

# Nurture Groups

## *Effective Early Intervention*

*Early Childhood Learning & Development  
Conference: 29 – 30 March 2019*

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**Westfield Park  
Primary School**





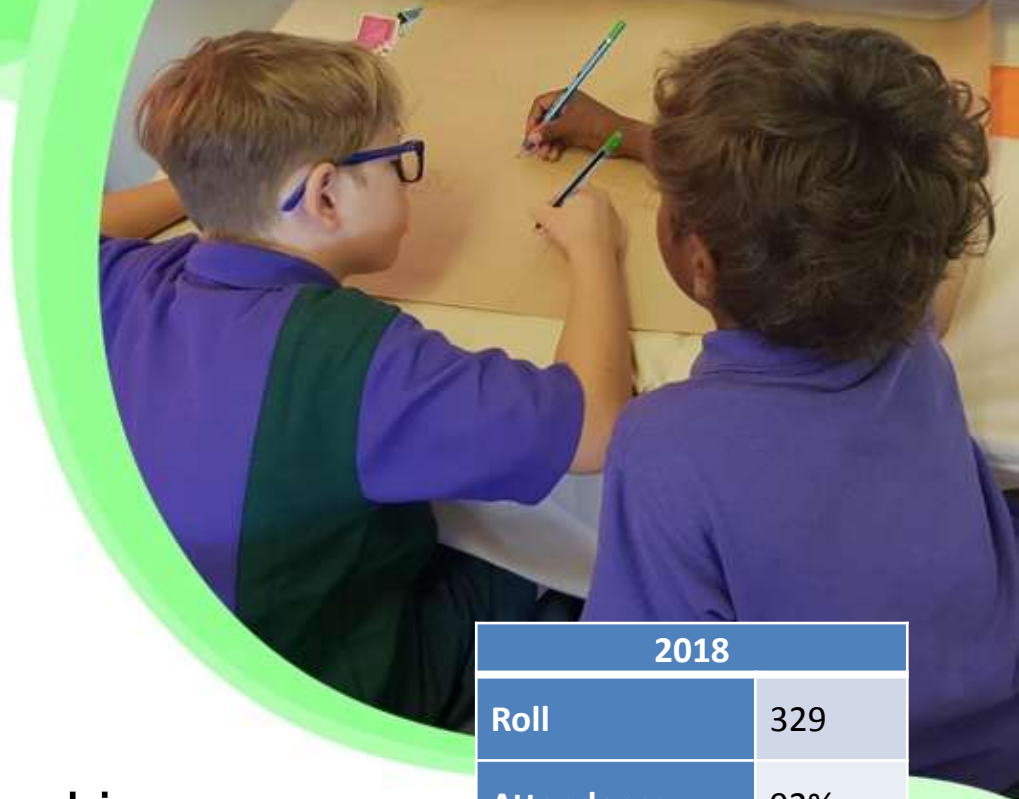


## A Brief History

- Operating for over 40 years in the UK
- Evidence-based
- Use of attachment theory
- Family engagement
- Six years at Westfield Park
- 63 Children
- Completely funded from school budget



# Westfield Context



## 2011

Roll	215
Attendance	90.0%
Transiency	38%
ICSEA	917 (9)
Suspensions	3.5%
AEDI (2009) Vulnerable 1+	71.4%
AEDI (2009) Vulnerable 2+	52.4%

Broadly speaking, our community profile has not changed much in seven years...but the school's ability to manage the challenges it presents has.

## 2018

Roll	329
Attendance	92%
Transiency	27.4%
ICSEA	908 (9)
Suspensions	1.2%
AEDC Vulnerable 1+	12.9%
AEDC Vulnerable 2+	3.2%





**CHILDREN'S  
LEARNING IS  
UNDERSTOOD  
DEVELOPMENTALLY**



**THE  
CLASSROOM  
OFFERS A  
SAFE BASE**



**THE  
IMPORTANCE  
OF TRANSITIONS  
IN CHILDREN'S  
LIVES**



**THE SIX  
PRINCIPLES  
OF  
NURTURE**

**THE  
IMPORTANCE  
OF NURTURE FOR  
THE DEVELOPMENT  
OF WELLBEING**



**ALL BEHAVIOUR IS  
COMMUNICATION**



**LANGUAGE  
IS A VITAL  
MEANS OF  
COMMUNICATION**



Compliments the school's  
approach to using trauma  
informed practice.



# The Boxall Profile



- Online assessment tool for social and emotional development
- Data used to assess suitability for Nurture Group and track progress.







## The Nurture Group Day

- Smaller class size – max. 14 students
- Transitions – DOTT, Classroom routines.
- Support – Principal, School Psych., Social Worker
- Three equally important, interrelated parts
  - Play-based learning – developmentally appropriate.
  - Academic – literacy and numeracy focus, differentiated instruction.
  - Social and emotional learning – independence, resilience, emotional regulation.



