

# Curriculum Policy

*“The term curriculum is used to describe everything children do, see, hear or feel in their setting, both planned and unplanned”.*

- Curriculum Guidance for the Foundation Stage.

The objective of Tir na nOg Preschool is to ensure that, by the time our children transfer to compulsory education, they have made good progress in all six areas of learning; Personal, Social and Emotional Development, Communication, Language and Literacy, Mathematical Development, Knowledge and Understanding of the World, Physical Development and Creative Development.

This is achieved through a planned curriculum of child orientated learning, with children having first hand experiences, and learning through play. Children are given every opportunity to be independent, to choose their own activities and to make decisions.

Our curriculum is planned on a weekly basis around topic themes. Our time table is planned around the early learning goals and allows for flexibility. We have a broad and balanced curriculum which takes an anti-bias approach. We reflect the children’s interests and use these to plan the next steps of learning. Each child’s key worker is responsible for their individual learning plans, observation and record keeping. Our curriculum encourages children to value social and cultural diversity.

Tir na nOg’s curriculum plans for the individual age/stage of each child’s development. We incorporate differentiation to allow for these different stages within our planning.

At Tir na nOg we believe that children are competent learners. Within our curriculum we support each child’s well-being, which means the children are content, healthy and well-adapted. We believe that each child has their own unique identity and we make each one of them feel that they belong in the service. We communicate in a very positive way with the children and we are always encouraging them to think and explore for themselves and to make sense of the world they live in.

Within and across our daily curriculum children can;

- Experience risk and challenge, mastery and success.
- Be safe and secure within the physical and affective environment.
- Develop strategies to manage disappointment and build resilience.
- Make choices.
- Have opportunity for rest and play.
- Become aware of others.
- Enjoy lunchtime with healthy food
- Learn the limits and boundaries of acceptable behaviour
- Be cared for and educated by adults who are skilled and knowledgeable

We see each child as an individual with rights and we understand the child as an individual within the context of a group, a family and the wider community.

We appreciate each child as a competent learner with experiences that enrich the life to the service.

We affirm each child and value their culture.

We allow each child's individual voice to be heard.

We understand that children communicate through a variety of media, verbal and non-verbal and give them the time and space they need to express themselves.

Our daily routine allows time and space for playing, exploring, thinking, reflecting and imagining.

We have a wide range of materials that are easily available to the children.

We encourage the children to play with lots of natural materials whenever possible.