



**ALFRED STREET
JUNIOR SCHOOL**

DISCOVERY BASE



Head Teacher

Mrs Kelly O'Connor

Discovery Base Manager

Mrs Jenny Appleby

What is the 'Discovery Base'?

The 'Discovery Base' at Alfred Street Junior School is a Nurture Group.

Our Nurture group is a small group of between 4 and 6

children, which focuses on

helping the children develop their social and emotional skills, which will in turn help them to learn more effectively in a larger class. The group is run by two members of staff.

Children will attend the Nurture group but remain an active part of their main class group,

spending an appropriate amount of time within the Nurture group according to their need. Children typically return full time to their own class within four to six half terms.

When will my child attend the Nurture Group?

Your child will attend for a few mornings and some afternoons each week. This term we are running some taster sessions where your child will be introduced to the routines and some of the activities. The timetable will start properly in September.

What will my child do in the Nurture Group?

Your child will be taught Maths and English just as in their main class. Other

activities will include:

Circle time games which help develop self-esteem; arts and crafts; cooking;

gardening, sports and

music. There will also be some time to play board games and other team work activities.

We will also be learning about our emotions and strategies to help us make better choices if we are feeling cross or upset.

We will also be learning about our emotions and strategies to help us make better choices if we are feeling cross or upset.

Each child will be assessed at the start of their time in

Nurture using a social and emotional assessment called the Boxall profile. From this, they will have individual targets set.

Targets will be reviewed and shared with you every 6-8 weeks.

Snack time is an important part of Nurture. Each day the children will be involved in setting the table, preparing as well as eating a small snack- normally crumpets/bagels and fruit. They will also be washing up afterwards!

Will my child miss out on what's happening in their main class?

The staff in the Nurture group will liaise closely with the children's class teachers, to make sure that learning closely follows what is planned in the main class. If there are any special events or trips planned – your child will still attend with their class on that day rather than attend Nurture.

How will I know how my child is doing in Nurture?

In addition to the targets, we will also send home regular updates from Nurture. This maybe a Newsletter, photos or certificates celebrating your child's achievements.

Nurture staff will also be available to meet with on the Parents' evenings arranged by the school.

We will also be holding special events which Nurture parents will be invited to during the year, such as cooking or craft afternoons, for you to share with your child.

If you have any further questions about your child attending the Nurture Group please either ring or ask at the School Office to see me.



Alfred Street Junior School
Alfred Street
Rushden
NN10 9YS
Telephone 01933 353762

