



Nurture Centre Charter

At Thomas Telford School we recognise that some of our students are not always emotionally ready to learn and require an increased level of support. For this reason, we offer a Nurture Centre for students to support their social and emotional development.

Six principles

Six principles of nurture underpin the nurture practice within the Nurture Centre at Thomas Telford School.

- Children's learning is understood developmentally.
- The classroom offers a safe base.
- Nurture is important for the development of self-esteem.
- Language is understood as a vital means of communication.
- All behaviour is communication.
- The importance of transition in children's lives.

Nurture Centre

A classroom base offering a safe, structured, and predictable environment to address the student's social and emotional difficulties which are creating a barrier for their ability to learn. Focusing on providing short term interventions in a warm environment that will help to form positive relationships with both teachers and peers and develop their skills and the resilience needed to cope with stressful experiences.

Who can attend?

All student year groups are welcome to attend the Nurture Centre. All staff are encouraged to refer any student by completing the Referral Form to the Nurture Centre Manager for why this student should be considered. Self-referral forms from students can only be accepted through a Personal Tutor or Head of Year. All referrals are then discussed with the Safeguarding Team. If considered suitable the student will be invited to the Nurture Centre where contact has been made with the parent/carer and appropriate actions will be identified and put in place.

Students would be considered suitable for a place:

- If they appear emotionally insecure / anxious
- Poor social skills, poor hygiene and/or uncooperative
- Health (family or student)
- Have a poor attention span / lack of motivation
- Find change upsetting
- Who appear to be withdrawn/shy

When can you attend?

Access is flexible however students attending will have pre-arranged time tabled sessions within the Nurture Centre. At all times sessions within the room will be supervised. Doors are open between 8.15 and 4pm. Session 3s may run for other activities within the centre.

- Students may drop in briefly to speak to the nurture staff between the hours of 8.15-8.30 and 3.30-3.45pm
- One fortnightly session 3 may be considered for year 7 students
- One fortnightly session 3 for mixed year groups
- PT interventions will be agreed with nurture staff
- Other times agreed with nurture staff

EXPECTATIONS in the Nurture Centre

- Respect others
- Listen
- Make new friendships
- Say please and thank you
- Tidy up after yourself
- Share your ideas
- Ask questions
- Participate
- Give your best effort
- Be honest and kind
- Encourage others

AND

- Have fun!

“Education is not the learning of facts, but the training of the mind to think!”

Albert Einstein