



Maeda Gakuen

Educational Curriculum Policy

1 Introduction

1.1 This is the curriculum policy to ensure that our children can improve their nursery life during the whole term, and to define staff's duties of education to achieve the goal.

1.2 Maeda Gakuen Yochien (Finchley and Acton Yochien School), where children are educated in Japanese by Japanese nursery teachers, who have a certificate of nursery teaching by the Japanese government, is not only for Japanese speaking children but also for children from all backgrounds.

1.3 Our curriculum is organized in accordance with British Curriculum EYFS, since Maeda Gakuen Yochien is registered as an Early Years Provider in United Kingdom.

2 Aims and Objectives

2.1 The aims of the Early Years Education must be concrete and clear for people who provide the education to the children of early years to guide children practically.

2.2 Based on the fact that this is a very important stage to cultivate the basis of human nature and a foundation for learning for their future, all staff will make efforts to achieve the goal, which is to foster their basic ability to live, engaging with their parents and carers.

2.3 The aim of Education at Maeda Gakuen Yochien is based on the EYFS curriculum supporting learning and Development in the following seven areas:

Prime Areas: Personal, Social, Emotional Development; Communication and Language, Physical Development;

Specific Areas: Literacy, Numeracy, Understanding of the World and Expressive Arts and Design.

This incorporates the curriculum in Japan with 5 items: Health, Human Relationship, Environment, Language, and Expression, all of which are expected to grow inside children during their nursery school life.

2.4 On the basis of the Japanese aim above, the basic ability of living is targeted for children under proper circumstances in United Kingdom spending time with friends and teachers having a sense of fulfilment.

2.5 Our Aims and Objectives at Maeda Gakuen Yochien

a. Children with adaptability to new and different circumstances

Foster their enterprising living forth to achieve their goals with dreams and hope, finding the way by themselves, in different circumstances here in London.

b. Healthy and lively children

Support children with healthy and safeguarded circumstances when they try to solve the problem independently and voluntarily.

c. Bright children with good sensibility

Encourage children to interact with people, animals, beautiful objects, and nature, for the cultivation of aesthetic sentiments which foster various kinds of culture and tradition.

d. Kind hearted children with consideration

Ensure that children will learn the importance of life, interaction among people, and mutual help, to cultivate warm hearted attitude towards others respecting each other, recognizing differences, living together symbiotically.

3 How to organize our curriculum planning

3.1 Long term Education Plan

This plan is prospects of children's school life for long term, which indicates the contents of school life and how education policies should be in detail.

3.2 Short term Education Plan (every 4-5 weeks, and every day)

Home Room teacher creates the short term education plan for their own classes, since it depends on their class's advancement.

They modify their plan and produce an environment and activities according to four seasons.

3.3 It is described in detail about the educational guidance for each year and for each children in accordance with both Japanese curriculum and British curriculum; EYFS.

4 Content of Education in Preschool Class (3 -6 Years)

4.1 Children have opportunities to learn English (both conversational and well as reading and writing).

4.2 Children are taught Japanese reading and writing.

4.3 A lot of seasonal and Japanese traditional events are adopted into the school curriculum.

4.4 For the proper physical growth of the children, Physical Education class is organised by our gymnastic-specialised teacher.

4.5 Abacus and 100-bead abacus are used in the class to make children get interested in numbers.

4.6 Due to a well-manner education, they are encouraged to greet in every occasion, and to use proper words and phrases with proper behaviour especially during the classes of Tea Ceremony, Kendo, Calligraphy, and Go game.

4.7 Birthday Party is held every month to celebrate all together for the children who are born during that month. Each child will be presented a beautiful handmade birthday card with a photo and messages from their teacher and parents.

4.8 A lot of opportunities are created for children to express themselves, such as Sports Festival and Christmas Musical Concert which are scheduled in the school annual curriculum. On a more regular basis, to boost children's self-confidence opportunities are created for them to talk in front of familiar groups and hence 'leader/helper of the day' concept is introduced.

4.9 A lot of creative activities encouraging problem solving are programmed in our curriculum which is a stimulus to the development of their brain and promote independence as well as team work.

4.10 There is an open day for parents and carers to observe how their children are doing during lessons and also for the school to review the lesson plan according to the opinions and ideas from them.

4.11 We use Read and Write Inc. methodology to introduce phonics. Children are taught to read and write letters, using this method. Along with that, we use Textbook and Workbook for numeracy and Japanese cursive syllabus; Hiragana letters that are specifically imported from Japan, to broaden children's knowledge not only of English language but also of the Japanese language. Children will be taught the correct way to hold pencils.

4.12 To enrich the curriculum for our children, a range of educational visits are offered. School visits are planned for the development of children's knowledge, understanding, skills, and attitudes.

4.13 Every child has their 'duty work' (leader of the day) by turns every month, to learn how to manage age appropriate tasks with responsibility.

4.14 To build a healthy and sound body, teachers devise play and games using the whole nursery yard during sports class.

4.15 There is a fire drill every month, and lockdown drill carried out annually during which, children have an occasion to discuss about how important the safety and health in their life are.

5 Content of Education in Nursery Class (2 – 3 Years)

5.1 Building a strong connection among children, friends, and teachers is emphasised.

5.2 Children are encouraged to acquire the ability to take care of themselves with the daily affairs (such as getting dressed, feeding themselves, using the toilet, sleeping).

5.3 To help the development of language, there are many opportunities for children to explore picture books and for reading time.

5.4 To build a healthy and sound body, the large nursery yard is used as often as possible, for example, during classes, break, and also during lunch time.

5.5 Children have a nap time to settle their regular daily routine. The length of their nap time is based on their own speed of growth.

5.6 A lot of seasonal and Japanese traditional events are adopted into the school curriculum.

5.7 A lot of opportunities are created for children to express themselves, such as Sports Festival and Christmas Musical Concert which are scheduled in the school annual curriculum.

5.8 A lot of Japanese Folk Songs are adopted in the music class.

5.9 A lot of creative activities using Origami, drawing, colouring are adopted in the class.

5.10 Birthday Party is held every month to celebrate all together for the children who are born in the month. Each child will be presented a memorial birthday card with a photo and messages from their teacher and parents.

5.11 There are plenty of opportunities for children to interact with children from other classes (the older age groups) so as to create an environment where children can learn from each other.

5.12 There are open day for parents and carers to observe how their children are doing during lessons and also for the school side to review the lesson plan according to the opinions and ideas from them.

5.13 Each child has their own record book written by their teacher to let their parents or carers know how they spent the week at school. The book will be handed back to the teacher by the parents/carers with their comments in, during the following week on Monday.

5.14 Every child has their 'duty work' (leader/helper of the day) by turns every month, to learn how to manage things with responsibility.

5.15 There is a fire drill every month, and lockdown drill carried out annually during which, children have an occasion to discuss about how important the safety and health in their life are.

6 Observation, Record, Evaluation of their growth

6.1 Psychological development and physical growth based on the daily observation for each child are recorded each term.

6.2 Each class teachers evaluate children according to the records to make next term and next year better for each child.

6.3 Each child has their own record book written by their teacher to let their parents or carers know how they spent the week at school. The book will be handed back to the teacher the following Monday by parents and carers with their comments.

This policy was revised in August 2017 by Nikita Phadnavis (Manager) of Maeda Gakuen Yochien.