

## Little Acorn Pre-School Aims (Reviewed Sept '23)

1. To provide a safe, secure, and stimulating environment, with adults who are warm, nurturing, and skilled; supporting and encouraging the children in our care to feel part of the group and to play and have fun as they learn.
2. To enable and empower children to learn and develop in a way which supports the characteristics of effective teaching and learning (as set out in the **Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage**):
  - **playing and exploring**-children investigate and experience things, and 'have a go'.
  - **active learning**-children concentrate and keep on trying if they encounter difficulties and enjoy achievements.
  - **creating and thinking critically**-children have and develop their own ideas, make links between ideas, and develop strategies for doing things.
3. To plan and resource the children's environment so that they can learn through play, providing a range of experiences and activities.
4. To welcome, value and appreciate every child and their family, regardless of ability, gender, ethnic background, culture, or religion.
5. To celebrate each child; working to make sure all children have equality of opportunity and the encouragement and necessary support to develop at their own pace to fulfil their potential.
6. To always work towards developing children's well-being and confidence, including their self-efficacy and emotional resilience.
7. To model self-respect and respect for others, so that by practical example children can observe and learn appropriate behaviour; encouraging children to appreciate the feelings and needs of others.
8. To promote anti-discriminatory practice, ensuring that every member of the community; children, families, staff, and visitors feel included, safe and valued.
9. To work in partnership with Parents/Carers, for the benefit of their children. We will ensure that they have easy access to information such as our curriculum, policies etc. We will work to ensure that Parents and Carers feel welcome and have opportunities to become involved in the group.
10. To operate a Keyperson system to build good relationships with children and their families. Thus, ensuring that the past, current, and future learning needs of each child are understood and targets identified, in communication with the family and where appropriate with other professionals.
11. To maintain good relationships with our local Primary Schools, to promote the children's well-being when they make the transition to Primary school.
12. To work together with other settings, other professionals, and groups in the community to effectively support children and families.

13. To provide personal and professional development for all practitioners (and volunteers), both through regular supervision and in-house training as well as external relevant training courses.
14. In our approach to the children and their families we will allow our Christian faith and principles to be demonstrated practically.