



Expressive Arts and Design involves enabling children to explore and play with a wide range of media and materials, as well as providing opportunities and encouragement for sharing their thoughts, ideas and feelings through a variety of activities in art, movement, dance, role play, and design and technology (**Regulatory requirements 2017 Section 1 - The learning and development requirements 1.5**)

Aspects of Expressive Arts and Design

- **Exploring and using media and materials**—ELG16 Children sing songs, make music and dance, and experiment with ways of changing them. They safely use and explore a variety of materials, tools and techniques, experimenting with colour, design, texture, form and function.
- **Being imaginative** – ELG17 Children use what they have learnt about media and materials in original ways thinking about users and purposes. They represent their own ideas, thoughts and feelings through design and technology, art, music, dance, role play and stories.

This area of learning includes art, music, dance, drama and imaginative play opportunities for children to try new experiences and express themselves in a variety of ways. Creativity is an important part of successful learning; it enables children to make connections between experiences, helps them to solve problems and be inventive.

We do this in various ways including:

- Providing a stimulating environment
- Valuing children's creativity and original ideas
- Encouraging children to express themselves through art, music, dance, role play and imaginative play
- Encouraging imaginative play in a range of contexts e.g. role play, small world play, construction, malleable materials, sand and water play, puppets, storytelling
- Providing a balance of adult initiated and child-initiated activities
- Providing multi-sensory experiences
- Providing opportunities for children to explore, colour, shape, texture and space
- Providing opportunities for children to enjoy and respond to music
- Providing a wide range of good quality materials with which children can explore and experiment
- Allowing sufficient time for children to explore and experiment, develop and refine ideas
- Helping children develop confidence in their own ideas and abilities
- Helping children become more independent in making choices, selecting resources and techniques, responding to stimuli.