



Reception Curriculum Overview

2021 – 22

In Reception we teach projects relating to the EYFS (Early Years Foundation Stage) documentation and work towards the 'Early Learning Goals'.

There are seven areas of learning and development that shape teaching in early years settings. All areas of learning and development are important and inter-connected. We implement this through planned, purposeful play and through a mix of adult-led and child-initiated activity. Play is essential for children's development, building their confidence as they learn to explore, to think about problems and relate to others. Children learn by leading their own play, and by taking part in play which is guided by adults. Our learning is organised into two main areas which are explained below.

Prime Areas

- **Personal, Social and Emotional Development** is crucial for children to lead healthy and happy lives. It involves helping children to: develop a positive sense of themselves, and others; to form positive relationships and develop respect for others; to develop social skills and learn how to manage their feelings; to understand appropriate behaviour in groups; and to have confidence in their own abilities.

Communication and Language development involves giving children opportunities to experience a rich language environment; to develop their confidence and skills in expressing themselves; and to speak and listen in a range of situations. The development of children's spoken language underpins all seven areas of learning and back and forth interactions are of crucial importance in building children's language effectively.

- **Physical Development** involves providing opportunities for young children to be active and interactive; and to develop their co-ordination, control, and movement to enable them to lead happy, healthy and active lives. Children must also be helped to understand how to make healthy choices in relation to food. Gross motor skills provide the foundation for developing healthy bodies and social and emotional well-being. Fine motor control and precision helps with hand-eye co-ordination which is linked to early literacy.

Specific Areas

- **Literacy** development involves encouraging children to link sounds and letters and to begin to read and write. Children must be given access to a wide range of reading materials (books, poems, and other written materials) to ignite their interest. We aim to foster a life-long love of reading through phonics lessons, literacy lessons and the wide range of play provision available.
- **Maths** involves providing children with opportunities to develop and improve their skills in counting confidently giving them a deep understanding of numbers to ten, and the relationships and patterns between them. We aim to develop a secure base of knowledge and vocabulary from which mastery of mathematics is built. We will provide rich opportunities for children to develop their special reasoning skills across all areas of mathematics including shape, space, and measures.
- **Understanding the World** involves guiding children to make sense of their physical world and their community through opportunities to explore, observe and find out about people, places, technology and the environment. In addition, listening to a broad selection of stories will foster their understanding of our culturally, socially, technologically and ecologically diverse world.
- **Expressive Arts and Design** involves enabling children to explore and play with a wide range of media and materials, as well as providing opportunities and encouragement for sharing their thoughts, ideas and feelings through a variety of activities in art, music, movement, dance, role-play, and design and technology.

In Reception we believe the best way for children to grow is through exploring and developing their own learning. Each half term we have a general overarching theme which we then enhance and adapt in line with the children's individual interests.