

Primary Nurture Group delivered by Littledown School, part of The Specialist Education Trust



Core Purpose

The Primary Nurture Group will primarily concentrate on enhancing children's social and emotional skills, providing a supportive environment where these foundational aspects of their development can flourish. Recognising the importance of addressing the holistic needs of children, the programme will also incorporate elements of a bespoke academic curriculum tailored to each child's unique learning needs and capabilities.

The main aim of this initiative is to support children who are exhibiting significant Social, Emotional, and Mental Health (SEMH) needs within their mainstream school environment. These children may struggle to thrive academically and socially due to their SEMH challenges. By offering a targeted programme of support, the Primary Nurture Group seeks to create a nurturing space where these children can develop the skills and resilience, they need to succeed both personally and academically.

Through this approach, the group aims to provide a balanced intervention that addresses both the emotional well-being and academic progress of each child. This dual focus ensures that while their immediate social and emotional needs are met, they also continue to engage with their education in a way that is accessible and meaningful to them.



Overview

The Primary Nurture Group will be led by a qualified and experienced Social, Emotional, and Mental Health (SEMH) teacher who has taught children across all primary school years, from Reception to Year Six. This teacher will oversee the support staff team, ensuring that each staff member works closely with their allocated children. The teacher, alongside their colleagues, will develop bespoke support programmes tailored to the individual needs of each child, ensuring that interventions are targeted and effective.

As the main contact with the mainstream school, the SEMH teacher will facilitate at least one observation and provide detailed feedback during the programme's duration. This process helps integrate the support from the Nurture Group with the child's experience in their mainstream classroom.

Additionally, the teacher will ensure that parents receive regular communication about their child's progress. At the end of the programme, we will provide a comprehensive report outlining key areas of development. This report will be instrumental in contributing to an Education, Health, and Care Needs Assessment (EHCNA) or an Annual Review, ensuring that the child's progress is thoroughly documented and supported.

Referrals for the Primary Nurture Group will be sent straight to Littledown, who will process applications on a first come, first served basis. However, if schools feel the need to discuss a case before making a formal referral, they may directly contact the Head Teacher for an initial conversation.

When making a referral, schools must demonstrate that they have already explored and utilised all available support options for the child in question. This includes interventions, support plans, and any other relevant measures. The referral should clearly show that despite these efforts, the school is finding it increasingly challenging to meet the child's needs on a consistent basis.

Programme Offer

The Nurture Group programme, costing £4500 for an intensive six-week period, offers a premium service designed to support our most vulnerable children. This programme provides access to a variety of high-quality learning experiences, nutritious snacks and lunches, and unique opportunities for experiential learning. One highlight is the inclusion of sessions with a Bird Therapist linked to Littledown School, enhancing the therapeutic aspect of the programme.

Programme Duration

A Primary Nurture placement will run for six weeks.

The pattern of attendance would be:

- Monday-Wednesday 9.30am-2.30pm
- Thursday & Friday 9.30am – 12.30pm

The child would be expected to return to their mainstream school on Thursday and Friday afternoons. This will help facilitate the transition back to their mainstream school at the end of the programme.

Parents or the mainstream school would be responsible for transport to and from Littledown School.

Billing for services will be in advance of the programme for all schools.

Main School Responsibilities

- Return a signed SLA (attached) in order for work to commence
- Follow the referral procedures and to provide a fully completed referral form with sign off from the designated member of senior staff
- Explain the role of the Primary Nurture Group programme to parents and carers and obtain parental permission before referring pupils to the service
- Obtain the permission of parents and carers to share confidential information about a child with Littledown School, who will store this data securely
- Arrange suitable times for an initial visit in conjunction with the appropriate team member
- Ensure that Littledown staff are aware of school closures, changes to agreed timetables or pupil absence where possible
- Liaising with team members regularly as appropriate and share relevant information
- Release staff to consult/receive feedback from Littledown staff
- Provide feedback for programme evaluation when requested

Contacts

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Service	Description
An initial meeting with the Nurture Teacher	This meeting will include an overview of the programme and discussion around the child's individual needs, risk assessments and other points to note. It will also plan a meeting at the end of the programme to share information prior to the child returning back to their mainstream school.
<p>A range of support including:</p> <p>Supporting Staff</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing guidance and support on understanding the needs of a named child within the mainstream classroom • Observing and feeding back on lesson/s the named child attends • Providing specialist techniques used to assist with planning programmes of support for a named child • Modelling good practice • Evaluate current practice for emotional and behaviour regulation of a named child
Supporting Pupils & their Families	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small group work • Bespoke nurturing programme • Observing pupils to provide evidence for statutory assessment or other referrals • Contribution to multi-professional assessment • Report to support EHCNA or Annual Review

Primary Nurture Group – School Agreement to Procure Service

I agree to purchase one place on the Primary Nurture Group programme for the school identified below.

The programme will start on

The agreed cost is

I confirm that I have authority to commission this service on behalf of my school at the cost stated above.

Signed:

Name:

Designation:

School:

Date:

Please return signed copy to Angela Mumford, Head Teacher, c/o Littledown School, Queens Road, Slough, SL1 3QW or email on angela.mumford@littledown.slough.sch.uk