Case Study

Maths Champion



Name of setting: Keighley Community Nursery

Date submitted: 22.09.17

Information supplied by: Naomi Thornton

Title: Maths Champion

Key points of your Maths Champions improvements

- Staff confidence when delivering maths.
- Resources have been replenished to support counting in all areas, as well as shapes,
- Introduction of more natural resources across the nursery as a whole.
- Introduction of more maths resources for outdoor play as well as signs and pictures in the environment.
- Staff confidence when discussing maths with parents and how to continue with math's at home.
- Resources are now available for parents to take home to provide home learning opportunities.

Background detail

The nursery decided to invest in this programme after doing the cohort tracking and realising that Maths is an area across the entire of nursery but particularly in pre-school that children are not progressing as well in for both girls and boys. We were wanting to implement changes so that we can narrow the gap and improve the outcomes for all children in our care before they start school.

Section 2

Maths Champion has allowed us to scrutinize our nursery and practice in a very beneficial way. It has made us consider new ways of doing things. Made us realise that areas we thought we were very good at could do with more work. We have introduced new ways of doing things. All areas across nursery have had a rejig and had lots of new resources put into them including bought ones but also natural resources that we have found in the environment with the children. We have done lots of new activities with the children that we have done time and time again that has regularly lead of into different areas of learning. It has made the whole staff team more aware of how we use maths every day in each area and allowed us to pass this over to the children so they are also aware. The staff team have become more comfortable when talking to parents about maths and what they could be doing at home.

The staffs now has a better understanding of how they are using maths outdoors but also how they can improve maths outdoors.

Although sometimes some of the tasks could be time consuming and completing them online and uploading them could be time consuming it has definitely been very beneficial and we have made a lot of changes in nursery and the children have progressed lots.

Impact of the programme

The staff team in pre-school room have massively gained in confidence through completing this programme they are more aware of how they use maths every day and ensure they are using it in all areas to support the children. Maths in now more present in all areas of nursery both indoors and outdoors and it is seen in and around the nursery as a whole.

The room leader in pre-school has got on board with the programme very well and managing to engage our pre-school parent so they are more aware of maths at home. We have introduced busy bags for parents to borrow so they have got more maths resources at home.

The programme has changed nursery as a whole, as we have not only made changes to our pre-school room, we have changed what we have in our babies and our 2-3 room.

Did you achieve what you wanted from the programme? If so, how?

Yes we have implemented many changes through doing the maths champion programme, staff have gained in confidence, children are progressing and parents have gained in confidence and have more of an understanding of maths at home. The nursery has improved as a whole in maths is more present in all areas in all rooms, both indoors and outdoors. It has given us hundreds of ideas of new activities that we can do with children, and children have benefited massively.

How has the programme helped you further develop your own practice?

The programme has allowed us to think outside the box more and realise that maths is and can be incorporated in all areas of learning. It has allowed us to provide more learning opportunities for all children across the whole of nursery. The staff have gained in confidence, shared ideas and good practice. We have implemented new strategies in nursery such as resources to take home.

Next steps

We will continue to implement new ideas. Continue to maintain the things t ha we have put into practice. Ensure we continue to share ideas at staff meeting etc. Maintain the relationships we have formed with parents and continue to send home our busy bags. All of these changes are improving the outcomes for children and will continue to do so and hopefully reduce the gap in mathematics.

National Day Nurseries Association

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