# The Nurture Group Day

## Play-based learning



**“Through play, children practise and apply the skills they are taught in more formal lessons.”**





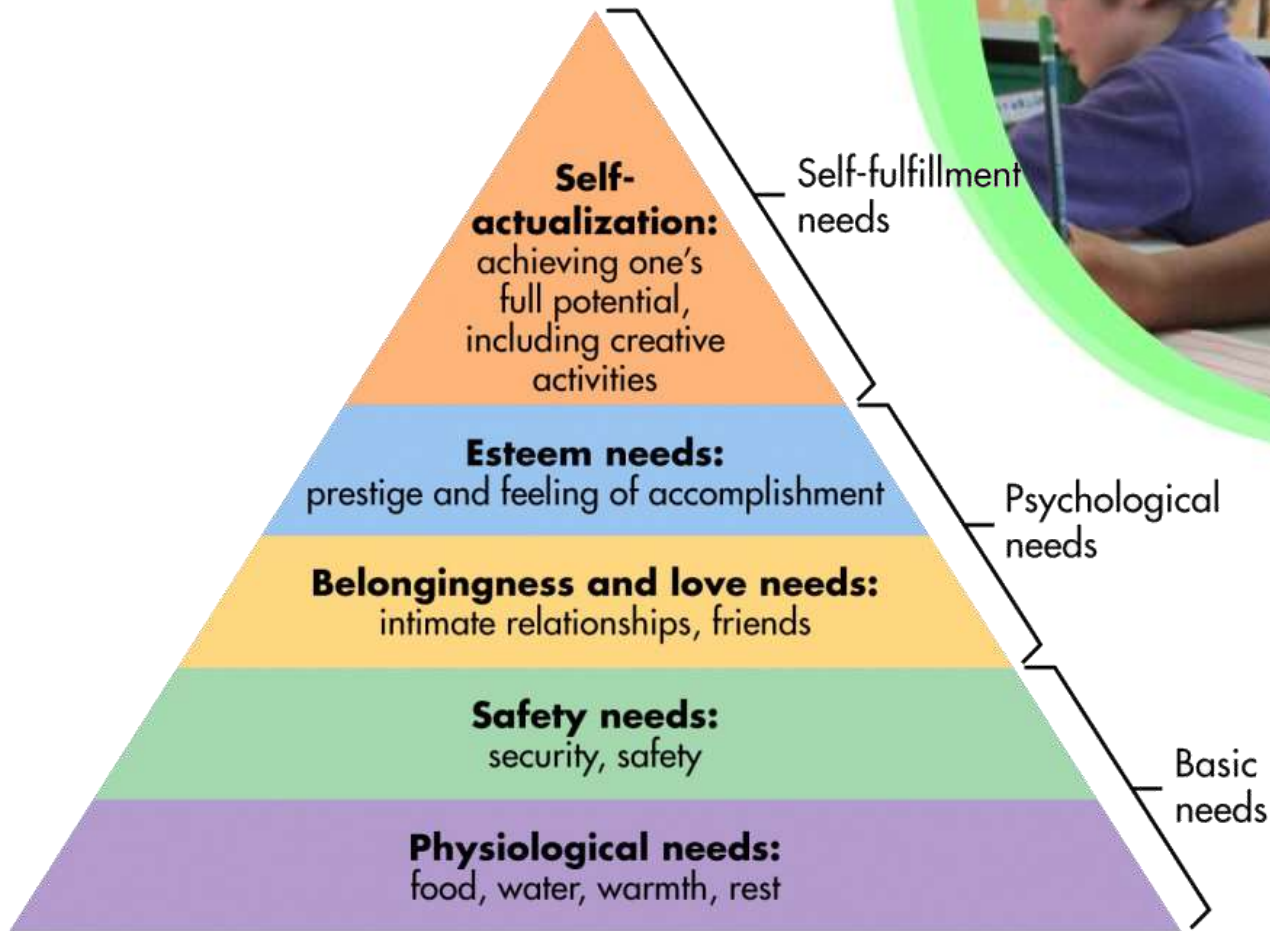
## The Nurture Group Day Family engagement

- Communication
  - Seesaw
- Parent help/visits
- Parenting support



# The Nurture Group Day

## Personal reflections



“You can’t do the Bloom stuff until you’ve taken care of the Maslow stuff”





## Evidence informed...

- AEDC
- Behaviour
- Poor access to services
- ICSEA

## Evidence-based...

- Attendance
- Behaviour
- Report grades
- Boxall profiles
- On-entry



## Impact on school

- Parallel classes
- Developing a common vocabulary
- The nurturing school







Come and visit

If you're interested in finding out more and would like to see the Nurture Group in action...

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