



Renfrewshire's Nurturing  
Relationships Approach



Our journey to our RNRA  
Jade award at Glendee ELCC

# The beginning...



Your greatness is not what you have,  
but what you give.

At Glendee we have always been passionate about nurture and it has always been at the forefront of everything we do.

We recognise the importance of children feeling secure and supported in their environment. If we don't get that right we will not be on our path to raising attainment.

We began our journey with RNRA just as covid 19 lockdown began. Although this gave us less time in the centre it allowed for lots of time for staff to reflect upon and develop thinking, language and strategies for our return

# Creating a team for change

We decided as a team that in order for RNRA strategies and language to benefit the most children in the centre we would plan for a blanket approach to the nursery.

The staff all attended in house RNRA training with our Educational Psychologist Lisa.

Lisa was able to share the theory, strategies and rationale behind RNRA to support staffs own thinking in regards to nurture.

From here the RNRA working party was devised- this included one staff member from each side and room.





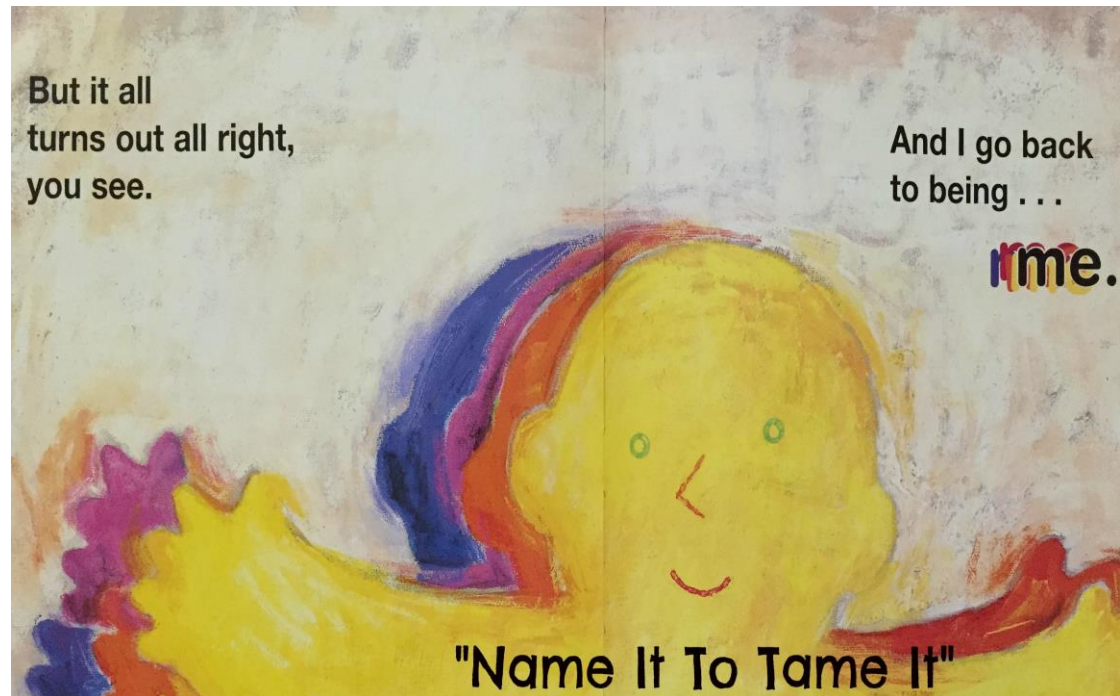
# Environmental Observations

From our RNRA training, the working party set out a plan of action

They started with initial observations of the environment and of the staffs language when supporting emotional regulation and behavioural management

The observations displayed that practitioner strategies and language had room for improvement. They also noted that the environment could offer more nurturing spaces for children to self regulate

# Name it to tame it- Policy changes



In order to make systemic change the working part in collaboration with SMT devised a new behavioural support strategy. This document focused upon recognising the need to respect children's self regulation and dealing with this prior to exploring behavioural needs. It also discussed the importance of naming the emotion and behaviour in order to move forward and understand the action.

# Language of nurture

During the observation period the working party noticed inconsistencies in the language used by staff when supporting self regulation and behavioural management.

The working party devised a Language of Nurture toolkit which was distributed to all staff to help staff feel more confident and offer a consistent approach throughout the centre.

Children appeared more confident in talking about their feelings due to the use of consistent understanding language



# Belonging & Emotional Wellbeing Check in

**YOU** belong **HERE.**



All rooms introduced a belonging wall. This had a picture of the child in their family group that they could remove from the wall and place onto the feeling that they expressed each day. Staff within the room would monitor this during the session and talk to the children about the feeling they had chosen and discuss ways to support this feeling where needed.

# Nurturing toolbox

Each room has a toolkit which includes

- ▶ RNRA bear- called hugs
- ▶ A nurture basket containing "calm down" toys i.e. fidgets, regulation toys
- ▶ emotion fans

This is available in a quiet area within the playroom that children can access freely and with an adult

Beside the toolkit is a copy of our behavioural support strategy as well as our Language of nurture toolkit





# RNRA and the Colour monster

To support children's understanding of their emotions and feelings the nursery had a book focus in the background of learning that focused upon "The Colour Monster" book.

Children were able to link their feelings to the corresponding colour from colour monster and match this to the corresponding MAKATON sign to express how they were feeling in different ways.



# PATHS, RICE & RNRA



The nursery has a shared vision for encompassing a nurturing ethos to support the emotional and mental wellbeing of our children. We do this through several different initiatives and strategies. To provide a constant and well balanced approach we aim to work collaboratively with other working parties i.e. PATHS and RICE to promote the best outcome's for children, families and staff and continue our journey with RNRA successfully at Glendee