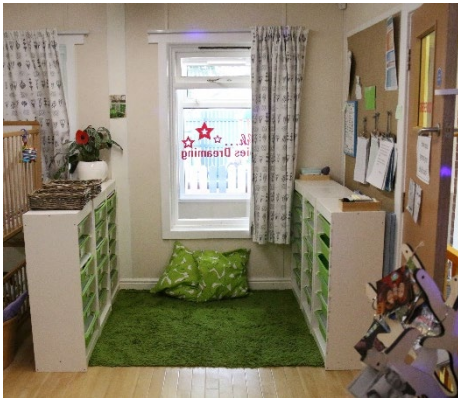


# 'My learning walk through Discoverers'

*Coat pegs* – my coat peg, with a picture of me on, can be found on the wall just outside the Discoverers door by our nappy changing area.

*Changing area* – my Key Person will change my nappy in here. There are all different sizes of nappies at hand and my labelled cream if needed.



## Our green area

*This is where my own special drawer is. Every day my parents put in my drawer:*

- *my sterilised bottles for the day and my formula milk dispense.*
- *my special toys such as a cuddle cloth which I snuggle when I am feeling tired or unhappy.*
- *my key person also puts my sheets and blanket in here for sleep time at nursery.*

*If I have a dummy it is kept in a labelled container in a basket on top of the drawers.*

*All the information boards, showing what meals I have eaten, when I have slept and when I have had my nappy changed are hanging on the wall in this area. My Key Person will discuss my day and what I have been doing when I am collected from nursery.*

## Our cosy area

- *This is where my parents sit and talk to my Key Person or where they spend time some quiet time with me.*
- *It is also where I spend special time here with my key person, having my bottle, sharing books or spending quiet time together.*
- *Our family photographs can be found in here for us to share and for us to look at our family whilst at nursery. My key person has asked my parents to email some pictures to nursery so that they can be printed off to make my own family book.*
- *On the wall is our special tree which has a fingerprint on from every baby that has spent time in the Discoverers.*
- *The blackboard on the wall tells our parents what special things are happening in the Discoverers.*



## Our heuristic area

*In this area, I can play with different objects that are red, white and black. These colours are important because they will be the first three colours I can recognise. Apparently, playing with items in these colours helps to strengthen my brain connections, but I just think its fun to explore and investigate!*

## Our rest area

*When I am, tired and need a sleep or a rest I can crawl into a cosy coracle. My key person will make up my bed with my bed sheets.*

- *I sometimes like to sleep in one of our special bunkbed cots.*
- *When I was little I normally slept in the top cot, now I am big I sleep on a comfy safety mattress with all my friends after lunch.*
- *It's easy to fall asleep, looking at the fairy lights.*

*My Key Person makes sure that I am comfortable and gives me my comforter and often sings to me as I fall to sleep.*



## Tactile play

*There are lots of messy things to play with and explore in Discoverers, both inside and outside in the dell and secret garden.*

- *I can make marks using chalk and crayons on the easel.*
- *I love to paint and enjoy getting messy when I am playing in cornflour, jelly or shaving foam, digging in sand, or splashing in water.*

## Time to eat!

*I love eating my healthy breakfast, snacks, lunch and tea in Discoverers.*

*My parents have told my Key Person if there are any foods that I cannot eat as they make me poorly. Our special chef Peter makes our meals in the Students' Union kitchens and makes sure that I have delicious and healthy things to eat.*

- *When I need a bottle my Key Person uses the Tommee Tippee perfect prep machine, using my formula and bottles, so I don't have to wait long.*

*There is always fresh fruit in a bowl on the snack table for me to try if I want to.*

- *My meals are just how I like them, as my key person knows what stage of weaning I am at. I started on fruit and vegetable puree, then mashed and now I can eat it chopped up.*
- 

*I love eating with my friends and one of the special Discoverer ladies at the table and I choose for myself what I would like to eat from the selection of foods available. Now I am getting bigger I have started to serve myself with help and support when I need it.*



**Small world and Imaginative play** *Wow it's so exciting to play and explore all the interesting toys and objects. There are things to play with on top and underneath the tables and on the carpet. There are always new and interesting things to discover as the Discoverers team plan around topics, important events and festivals such as Diwali, Easter, Mother's Day or St George's Day and also in the things that myself and friends enjoy doing and are interested in such as when my friend went to visit the zoo with his granny we had all the big furry animals in nursery come to play in our room and eat their dinner!*



## Treasure baskets

*I just love to play and explore the different objects and materials in our treasure baskets, discovering things for myself.*

- *I use all my senses explore, to see, taste, hear, touch and smell lots of different objects and to find out what I can do with them.*
- *Sometimes I wonder what they might taste like and put them in my mouth, but my key person is close by to share these new and exciting experiences with me make sure I don't eat anything!*
- *I enjoy manipulating things, shaking them, putting things in and out.*

*It's really fascinating to play with natural materials.*



## Let's communicate

*To help to communicate my key person uses lots of different strategies. My Key Person*

- *Uses what they call objects of reference to help me to understand what they are talking to me about for instance they show me a nappy when taking me to have my nappy changed or showing me a beaker to ask if I want a drink.*
- *Wears a lanyard which has lots of different symbols of everyday things that I do and play with for example eat, sleep, nappy, play, outside and things that I will be learning such as to share, to listen, to look and to stop. When talking to me I will be shown the symbol and Makaton sign for what I am doing. This is great as it is helping to learn link words with objects and things that I do.*



*When I see, the special blanket being put on the floor I know that it is 'song basket' time. I sit with my friends and we use props and symbols from the song basket to sing songs together.*



## Outside time

*Wow its great playing and exploring outside, it's my favourite place to be. I can crawl into the secret garden from the main Discoverers room. It has a decking floor so is smooth to crawl on. There is so much to see and do, plants to water, balls to roll, plants to smell and touch, things to build with and even a water feature to watch and listen too.*





*Dell is our larger outside area. This is where I can clamber across the small wooden bridge, climb on the climbing frame, ride on ride a- toys and play in our outside cottage. I also can paint, draw, play in sand and water and run about with my friends. There is a cosy seat where I can sit quietly and have a rest and look at books with my friends. I go outside no matter what the weather is doing. I love putting on my wellingtons and all-in-one waterproof suit so I can splash in puddles and play in the snow. When it is hot my Key Person puts sunscreen on to protect my skin and I wear my sunhat. There is lots of shade outside for me so I don't get too hot.*



## *Observations and assessments*

*I spend time with my Key Person every day. She takes photographs and videos of me playing and learning with my friends for my parents to see. Observations, and assessments are recorded on FirstSteps. My parents can comment, if they want to, and even add their own photographs of things that I have done at home or places that I have visited.*

*We love to go out and about and explore the Campus, so you might see us playing in the ball park or having a picnic by the fountain outside of Hazlerigg / Rutland building.*