

## Expressive Art and Design at York road Nursery

This area of learning enables a child to be creative and expressive, by exploring and using different forms of media and materials. It allows them to be imaginative.

At York Road we strive to implement endless possibilities for our children to explore the world of pretence. Building on their experiences of the real world, by allowing them to transform them into something new. This may be through role play, music, pretend play, playing with blocks, loose parts, sand, water, paint, small world play and much more.

We are keen to support the children to make music by using various media. A pan can make a brilliant drum and a wooden spoon dragged across the fence makes a fantastic xylophone sound. The nursery encourages the children to listen to music from all around the world and invites many individuals into the setting to demonstrate a broad range of lovely unique sounds. The impact of this is to make the children more culturally aware.

The nursery also encourages the children to listen and take part in nursery rhymes, allowing them to take on the role of the characters. Encouraging them to be expressive and imaginative.

We have a list of quality core books and nursery rhymes that we promote every term that help build the children's ability to explore, be active and concentrate.

They also help build a sense of achievement, develop critical thinking skills, and an ability to make links and are a stepping stone to the children having their own ideas.

Through these experiences we encourage communication, confidence and endless opportunities for our children to use their imaginations, be inspired and willing to have a go

Because Expressive art and design is so adaptable it is accessible and inclusive for all children. As all children are unique, they will interpret their own ideas in their own unique way. It is the intention of York Road nursery to include all children in expressive art and design experiences, allowing them the freedom to follow their own interests and by finding the very best way to help each child, whatever, their needs might be.

Our nursery encourages the children to be curious and question things that they notice, as children notice everything and closely observe everyday things. These observations and interests are then built upon using various forms of media and materials, leading the children to create amazing inventions and simple representations.

We encourage the children to choose and implement the use of materials and resources in an open-ended way. This allows them to have confidence in their own ideas. Mark making for example does not have to just be made using a pencil or pen, it can be made by a stick in the soil or a finger in the sand.

The nursery allows the children to be creative and expressive whatever they are doing. They have regular trips with the

forest school leader to the woods where they can allow their imaginations to run wild. Building shelters, experimenting with different ways of climbing or making pictures out of leaves, stones and twigs. They also practice mindfulness, which allows them to understand and regulate their emotions and experience a different style of music and attitude towards their feelings. My happy minds and Resilience Reap's Rewards

The implementation of all these wonderful Additions, to the curriculum support our children to become confident happy resilient people.