

Elmscot Group Nursery Developments

Each year, all Elmscot Group Nurseries produce a Development Plan of what their setting would like to invest in over the coming year. Here are just some of the projects we have completed within the last 12 months.

As the ages within the rooms have shifted at Elmscot Altrincham, the team has been concentrating on making sure the resources within each room are age appropriate. The practitioners observed the babies and toddlers to look at their interests and how money can be invested into these areas.



New black and white sensory area at Elmscot Altrincham, Willow Room

In Willow Room at Elmscot Altrincham, children were starting younger than previously, so the team looked at areas and ideas they had learned from training. This led them to develop the black and white area and make calming, sensory bottles.

To further develop the setting for younger babies, Elmscot Altrincham purchased a soft outdoor surface to make the playground more accessible. This is now a designated baby area and more resources were bought to suit the individual development and ages of the children.

The allotment areas were also developed at Elmscot Altrincham to give the children more involvement in gardening experiences. Two of the allotment boxes were removed and replaced with higher planters and two further boxes are now being used to plant vegetables.

Elmscot Broussa has made many impressive and progressive changes to the nursery environment to benefit both the children and families.



Elmscot Broussa garden redevelopments

Investments have also been made into communication-friendly spaces within each room at Elmscot Broussa. This is because children need to acquire sound and listening skills in order to communicate effectively. These spaces absorb sound and therefore children can access some vital quiet time during the busy day.

Play is essential to development, as it contributes to the cognitive, physical, social and emotional wellbeing of children. The Elmscot Broussa team has therefore spent a lot of time listening to and observing the children's interests. This has enabled the team to buy resources that follow their interests and continue enabling the children's learning and development.

A lot of decorating has taken place at Elmscot Hale over recent months. This has mainly been in Badger Room, where the environment now looks brighter and fresher for the children to enjoy. More decorating is being planned and the team is looking forward to seeing the plans come together.

Extra-Curricular Activities

Free extra-curricular sessions run by specialist professionals.

	A music class that provides fun, progressive and age-appropriate music classes for the under 5s.	Nantwich Thu PM (Chestnut & Mulberry)
	At Stretch 'n' Grow, children learn about how their bodies work, whilst joining in fun, physical activities.	Hale Wed AM (Badger & Owl) Little Wrigglers Class (Rabbit & Hedgehog) Woodlands Tue AM (Rabbit & Hedgehog) Tue AM (Owl) Altrincham Mon AM (Maple & Beech) Broussa Fri AM (Badger & Owl)
	Promoting physical activity and team interaction through games and sports.	Nantwich Thu AM (Oak)
	Pyjama Drama provides unique drama-based classes for babies, toddlers and young children.	Hale Fri AM (Squirrel) Altrincham - until w/c 10th June 2019 Thu (Willow & Oak) Altrincham - from w/c 10th June 2019 Tue PM (Willow) Wed AM (Oak) Broussa Wed AM (to be confirmed)
	Children, parents and staff walk to the designated woodland site where they will get creative with mud, puddles, creepy crawlies and the great outdoors.	Altrincham Tue AM (Oak) Broussa Tue PM Woodlands Thu AM (Owl) Hale Mon AM Chester Fri AM - from w/c 10th June 2019
	Learn to speak French in early years.	Chester Thu AM
	Fun music, movement and singing classes that are exciting and educational.	Woodlands Tue AM (Otter)
	Develop and enhance communication skills with baby signing.	Chester Fri AM - from w/c 10th June 2019

Team Training

Nursery staff have attended the following training since March 2019:

