

## EEF Case study:

### Letty's Little Learners Nursery

#### **Key points of your Maths Champions improvements**

- New resources
- New layout in nursery
- Enhanced practice for Math's within the setting
- Staff knowledge understanding and competence levels has excelled.
- Better use of existing resources and knowledge.
- Enriched environment being developed further every day.
- Ability to highlight where extra intervention is required.

#### **Background detail**

*Prior to joining the Maths Champions programme, I knew the nursery was weak in Maths and already knew we could be doing better and wanted to make a difference and ensure our children had an enriched environment where they would excel.*

*Nurseries motto is "We Shall Grow and Flourish Together" therefore it was important to ensure all areas of learning were established and as a setting we were doing all we could to ensure our children develop through the early years. Building the foundations for learning.*

*It was time to make a difference in everyday practice, thus Maths Champion programme was the way forward. Very excited to get started and making a difference.*

*Making use of the new ideas and resource bank and sharing good practice.*

#### **Section 2 – Champion's section**

##### **How has the programme developed your own and your team's CPD?**

*Overall the teams CPD has grown whether through practice or further training. The team have learnt to support each other through practice and experience. The staff members who initially didn't feel they had any points of concern have been able to reflect and identify how much of an impact the Maths Champion has allowed them to progress and support the children in their learning.*

##### **What has been the impact of the training?**

*The setting have been holding regular staff meetings/in-house training evenings, peer observation and mentoring. The Maths Champion has highlighted where individuals could do with support and where they could offer support to others. The team have started to engage with families to strengthen our parental partnerships and home links with Maths.*

##### **From your starting point to today, what have been the changes in the following:**

- **Children outcomes**  
*Children are now showing confidence in using math's in everyday play. Children's mathematical language has improved and been extended.*
- **Staff development**  
*Staff are supporting each other and furthering their skill set each day by day.*
- **Parental relationships**

Parental partnerships are being strengthened each day new home link files are being developed to strengthen our parental partnership further.

- **Environment indoors**

Gradually the indoor environment has improved and each day as it is used it gets stronger and stronger. Staff are now identifying new ideas as they use the environment daily.

- **Environment outdoors**

The outdoors is developing further as the team eliminate the pitfalls and areas of weakness.

- **Attitudes towards maths**

Overall the teams attitude towards maths is very interesting because as the setting is growing so is the skill set and knowledge of the team. Staff have become much more confident and continue to grow.

### **Tell us about any new initiatives or projects relating to maths? E.g. parental partnership development**

Our Home link bags and busy bags shall enhance our maths within nursery. Furthermore, these will then continue to strengthen our parental partnerships. Also allowing parents and families to engage in maths in the early years. We are hoping to hold parent workshops and link days to share with families the joys of maths and how it can be incorporated into everyday life.

The garden shall be having a new mud kitchen adding scales and measure provocations providing more opportunities for children to explore mathematical problems, such as how heavy, too big, more than less than. Parking zones and markings in the garden to work alongside the cars allowing children to match numbers on cars to parking zones/colours. Mazes/ directional language prompts,

### **Section 3 – staff**

#### **How has the programme developed your CPD in relation to maths?**

Feeling much more confident and know how and what to look out for to develop new activities or skills.

#### **What has been the impact of the training on your day to day practice?**

Much more confidence in general day to day practice. Staff are able to request support where required and able to support one another. New ideas and ways to put ideas into practice.

#### **What resources did you find most useful and why?**

The online resources were useful allowing the team to access ideas and ways to enhance maths in early years. The access to telephone support Jo was always very helpful and knowledgeable.

#### **Can you tell us the biggest change the Champion has introduced for maths across your setting?**

An injection of energy and new ideas, information of how maths can be enhanced throughout nursery not just in a maths area. The importance of maths in Early Years and how easy it can be implemented and that it doesn't always have to cost lots of money, some of the best activities are free. Imagination, Imagination, Imagination.

#### **How did you find the BKSB element of the programme? If you did not use this, please tell us why?**

This was VERY time consuming and not very user friendly because of time. Not being able to pick up and the long sessions made this very difficult to fit in.

**Can you tell us the difference in your confidence and attitudes towards your own maths and teaching children maths since the start of the programme?**

*Very confident and surprised how easy it is to ensure maths is implemented in everything we do, in play and learning. Confident in bringing maths into day to day from breakfast to home time.*

**Next steps**

**Continue to develop resources and enhance provision to enable children to grow and flourish.**

*The garden has to continue to be enhanced and staff will do this together to allow everyone to have a say and vocalise how and what input they feel will improve our learning and play environments.*

*Continue to reflect on practice and audit what's working well or not, feedback from families.*

**Regular reviews of cohort trackers to ensure practice is effective.**

*How are you going to develop your practice further and why, what will the impact be? Who will be involved? How will your practice support good outcomes for children?*

**Final thoughts on the programme.....**

*Thoroughly enjoyed the programme and hope to be able to participate in more like this in other areas, to ensure our environment is enriched*

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