

**Acorn Class**

Acorn class is a small class, separate from the main building, which supports childrens social, emotional and cognitive development. It provides opportunities to revisit missed early learning experiences and to enable children to engage with, and fully access, the Early Years Foundation Stage in Buterflies room.

Brambles Acorn class is one of the first Early Years Nurture groups outside of schools.The six principles of a Nurture group are:

* Learning is understood developmentally
* The classroom offers children a safe base
* It is important for the development of self-esteem
* Language is a vital means of communication
* Behaviour as communication
* The importance of transitions in pupils lives

Ruth and Carolyn have trained to run a nurture group and have completed a 5-day Emotional Literacy Support Assistant (ELSA) course this year. Both staff members provide Emotional literacy Support through 1:1 sessions with the children in the setting.

An ELSA is someone who helps children to learn and practice social and emotional skills, someone who helps children feel valued and listened to, someone who advocates for the child in the pre-school and someone who advocates emotional literacy within the pre-school.

**E**mpathises **L**istens **S**upports **A**dvises

Links for further information:

[www.nurtureuk.org](http://www.nurtureuk.org)

[www.elsanetwork.org](http://www.elsanetwork.org)