Allergy Awareness - Jean C, Becky P
Children's Learning & Development L3 - Megan D
Children & Young People's Workforce L2 - Melissa McD
County Line Training - Karen P, Emma W, Jodie L, Leann B, Lucy T, Laura H
Designated Safeguarding Lead - Leann B
Difficult Conversations Training - Jennifer B, Lorna H, Hayley W, Becky G
Domestic Violence - Stacey T (Hale)
Effective Communication with Children & Families - Zoe B, Becky P
Elmscot Group Training - Lucy J, Tasha M
Exemplary Practice with Babies - Emma C (Chester), Kerry P
Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) - Andrea Mcl, Stacey T (Chester), Nikki D, Becky P, Zoe B, Emma C (Chester), Ashley M
Fire Safety - Kerry P, Becky P, Tracey B, Sinead Mcl, Rachael C, Zoe B, Emma C (Chester), Anne-Marie B
Food Hygiene - Becky P
Infection Prevention & Control - Zoe B
Loose Parts Play - Lauren O'B
Making Sense of Autism - Rebecca H
Mental Health in the Workplace - Zoe B
Observation, Planning & Assessment - Mia H, Becky G, Bianca P
Prevent Duty - Andrea Mcl, Nikki D, Becky P, Zoe B, Emma C (Chester)
Promoting Positive Behaviour - Broussa Team
Safeguarding Children with Disabilities - Rachael C
Safeguarding L2 - Jennifer B, Jasmin D, Francesca T, Emma H, Bianca P, Shauna C, Sarah S, Rachel M, Claire C
Self Regulation: A Montessori Approach - Lauren O'B
Sign Along Training - Danielle R, Stephanie G, Leah L, Georgia H, Aaron T, Holly D, Katie D, Gina C, Louise G, Ciara B, Michele S, Rosie M
Sign Language - Becky W, Jess B, Shauna C, Natalie McC, Nancy C, Sophie M, Hayley W, Rachel M, Eleanor B, Sandra M, Satveer S
Social & Emotional Aspects of Development (SEAD) - Emma H
Speech Sounds in Early Years - Natalie McC
Supporting Children with English as an Additional Language - Stephanie G, Sofina C
Supporting Staff Wellbeing in the Early Years Workforce - Danielle R
Understanding Child Development - Zoe B, Tracey B, Anne-Marie B, Emma C (Chester), Nikki D, Sinead Mcl, Ashley M, Stacey T (Chester), Kerry P, Rachael C, Becky P
Wellcomm - Jennifer B

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Championing Mental Health in Early Years

Elmscot Group and Kids Collective staff have become qualified champions of mental health in the early years sector.

Staff from our nurseries have completed a Level 2 course in Understanding Children and Young People's Mental Health. Staff from the out-of-school club team completed a Level 2 course in an Awareness of Mental Health Problems.



Staff from Elmscot Group Nurseries and Kids Collective Clubs who achieved the mental health qualifications, with some of our proud pre-school children

Having an understanding of the factors affecting mental health from childhood through to adulthood means concerns can be recognised and supported effectively. In addition, providing support to those caring for children creates a positive culture, supporting wellbeing and mental health of the workforce and an emotionally healthy environment for the team and children within the settings.

Having advanced mental health training means Elmscot Group is exceeding standards within the childcare sector and has now proven they consider mental health to be a top priority.

Rachael Lyons, Elmscot Group Operations Manager said: "Now the team has gained these qualifications, moving forward, we will continue to work towards our goal of becoming an emotionally healthy childcare business, working on the foundations and building from this over the next year."

Newsletter

Forthcoming Events

-  **Butterfly Awareness Day - Monday 3rd June**
Children will look at the process of going from a caterpillar to a butterfly, talk about change and base craft activities around butterflies.
-  **Eid Al Fitr - Tuesday 4th June**
Children will make cards to mark the end of Ramadan.
-  **World Ocean Day - Friday 7th June**
Children will look at sea animals, what lives under the sea and what their names are.
-  **Queen's Official Birthday - Monday 10th June**
We will celebrate the Queen and talk about the Royal Family and where they live.
-  **Healthy Eating Week - Monday 10th June - Friday 14th June**
Children will take part daily in healthy food making for them to eat at nursery and also take home!
-  **Scooter Week Celebrations - Wednesday 12th June**
Children will look at and discuss road safety.
-  **Father's Day Celebrations - Monday 17th June**
Please see posters at individual nurseries for details.
-  **Refugee Day - Thursday 20th June**
-  **World Music Day - Friday 21st June**
We look at music and instruments from around the world and the children will also make their own musical instrument.
-  **Elmscot Nantwich Stay & Play with Richmond Village - Tuesday 25th June**
-  **Pride Celebrations - Friday 28th June**

Setting	Sports Day (please see posters at individual settings)	Graduation (please see individual nurseries for more details)
Altrincham	Tuesday 16th July	Tuesday 9th July
Broussa	Tuesday 16th July	Friday 5th July
Chester	Friday 26th July	Thursday 11th July
Hale	Tuesday 9th July	Thursday 18th July
Nantwich	Monday 8th July	Wednesday 3rd July
Woodlands	Thursday 11th July	Tuesday 16th July

