

POLICY SUPPORTING COMMUNITY LINKS WITH CARGILFIELD NURSERY

Cargilfield Nursery supports various partnerships throughout the course of the academic year.

Parental Involvement

- Parents and other relatives are often involved in projects where they have expertise to offer.
- Parents regularly volunteer to read to the children in addition to baking, gardening etc. They also help with our Nativity Performance and Sing a long concert.
- Parents also come to share their children's learning during Stay and Play biweekly.
- Parents participate in various events held by the school such as the Summer and Christmas fair where the Nursery are involved in raising money for our school charities.

Childsmile

• We have termly visits from the dental nurse to ensure good dental hygiene is being followed by all the children.

Named Person

- Health visitors are recorded for each child until they turn 6 when the responsibility passes over to the Cargilfield's Headmaster, Rob Taylor.
- A letter is sent to each child's health visitor when a child is registered at Cargilfield Nursery to initiate contact.
- Individual care plans are held at Nursery for every child. These are regularly updated with parental meetings, SLT or any additional support which has been highlighted.
- Health professionals involved in the care of our pupils often visit the school as do representatives from the emergency services.

Sharing Practice with Local Primary School Nurseries and Private Nurseries

• The school has established links with local primary schools and private nurseries through a variety of activities:

- TM attends the Independent Nursery Heads meetings where a visiting rotation has been organised with the different nurseries that have chosen to take part. At these meetings different pressing or relevant agenda points are discussed. Other Nursery staff also volunteer to attend these meetings to visit other independent school nurseries and be part of the conversation.
- Visits to observe practice and resources used in local/cluster nurseries.
- We offer school visits to new children starting at Cargilfield and often go out to visit children in their current setting.

Links to Strachan House

- Contact has been established with Head of Activities at Strachan House, Nursery Home in Blackhall. We have a set timetable of visits to the care home and a group of children go biweekly to carry out activities with the residents there.
- Residents at Strachan House are also invited to attend events at Cargilfield i.e Summer Fair, the Sing-a-long and the Nativity.

Beach Classroom

- Beach Classroom is run at Cramond foreshore each week on a Friday morning.
- It has provided the children with a unique learning experience as it offers them regular play opportunities in an ever-evolving beach setting.
- The learning opportunities have been endless, primarily led by the children themselves and has enhanced the children's learning and understanding of their local environment.
- Beach kindergarten runs throughout the year at Cargilfield, in almost all weathers which gives the children a more holistic experience of a coastal learning environment.

Links to Cramond Community Council

• Initial links have been made with the Cramond Community Council who maintain a walled garden near Cramond Kirk. They have been keen for the Nursery to get involved with maintaining it.

Cramond Parish Kirk and Davidson's Mains

- The School Chaplain, Rev Iain Gilmour, visits the school each week to take assembly and talks to individual classes when requested.
- A Carol Service at Christmas and an Easter Service are held annually at Cramond Kirk.

Activity Week

• An activity week is planned each Summer for one week of the summer holidays which will be open to both pupils and other local children across Edinburgh city and beyond.

Visits to Local Shops and Businesses

- The staff support the children in their responsive learning which results in many trips to local shops and businesses e.g. Recycling at Craigleith, Garden centres in Barnton or shops in Davidson's Mains.
- The children are involved in ordering snacks online at Tesco and although frequently delivered, on occasion go to Tesco to collect it.

Updated by Tiffany Murdoch, Head of Nursery, August 2023