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**Newburn Manor Nursery School**

**Understanding the World Policy April 2017**

**Review April 2018**

RATIONALE:

We believe that children need to develop knowledge, skills and understanding to help them make sense of their world.

*PURPOSE 1:*

*To provide first hand experiences that encourage children to explore, observe, solve problems, predict, make decisions, and discuss ideas.*

GUIDELINES:

* Practitioners plan practical activities which stimulate questions and discussion, allowing children time to predict, solve problems, try out new ideas and build on their experience.
* They use open-ended questions to develop vocabulary and critical thinking; they help children to reflect on their work and record orally and in other ways if appropriate.
* Practitioners plan for visitors to, and visits outside the nursery to enrich the children’s first-hand experiences.

*PURPOSE 2:*

*To provide a well-resourced environment both indoors and outdoors that stimulates children’s interest and curiosity, fostering an enquiring attitude to all aspects of their world*; *to provide extra experiences and information for children with sensory impairment.*

GUIDELINES:

* Practitioners resource the environment with a wide range of tools and materials, with access to plants, animals and objects in the natural environment and real-life situations.
* Practitioners plan for development of reference skills by providing a wide range of books, CDs, audio and visual reference material.
* Access is provided to all activities for children with SEN, by the use of appropriate resources and adaptations to equipment

*PURPOSE 3:*

*To provide opportunities for the children to become aware of, explore and question issues of differences in gender, ethnicity, language, religion and culture and of SEN and disability.*

GUIDELINES:

* Practitioners plan for all children to participate in all activities provided, challenging gender stereotypes.
* Parents are encouraged to share their knowledge, understanding and experience of faiths, cultures, history and places extending the children’s experience of the varying communities in the world.
* Resources will reflect the breadth of children’s cultural and religious experiences.

*PURPOSE 4:*

*To provide opportunities for the children to learn about and use many forms of technology.*

GUIDELINES:

* Encourage children to speculate on how things work
* Encourage children to understand sequences of actions especially when programming toys
* Enable the children to select and use technology appropriately