

### Who are Bannockburn Nursery?

Bannockburn Nursery is part of Bannockburn Primary School. All staff are committed to the education of the whole child. They have creative ways of engaging children in learning experiences that motivate and encourage learners to develop a life-long love of learning. They provide a broad and balanced curriculum which is underpinned by a strong sense of community and a commitment to nurture.



### How was the grant used?

- The grant money that was awarded enabled the Nursery to buy fencing therefore ensuring the children continued to have free-flow access to the outdoor learning area.



*Fence partition with fairy lights*

### What had to change due to Covid-19?

- Due to the COVID-19 pandemic the Nursery had to divide the children into smaller learning cohorts, to reduce the total number of peers they come into contact with.
- The indoor learning space was easily divided by the creative re-arrangement of furniture, creating a barrier that is unobtrusive and the children don't even realise is keeping them apart.
- However, the Nursery had no way to divide the outdoor space and were advised that the best way to ensure all children have some outdoor access is to rota the garden time. This was by no means ideal and would mean the children losing the free flow access that is so beneficial to their health and wellbeing, especially when outdoors is a far preferable and healthier environment during the pandemic.



## What difference has the grant made?

- All nursery children benefited from the free-flow access to the outdoor learning area.
- Many of the children do not have access to their own garden. The construction of the fence has meant free flow access for the children to their own dedicated outdoor area.
- Outdoor learning continued thereby, ensuring continued access to the unique experience that outdoor learning brings which is a major role in the Nursery's ambition to narrow the poverty related attainment gap.
- Having secure, divided outdoor access also allowed the Nursery to invite new families for a short garden visit, rather than the usual indoor nursery visit which could no longer go ahead due to Covid-19 restrictions.

'The NHS Forth Valley Health Promotion grant has allowed us to operate as close as possible to normal in these extraordinary times, thank you!'

*(Principal Early Childhood Educator)*

