

Children's Well-being in the Nursery Policy

Well-being is a broad term that covers how you feel about yourself and your life. It encompasses the physical, emotional (and mental), social and spiritual areas of a person. Under the Early Years Foundations Stage (EYFS) this is covered in the children's personal, social, emotional development and physical development, both of which are prime areas of learning and development.

Physical well-being covers everything physical to do with the body:

- Growth and development
- Moving and keeping physically fit
- Caring for personal health (e.g. washing, cleaning teeth, etc.)
- Eating a balanced and nutritious diet
- Rest and appropriate sleep patterns.

Mental and emotional well-being includes:

- **Acknowledging, expressing and coping with feelings and emotions**
- **Thought processes**
- **Reducing stress and anxiety.**

Social well-being includes:

- **Relationships**
- **Family (close and extended)**
- **Friends**
- **The feeling of belonging and acceptance**
- **Compassion and caring approaches.**

Spiritual well-being can cover the following:

- **Value and beliefs held**
- **Personal identity and self-awareness.**

Children's physical well-being is supported through our carefully planned curriculum programme which supports all types of gross and fine motor play both inside and outside. We provide nutritionally balanced meals for the children and support our staff to make healthy choices in regards to their physical health.

Personal hygiene is supported in children of all ages, explaining the reasons for hand washing, tooth brushing and other routines.

Children are provided with quiet and calming areas for rest, sleep and relaxation. Regular Yoga sessions are delivered as another tool for children to access to help manage their emotions. This approach supports both their physical and mental well-being. We support children to make strong attachments with their key person as well as forge relationships with their peers in order

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to support their social well-being. We offer opportunities and resources for children to play singly, in pairs, small groups and large groups to support this area of development. We also promote well-being through our Little Dragon's Values that are linked to British Values (Democracy, Rule of Law, Individual Liberty, Mutual Respect and Tolerance). Our Little Dragon's Values are as follows:

- We use our listening ears (Democracy)
- We take care of everyone and everything (Rule of Law)
- We try new things (Individual Liberty)
- We use kind hands and words (Mutual Respect & Tolerance)

Children's mental and emotional well-being is supported. We provide a safe environment that allows for caregiver to child co-regulation. This practice supports the process of children building the capacity for self-regulation, through providing activities in which children are able to recognise and express their emotions, including emotional literacy. This enables us to provide support for children who may be experiencing big emotions they cannot cope with just yet, including sadness and over-excitement. We support children's self-regulation through carefully planned activities and resources, modelling calming strategies and naming and talking about feelings and by providing opportunities for children to practise their self-regulation skills.

Staff use the Promoting positive behaviour policy to ensure a consistent approach.

Staff are able to recognise when a child may need support with their emotions and will provide this one-to-one or in a small group, whichever is more appropriate. Teaching children to recognise and manage their emotions at a young age helps support foundations for doing this throughout their life.

Our Well-being Champion Helena Swain can offer additional support to staff, running small group sessions or 1:1 support for children who require additional support. Support can also be sought from our SEND co-ordinator Tracey Nicholls.

This policy was adopted on	Signed on behalf of the nursery	Date for review
<i>August 2026</i>	Kate McLeod	<i>August 2027</i>