmth, kindness and opportunities to explore and stretch their natural curiosities. Staff smile and greet children warmly and we give explicit praise to reassure the children that they are doing the right thing.

Some are experiencing a Nursery environment for the first time and we allow for steady transition with our 'Settling Period' as children begin their journey with us. For some, this is extended further until we know the child is ready to separate from their families for their full Nursery pattern.

We are the first school in the UK to deliver 'Education from the Heart', a well-being Curriculum from Junior Genius Global. Our group times provides opportunities to directly teach breathwork, mindfulness and emotional literacy. Working alongside parents and carers, for whom we provide termly information sessions to boost their knowledge and skills in supporting emotional regulation and well-being, we can help our children to feel happy and calm more often, so that they are ready to learn.

## **Priority 3 – The children can communicate and interact**

As a result of the Pandemic, our current cohorts of children have had limited access to Baby groups, playgroups and various other group sessions to stretch their interactions and give them experience of the arts. At Crossens Nursery School, we know the value of music, dance and art and we strive to give our children these experiences to broaden their Cultural Capital and provide them with enriching experiences.

We provide Baby Ballet sessions (free of charge) and arrange for sports providers, animal visits and other visitors to come to Nursery and give the children new experiences. Our 'Little Wanderers' outings give the children the opportunity to explore the local area, visiting shops and interacting with members of the community, e.g. the vet.

Our enrichment experiences encourage the children to interact together and talk about something exciting and special.

We work closely with Speech and Language and the team are becoming more skilled in using their strategies to encourage more 'brave talk' from our reluctant speakers. Communication and Interaction is the primary need in SEND children currently in Sefton, so we know the importance of Early Intervention and encouragement of such **now**, in order to have impact.

#### **Priority 4 – The children are ready for the Crossens Curriculum**

When the children have achieved the previous priorities above, they are ready for 'Our Crossens Curriculum'. This has been written in accordance what we deem to be the most important destinations for our children as they leave our Nursery. Please see 'Our Crossens Curriculum' for further information.

Reviewed by Governors: February 2026

Date of next review: February 2027