

## The Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum

## Intent

Our Early Years Curriculum aims to lay a secure foundation for future learning. We engage children in learning from the very start and expect our children to leave us as happy, confident and skilful communicators who are curious about the world around them. By ensuring a high level of wellbeing this in turn leads to high levels of child development and the ability to create and think critically. We aim to provide our children with knowledge, skills and experiences in a hands on, holistic way so that all learning is embedded in a meaningful context. We do this through a personalised, flexible curriculum that engages and motivates our children. It covers all the 7 areas of learning and supports the children's learning characteristics.

## Implementation

Our curriculum is a carefully planned learning experience. During their Reception Year our children follow the Early Years Foundation Stage. Many of our children will have already begun their journey through the foundation stage. We find out about and recognise their previous learning and the experiences they've had at home and in nursery/preschool settings. Information is shared to ensure that new learning builds upon and strengthens their previous understanding.

We involve parents by regularly inviting them into school to share the learning journey books and we keep parents updated in the progress of the child in the form of parent consultations and a full report at the end of the academic year.

We use Cornerstones to help to plan our topics and create variation and diversity. Our small class sizes allow us to provide a personalised learning experience. Our daily routines support children to settle in quickly. Our ongoing assessment allows us to respond quickly to the children's learning by enhancing ideas and modelling vocabulary that is relevant to the children. Our environment is set up to develop appropriate skills. Our resources are considered carefully and are used to provide challenge, curiosity and to match the children's interests. All children access a broad, balanced, well-resourced curriculum, which offers opportunities for enjoyment and success through active learning. Planned activities aim to foster good social relationships, promote equal opportunities and support special educational needs. Children learn to co-operate and listen to others. They do this in pairs, small groups

and whole class groups. We use short teacher inputs and access to a cross curricular indoor/outdoor provision. Staff plan for and ensure that both the inside and outside spaces are fun, safe, engaging and offer challenge.

## Impact

Children's progress is monitored closely from the moment they start, and their journey is tracked throughout the year allowing appropriate support and challenge to be put in place. Due to this our percentage of children reaching GLD is better than National data. In individual cases where children do not reach the required standard their transition into Year 1 is monitored closely to ensure they receive the support to help them progress. By the end of reception we have children who have a sense of belonging, have a positive disposition to learning and are ready to move through the school.

Through our curriculum our children learn about risks and safety, how to make good choices and gain an understanding of boundaries. They develop into independent, resilient, confident and successful learners.

To conclude, our curriculum provides the building blocks for every area of learning and our children flourish and go on to be the best they can be.