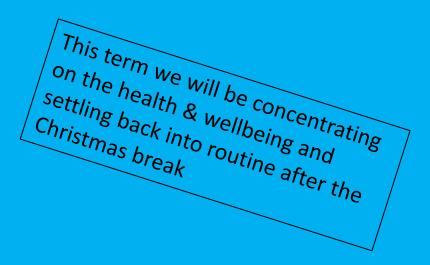
Happy New Year & Welcome Back





Many of our children demonstrate schematic play in their day to day activities. We would like to support and develop this play and learning.

What is a Schema?

Schemas are described as patterns of repeated behaviour which allow children to explore and express developing ideas and thoughts through their play and exploration. The repetitive actions of schematic play allow children to construct meaning in what they are doing.

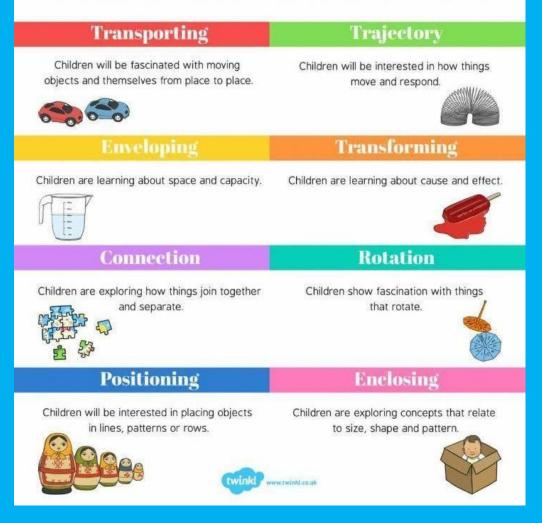






What are Schemas?

Why do children do things? Have you ever a noticed a child paint or draw a lovely picture then cover it completely in scribble or paint? Have you ever given a present to a child and noticed they are more interested in the box than the toy? Schemas can provide an explanation. Schemas are patterns of repeatable behaviour which can often be noticed in young children's play. By recognising and then extending patterns of behaviour and thinking, parents and practitioners can plan an exciting and challenging learning environment to support children's interests and learning.



A child with a trajectory schema may:

- · Always seem to be running around
- · Like throwing things
- · Like to play with running water
- · Like pushing things in a straight line
- · Like climbing and jumping off things

A child with a connecting schema may:

- Tie your chair legs (even your legs)
 together!;
- Love joining train carriages together or taking them apart
- · Enjoy all sorts of construction toys
- Once they are drawing, enjoy joining

dots or lines together

This child with an orientation schema may:

- Hang upside down from climbing
 - frames
- Look at the world from different directions by turning themselves upside down
- Turn objects and toys around and
 - look at them

A child with a containment schema may:

- Like putting things in bags and pots
- Enjoy shape sorting toys
- Climb into boxes
- Love filling up boxes and bags with
- sand or water

A child with a transporting schema may:

- Put sand in a bucket and move it to another area;
- Take things from one place to another
- in prams, trolleys and bags
- · Go back and forth bringing you things

This child with a positioning schema may:

- Stack unlikely objects
- Line up toys e.g. trains, cars, small
- world people
- Create layers of paint or collage
- Balance objects on the edge of
- tables or furniture
- Like working with small objects with

Our job is to identify the Schema and provide resources and experiences to extend the learning, following the child's interests.





So next time your toddler empties and scatters everything over and over again remember it's part of their development!

