



Our Caring Crossens Policy

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.

Our 'Crossens Code':

We expect our pupils to follow our 'Crossens Code':

- Kind hands
- Kind feet
- Kind words
- Good choices

To promote our 'Crossens Code', staff use explicit praise to recognise 'Marvellous Moments' and reiterate our expectations, e.g. 'Well done Liz, you shared kind words when Michael gave you his bike'.

Staff also model the behaviours expected of our pupils and they also use 'narration' and 'running commentary' to communicate events, thoughts and feelings that will be happening 'in the moment'. This helps to expand vocabulary and aid understanding of empathy for those children who may not yet have this awareness.

Attachment and Trauma Bronze Award:

We are undertaking training for our Attachment and Trauma Sensitive Setting Bronze Award. 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 more manageable 'emotional bucket'.

'The Unique Child'

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.

Butterfly Room

For those children who need a calmer space, we have our Butterfly Room. In here, we can dim harsh lighting, watch the fairy lights and be in a quieter space with our pupils. Blankets and cushions are also available in this space should any of our children need to 'cosy up'.

The 3 Cs:

In the event of a child having an 'emotional moment', here at Crossens Nursery School, we follow the 3 Cs:

- Curiosity
- Care
- Communication

Staff follow these steps to achieve the 3 Cs:

1. **Curiosity** – Understand what the child is feeling and why and make reference to what body, face or voice is doing to indicate this. Follow the suggested script 'I can see you're feeling.... because...'. This is presented from the child's perspective to aid understanding e.g. 'I can see you are feeling sad because you are crying. I know that Liz has taken the bike.'
2. **Care** – Ensure the feelings of all children involved in this 'emotional moment' are recognised and BE PRESENT in the moment, be sensitive to their needs and how best to help them to calm down.

3. **Communication** – Recognise that they have calmed down. Model the appropriate behaviour as a learning point and either return to the activity or redirect to a new activity of the child's interest, e.g. 'I can see you're now feeling.....let's go and...'

In the event of a child biting/ severely hurting another child or member of staff (in crisis), we have a process in place:

1. Follow the script: 'Liz, I can see you are angry. I want to help you. I need to keep you safe. Let's go to'
2. Support the child to a new location that is safer for the child, e.g. Butterfly Room or a cosy corner.

If the child is still a danger to themselves and/ or others, staff members will seek our trained colleagues in the Positive Handling processes.

Praise and Reward:

Praise

Explicit praise can be heard by all the staff here at Crossens Nursery School – children are celebrated and acknowledged for their achievements and this is reinforced with explicit reference to what the child has done well, e.g. 'I love your listening Liz. You are looking at me and showing me that you are ready.'

Reward

Cubes – Colour-coded cubes can be earned for group rewards when a child has demonstrated their following of our 'Crossens Code'. This could be for tidying up or helping a friend. Cubes are counted at the end of each week and the winning team is celebrated!

Stickers – Mrs Brice loves to give out stickers for children who have been extra-special role models in our Nursery and we also use such to praise Wow moments and potty training successes!

Agreed by Governors: March 2023

Review date: December 2024