



Environmental Policy

Mid Annandale Playcare is committed to educating children about caring and respecting for the environment and developing responsible citizens that are able to make valuable decisions.

Mid Annandale Playcare is part of the Eco Schools Programme. The structure of the Eco-Schools process is made up of seven elements and this forms the basis of the programme. The seven elements include:

- The Eco Committee
- The Environmental Review
- The Action Plan
- Curriculum
- Monitoring and Evaluation
- Involve and Inform the Wider Community
- Eco Code

It focuses around key environmental topics covering:

- Litter
- Waste Minimisation
- Transport
- Healthy Living
- Energy
- Water
- School Grounds
- Global Citizenship

The children learn where the energy comes from, which equipment uses it and why we need to remember to turn lights and computers off when they are not needed. The children also learn to turn taps off to save water, recycle materials, eat a healthy diet and exercise regularly.

Everyone in the nursery is encouraged to follow the eco-policies, engage in a healthy lifestyle and work towards sustainability.

- The children learn to appreciate the wonders of flowers and plants and to understand what they need to make them grow and thrive.
- The children grow various vegetables including potatoes.
- They develop an interest in nature and enjoy 'Minibeast Hunts' as they get to know the kind of places to find them.
- They become familiar with different weather conditions and spend time outside every day.
- Children learn about life cycles in nature as they watch caterpillars turn into butterflies.
- They help to sort the rubbish for recycling and learn to identify the different materials that packaging is made from.
- They learn to prepare their fruit for morning snack and remember to put the cores, skins and peelings into the food bin.
- The children enjoy making models from packaging and cartons.
- The children learn the importance of looking after themselves and keeping clean including brushing their teeth.

- The children learn about the importance of taking only sensible risks when they are exploring, trying new things and having fun outdoors!

Mid Annandale Playcare recycle cardboard and paper, our shopping is delivered in crates without plastic bags, we return our toner cartridges to the manufacturer and we take part in the rag-bag textile recycling scheme. We collect rain water to use in our mud kitchen. Our heating is thermostatically controlled and changed according to the needs at any particular time of day or day of the week so as not to waste any energy. We understand that using local suppliers helps local business and reduces our impact on the environment. Where possible we will use local suppliers. M.A.P. also installed a photovoltaic system not only to enjoy the benefits of reduced bills but to help preserve the planet for future generations through reduced carbon emissions.