-  **Wimbledon Championships - Monday 1st July - Sunday 14th July**
Children will take part in mini tournaments and practice their bat and ball skills!
-  **American Independence Day - Thursday 4th July**
Making American flags, looking at the globe to see where America is and sharing pictures from anyone's visits to the USA.
-  **Elmscot Nantwich Sleep Workshop - Monday 15th July**
-  **Elmscot Nantwich in Bloom - Saturday 20th July**
-  **Elmscot Broussa Open Day - Saturday 27th July**
-  **International Tiger Day - Monday 29th July**
We will talk about Tigers and the rest of the cat family, where they live, what they eat and look at the patterns on their fur.
-  **Friendship Day - Tuesday 30th July**
We will talk about our best friends and being kind. We will also make friendship bracelets for our friends.
-  **Notting Hill Carnival - Tuesday 27th August**
Children will make glittery masks and celebrate with lots of music and dancing.

Quarterly update for parents at all Elmscot Group Nurseries

Read our latest News & Blogs

Elmscot Nantwich Achieves National Food Award

Elmscot Chester Children Donate Easter Eggs to Alder Hey Hospital

Elmscot Woodlands Achieves Silver Award at Giving Voice Awards

Elmscot Broussa Strengthens Community Spirit

elmscot.co.uk/blog

Our Nursery Gallery

Nursery Community News

Elmscot Community Links

Elmscot Altrincham

Willow Room has held Stay & Play sessions for new and existing parents, giving them the chance to interact with one another and spend some time seeing the activities their children do.

Beech Room has been visited by the police and ambulance service, which linked with the children's interest of people who help us. Children got the opportunity to sit inside these vehicles. Quite a few children have also been expecting new siblings, so one of the nursery parents (who is also a member of staff) brought in her new baby and let the children help bath him, which the children loved.

Elmscot Broussa

Owls visited the local retirement home to read stories and share their circle-time games. A local paramedic from Altrincham ambulance service visited with her ambulance. The nursery has also had lots of parents sharing their expertise including: a dentist, a nuclear engineer, a puppet maker, and parents who read stories in various languages including Portuguese and Mandarin. The nursery even had a visit from a local Chinese lady who came to share her Chinese New Year celebrations with the children.

Elmscot Nantwich

Not only has the nursery been nurturing relationships with parents and the community, staff and families have been raising money for Leighton Hospital Children's Ward.

The bingo night was a great success, as well as the coffee morning. The nursery also took part in the Nantwich Duck Race and won, with their super duck Elmsquack! Thank you to everyone involved in the fundraising for helping the nursery raise a total of £160.

Elmscot Woodlands

Following on from the nursery's Millie's Mark accreditation and through collaboration with parents at our Coffee & Conversations event, the children embarked on a 'Healthy Heart' themed sponsored walk to help raise funds to purchase our own on-site defibrillator. This is something that is very personal to Woodlands, as the team look after a little boy who has an inherited heart condition, which means his heart takes longer than normal to recharge between beats.

The children used craft and collage materials to decorate their own love hearts and wore something red for the occasion. Thanks to everyone's generosity, the nursery has so far raised over £500. Everyone is looking forward to the nursery's next fundraising activity.



The Hedgehogs at Hale have been planting a selection of seeds and helping them grow by watering them regularly.



Children in pre-school at Nantwich were junk modelling and making their own Elmer to celebrate her 30th birthday!



All the children at Broussa took part in bonnet parades and competitions. We saw some incredible entries and were impressed to see all the imagination and creativity that went into them.



Rabbits at Woodlands enjoyed the warm weather, cooling down by exploring ice using tools to develop their gross motor skills and using their hands to explore the texture and shape.



The Baby Room at Elmscot Altrincham has been exploring water play. The children were given tools to pour, scoop and splash.



Some of the fantastic bonnet contributions at the Woodlands' Easter Bonnet parade!



At Hale, some of the children in Squirrels made their own mashed potato, with help from Lisa and Janty from the kitchen.



Giraffe Room at Chester has been getting creative using loose parts to create their own changable pictures.



Broussa children were very lucky, as they had a visit from weather presenter, Kerry Gosney during British Science Week. She showed us some experiments and spoke to the children about all things weather.



Nantwich children have been using loose parts in some role play fun outside. Can you guess what they've made?



Penguins at Chester have been visiting the local supermarket to do some shopping for activities!



Children from Elmscot Altrincham Oak Room have been making a giant mud pie in the mud kitchen!

HOLIDAY CLUBS

Outstanding childcare for 3-11

Summer Holidays
29th July—30th August 2019

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