



# Hulme Hall Grammar School

♦Caring ♦Nurturing ♦Achieving

## Pre-School Newsletter

February 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

We have had a fabulous and busy start to 2020 and our new children have settled into school really well.

The children have thoroughly enjoyed our Chinese New Year celebrations which began with re-enacting the story of the twelve animals of the Chinese Zodiac. They have made their own lanterns, tasted a selection of foods and taken part in an amazing dragon dance which is available to watch on our social media platforms!



### Loose Parts

At Hulme Hall, 'loose parts' are an integral part of our curriculum. They are open-ended resources that encourage imaginative play, problem solving and creativity.

We would appreciate donations of any metal items, fabric, ribbons, shells, tyres, keys, plant pots, etc. that you may have at home, that will give the children plenty of opportunities for exploration.

A big thank you to Lottie's dad who utilised some 'loose parts' to create a fabulous resource for our outdoor classroom. We look forward to many hours of fun exploring and playing with it.



### Progress Meeting

If you would like a Progress Meeting to discuss how your child has been getting on in the setting, please organise a mutually convenient time with your child's key person. It is a good opportunity for you to talk about their strengths and any next steps that they need to work on.

We are a ...

Nut  
Free  
Zone



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## In the Moment Planning

A few parents have been asking about the way that we plan at Hulme Hall Pre-School. As the development of your child is at the heart of everything we do, we prefer to use a combination of adult-led and child-led planning which is also known as ‘In the Moment Planning’.

### What is In the Moment Planning?

*“Let the children choose what to do, join them and support them in their pursuits. Then write up what has happened.”*

The natural desire of children to learn and explore is at the basis of this process. Instead of holding their hand through a variety of pre-set activities, we allow them to find their own interests, and use this to enhance and build upon their existing knowledge.

It is often broken down into three stages:

**The Child’s Spark** – This is when the child first shows an interest in something. There should be an air of fascination around the object and concentration in what they are now doing.

**The Teachable Moment** – The Practitioner will notice this and approach the child. This is the opportunity to extend their interest, by asking open-ended questions and considering ways to apply this interest to other options within the environment.

**The Documentation** – At a later date, we document the observation, including *the spark*, the *teachable moment* and what we did *next*. This helps us map out each child’s interests and plan an environment that works for them.

It is an effective way of engaging the children that fits well within the Early Years Framework and leads to a more a inquisitive learner.

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### Hulme Hall Pre-School Open Morning



We're Going on  
a Bear Hunt

Saturday 28th March  
9.30am - 12noon

Bring your teddy along for a morning of exploration, adventure and discovery. Take part in bear-themed activities led by our qualified, dedicated team of staff in our fabulous Pre-School setting.  
Book your place by calling 0161 485 3524

## Mobile Phones

In order to safeguard your child and other children in Pre-School, please can we remind you not to use your mobile phone whilst in the setting.

We would politely ask that you don’t make phone calls or answer incoming calls whilst in the building—these must be done outside either before you come in or when leaving. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Follow us on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram —for more information, news and photographs!



Mrs H Khinda—[h.khinda@hulmehallschool.org](mailto:h.khinda@hulmehallschool.org)

Tel: 0161 485 3524