



Forest Room Rationale

Forest Room is for pupils in Year 1 to Year 6 who have high levels of Social, Emotional and Mental Health needs and are making only small steps of progress within their mainstream classroom. Up to 4 pupils will be targeted for this support in accordance with our assess-plan-do-review cycle. They are likely to be pupils who require an enhanced level of provision above that which is normally available in a primary classroom.

The purpose of Forest Room is to raise self-esteem and enrich the learning experiences for these pupils through our curriculum key drivers (oracy, a sense of belonging, irresistibility, the power of literature and aspiration) and develop regulation strategies, support wellbeing needs and aid children's social skills. All of this is underpinned by **our Queen's Park Ethos – To bravely navigate a changing world – with curiosity, confidence and joy.**

Oracy – Enriching language skills will underpin every interaction in Forest room. Communication may be enhanced through visuals and actions. Different communication may be used depending on recommendations from key professionals eg. the use of Makaton.

Sense of Belonging – Some of the pupils may not access learning in the same way as their peers. In Forest room learning opportunities will be tailored to the specific needs of the child. There will be times during the morning when pupils will come together for learning sessions. Children will continue to 'belong' to their mainstream class – registering in the morning and spending the afternoon with their peers.

Irresistibility – Learning will be presented in manageable and enticing ways. This may be through multisensory approaches, topic related or tray-based tasks.

Power of Literacy – Learning through a diverse range of literature will be promoted here just like it is throughout the rest of the school. Children will have the opportunity to see themselves in literature, explore personal interests and use stories to help them understand the world.

Aspiration – A child-centred approach to learning in this space allows these children to learn new concepts and skills that are of importance to them. Children will have the opportunity to develop independence skills that will benefit them in life.

Forest Room will provide specialist learning opportunities within the mainstream school for targeted pupils with special educational needs. It will be an Inclusion Intervention Space (IIS) which is being funded as part of a pilot project by Brighton and Hove SEN Service. We hope that this will enrich the education for our children and that pupil and parent voice will help us to grow this exciting space.