

Clayton Village Nurture



The Shelter



S- Safe

H- Help

E- Empathise

L- Love

T- Trust

E- Excellence

R- Resilience

What is the Shelter?

The Shelter is a small group support room run by two experienced, highly skilled members of staff. Mrs Tomkinson who is the schools Learning Mentor and Mrs Townsend the schools SEND TA. The group support is designed to equip the children with the understanding and skills to engage effectively with the education system and with others around them.

The Shelter is a safe, consistent and predictable environment which includes a kitchen area. This supports a calm start to the day.

The Shelter promotes a social environment to: develop emotional skills, teach them resilience, the capacity to deal more confidently with school life, to encourage good language and communication and staff are good role models.

Why?

The majority of children who start school have had great early experiences. They come to school and enjoy learning; they are willing to try new things and are able to learn from their mistakes. In most cases, when things get tricky, children know that they will be supported in school or at home and enjoy challenges school brings. However for some of our children extra support is sometimes needed. This could be for many reasons, depending upon their personal circumstances. For these children, the classroom experience is just too overwhelming-listening becomes hard, they are easily distracted and feel quickly defeated. With these thoughts and feelings, these children tend to either withdraw, become disruptive or aggressive due to frustrations. Therefore school offers a nurturing environment- Shelter.

Six principles of Nurture

In the Shelter we follow the 6 principles of nurture.....

1. The classroom offers a safe place
2. The importance of nurture for the development of wellbeing
3. Language is a vital means of communication
4. All behavior is communication
5. The importance of transitions in a child's life
6. Children's learning is understood developmentally

Expectations in the Shelter

The 6 principles of nurture are communicated to our children simply as...

1. We feel safe in the Shelter
2. Nurture helps us to feel good on the inside
3. The type of words we use when we talk to each other are important
4. Our behavior is telling you something
5. Nurture helps us to cope with changes in our lives.
6. We all learn in our own way

In the Shelter

Children spend every morning in the Shelter working on clear individual targets. When the time is ready children are reintegrated back in to the classroom full time. The children spend time focusing on social skills, self-esteem, confidence and reading.

The children are very much part of the school following all school policies and set expectations for being in the Shelter-

- We are gentle and safe
- We are kind and respectful
- We take turns and listen
- We use quiet voices
- We help each other
- We use good manners

