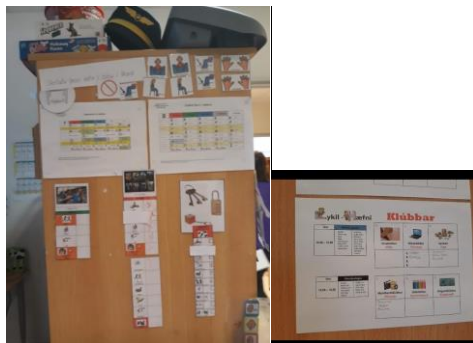


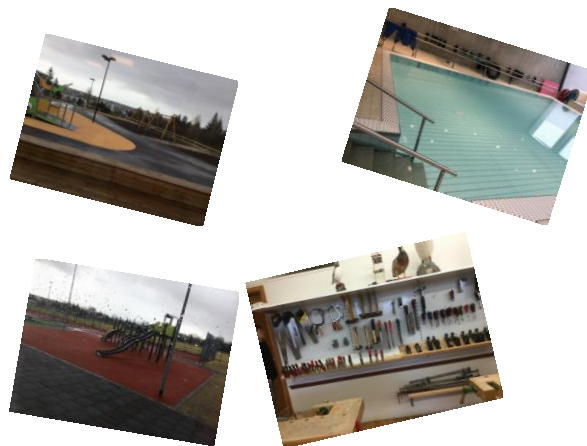
Iceland – what did we learn
and how will this impact our
practice?

Visual schedules were prominent in all
classrooms
to ease anxieties around ‘what is
coming next/ where will this take
place?’



Use of visual schedule for whole class
daily timetable already discussed with
head teachers, visual daily schedule in
use in small group provision – actively
referred to by children.

Huge emphasis put on the outdoors, physical
development, arts and crafts and children exploring
and risk taking.



Discussions with head teachers about increasing
opportunities for children to become more resilient
and problem solve for themselves and for us as
adults to step back a little to allow this.

Within our small group provision, we have made a
conscious effort to do this and the children have
surprised us with their abilities to problem solve
without adult intervention. We have also tried to
build in more opportunities for free play, whereby
we allowed the children to explore without adult
support or guidance; this was difficult for the
children (and us!) at first, but has improved their
abilities to play both more imaginatively and
collaboratively.

Great emphasis on children working at their own
level, pace and learning style. Pupils chose where
they wanted to sit; chair, table, floor, sofa and no
one seemed to be taking advantage of this – all
very calm, no apparent misbehaviour or even low
level behaviours.

Classrooms all very ‘free flow’ and minimalist, no
over stimulation.



Within our small group provision, children are
exploring how well they work in different seating
positions and spaces, all now have the choice as to
whether they wear their shoes or not – most do
not and this does seem to aid a greater air of
calmness.

All staff we encountered did genuinely present with
an air of relaxed calmness; they were extremely
welcoming and very proud of their schools. The
pressures and anxieties faced by teachers in the UK
are very different, but it did make us think about the
impact of teacher’s well being on the children. NPAT
are already very mindful of this but it was something
that we have definitely taken away with us.