



## Our Educational Approach

*We recognise that childhood is an end in itself and must be enjoyed; so the balance between education and fun is at the heart of what we do.*

### Key Principles

*We wish for all of our children to develop a love of learning for its own sake, and to have the emotional skills required to be effective learners. Thus, we have a large focus in developing imaginative play and helping our children develop The Characteristics of Effective learning. Further, we have adopted some of the principles of The Emilio Reggio Approach to the Early Years, desiring children to be self-directed members of a community.*

### Key Principles of The Garden Nursery

- *Children have fun during their time with us*
- *Children have control over what they do and learn*
- *Children learn through varied, interesting experiences (especially in the natural world)*
- *Imaginative play enables them to learn about the world*
- *Learning and resources are open ended providing a myriad of ways for the children to express themselves*
- *Children develop positive relationships helping them become members of a community*
- *Children become resilient, intrinsically motivated learners, who are able to persevere, imagine and think*

### We want our children to be

*Children should be active constructors of their own knowledge and have control over their own learning. Learning should be through self-directed, experiential opportunities and skilful support from our staff. This will help the children to become:*

- *Competent*
- *Resilient*
- *Creative*
- *Engaged*
- *Curious*
- *Nature lovers*

### Role of our educators

- *Skilled observers and responders to children's leads*
- *Able to plan learning opportunities centred around the children's interests*
- *Asking open questions to further understanding and promote thinking skills*
- *Being actively engaged with the children*
- *Establishing strong, positive relationships with children and parents*

