**Pre- formal Curriculum**

**Intent**

The pre-formal curriculum is for pupils who have profound and complex needs (PMLD) this curriculum is designed with the intent of using a personalised planning approach to meet the needs of the pupils. The pre-formal curriculum focusses on the skills needed to develop the foundation of learning these are; early communication, social, emotional and cognitive skills. The reason for this approach is that the children who are accessing our pre formal pathway are at the very early stages of developing their early cognition, communication and thinking skills. Therefore they need a curriculum to support and develop these foundations of learning. Through the pre-formal pathway we aim to encourage and support children to independently react with the environment around them, in a way that is suited to them. We want the children to be able to experience the world around them, release their curiosity and increase their participation. The pre formal pathway recognises the importance of developing these skills and that movement and play along with sensory and multi-sensory approaches to learning are needed to help these children develop.

**Implementation**

Pre formal learning is **not dependent on the subjects of the National Curriculum** and we follow the objectives and suggested learning tasks set out in the Equals Pre-formal curriculum. All planning is topic based and learning opportunities are used to allow Repetition of routines, repetition of vocabulary, providing pupils time to process, anticipate and respond.

The Pre Formal Curriculum focuses on these core areas:

* Communication and interaction
* Cognition and learning
* Physical and sensory
* Social and emotional

For the children following the pre- formal pathway you can expect to see;

* Personalised learning opportunities
* Repetition
* Consistent and simple routines
* Objects of reference
* Practicing skills
* Sensory experiences

What pre-formal learning may look like?

* Sensory exploration
* Tac Pac
* Sensory story
* Sensory cooking
* Tracking
* Music
* Art
* Hydrotherapy
* Massage
* Speech and Language
* Intensive interaction

**Impact**

Through the use of the personalised learning plans and consistent routines following the pre-formal pathway, children will make progress suited to their level of development and need towards their EHCP targets, the children will be more engaged in their learning.

How do we monitor Impact?

For children following the pre-formal pathway we monitor impact in the following ways;

* Summative assessment- Routes for learning
* Observations- Tapestry and cherry gardens framework