

Elm Class

Teaching and Learning

This Term Elm Class have been learning about Plants, Habitats and Animal Life Cycles. The classroom has learning displayed all around including facts about the Life Cycle of the frog, butterfly and duck. The children have been planting seeds ready to grow in the garden later this term.

Elm class have worked with both the Speech Therapist and the Occupational Therapist and are all making progress with their targets.

In Elm Class we have separated the class into two groups in the morning session to enable the Nursery aged children to follow the Early Years Curriculum whilst the older children are following their individual reading, writing and mathematics programmes. This is working well with some flexibility in the groups to enable Speech and Language and Occupational Therapy opportunities.

Achievement and Progress

The children in Elm Class have all made progress across the curriculum. See attached table.

Behaviour and Safety of Children

Learning in a group is often difficult for the children in Elm Class, they enjoy learning by themselves with 1-1 support to enable them to stay on task, this is gradually getting easier and now the older group are able to work with one adult between two children at learning times, although this needs to be flexible as on some occasions two members of staff are needed to support one child with challenging behaviour to ensure that he stays safe and that the other children are safe too. At these times the other children move into the library for a less a sensory story. Mrs Derries or Miss Waugh are notified at these times and records are kept of these incidents.

Leadership and Management

I have attended training for the Early Years Curriculum and have worked with colleagues from Mainstream Schools to ensure that we are up to date with the Foundation Stage Moderation. I am in contact with staff from Priory School in Hexham who are interested in meeting with other Special Schools to look at how evidence is collected and recorded in the Early Years in Special Schools. A recent training session on ASD and Sensory Processing helped to refresh my practice and revisit some strategies to support children with these needs. I have completed the mid-cycle Performance Management reviews with the staff in Elm Class.

Amanda Williams Class Manager, Elm Class.