

SPICE Policy



Updated	November 2022
Status	Non-Statutory policy Delegated to the Headteacher Annually
Review	November 2024

Introduction

Nurture is central to the ethos at Compass School. SPICE (Social Physical Intellectual Creative Emotional) lessons are designated Nurture lessons at Compass School.

SPICE lessons are based on the Nurtureuk concept which was developed from the study of young children's social and emotional development linked to 'Attachment Theory' and subsequent development of Boxall graphs. The Nurtureuk concept is based on a holistic view of education: emotional, social and cognitive. Nurture Group provision at Compass school is divided into five activity areas: Social, Physical, Intellectual, Creative and Emotional.

In North Zone (primary), East Zone (on site primary model secondary) and West Zone (on site secondary model secondary) Nurture principles are embedded throughout the curriculum. Pupils have 3 SPICE lessons a day, one in the morning, one before lunch time and one at the end of the day. SPICE lessons reflect the theme pupils are studying and focus on developing social and emotional skills. In their first lesson of SPICE the focus is on Social and Emotional to help them settle into the day. The second SPICE lesson is detailed on the LTP and will cover the physical area of SPICE to support pupils engage more positively and safely as part of their outside play. The last lesson of SPICE can focus on any of the 5 SPICE areas to build relationships and end the day on a positive.

South Zone (remote secondary pupils), have access to SPICE lessons at the start and end of their day. Again, it is important for these pupils to be able to have support around their social and emotional development where lessons link to the LTP and focus predominantly on social, intellectual, creative and emotional aspects of SPICE. The intent from these lessons is to then evolve South pupil curriculum to prepare them for accessing increased face to face and/or external provision learning.

1. Rationale for SPICE Lessons

- Pupils may not have experienced a full range of early learning experiences within the context of an attentive nurturing relationship. This is not to make judgements about a pupil's upbringing but to understand that child development is complex and impacted by many factors.
- The purpose of SPICE lessons is to enable children to engage with, and access the curriculum.

2. Aims

- Provide a safe and secure environment where pupils can develop their communication, social and emotional literacy skills.
- Strengthen pupil's emotional well-being enabling them to access learning more readily.
- Help pupils re-establish good relationships with their peers and adults and begin to see school as a place to experience success.
- Develop the pupil's sense of self, belonging and trust.
- Improve behaviour, attainment and attendance of pupils.
- Facilitate a smooth transition for pupils to their next educational establishment, if appropriate.

3. Impact on the Pupils

- Development of sense of self, belonging and trust.
- Improved relationships with peers and adults.
- Development and improvement of social skills.
- Improved organisational, communication and concentration skills.
- Improved curriculum focus and readiness to learn.
- Improved attendance.

4. Planning Spice Lessons

- The long term planning of weekly themes, key outcomes, objectives and focuses for SPICE Time is the responsibility of the group teacher. Best practice will reflect that the themes and key outcomes are decided on through consultation with the staff that deliver and assist delivery of the SPICE lessons within that individual group.
- Weekly and daily planning for SPICE Time needs to reflect the need of each individual child within the group and this is determined by the results of their Boxall profile, in line with the Boxall Nurture group concept. The daily activities should be planned with each pupil's Boxall profile taken into consideration.
- The weekly plan will include the theme from the LTP, possibly a Literacy or Numeracy focus, key outcomes for that week and links to how the lesson supports the Boxall profile strands.
- Overall daily planning is the responsibility of the member of staff leading the lesson.
- Routine and order are important in SPICE lessons. However, there is some fluidity in the nature of the lessons. Be prepared to carry on with an activity that is going well and cut short an activity or discussion if necessary.
- Pupils need to be responsible for some aspects of SPICE Time in order to develop a sense of responsibility. A rota of tasks which include setting up, tidying away, washing up, preparing snacks is recommended.
- The main emphasis during SPICE Time is the Social and Emotional activities and these should be completed at each lesson. The focus for these should be social and communication skills. Good manners, politeness and responsibility need to be modelled by everyone.

5. Recording Achievement and Progress

- Boxall profiles need to be updated at the end of each term for pupils whom Compass is their designated school or are on a long term placement here. For pupils who attend Compass School on an Intervention Programme Boxall profiles need to be updated at the end of the programme.
- At KS1 – 4 Boxall profile data for each pupil is recorded on SIMS. The information is also recorded on a Boxall spreadsheet to track progress.
- Each term pupil's achievement and progress in SPICE is shared as part of their pupil review.

6. Setting up the SPICE Area

- SPICE (Nurture areas) need to be individualised. This can include displays, plants, ornaments, games, and equipment that are only used during SPICE Time.
- Best practice is to create an area in the classroom or a room that is solely used for SPICE Time as recommended by Nurtureuk. If this is not possible it is recommended that each classroom is equipped with equipment and resources that are only used in SPICE Time. Each classroom in North and East Zone has a kitchen area.
- Ensure that when having social/snack time that a table is laid with a cloth, cutlery and crockery. All eating needs to take place around this table.
- To help encourage routine it is useful to display the weekly theme, weekly/daily focus, weekly menu and a rota of responsibilities.

7. Responsibilities

- During SPICE lessons every member of staff is responsible for following the Compass Behaviour for Learning Policy and Health and Safety Policy.