



EYFS



INTENT

Our aim for our EYFS is to provide cohesive, quality education for our youngest children in an environment which is both safe and stimulating and in which children are gently prepared for their future school life.

We aim to follow children's interests through a play based curriculum, where children are encouraged to develop at their own rate, with support from experienced early years staff.

As professionals we provoke, scaffold and underpin children's thinking and learning beginning with accurate assessment of where children are before building on this with well planned opportunities for children to grow and develop in line with the EYFS Development Matters.

Our curriculum reflects the needs of our children and our school community and includes carefully chosen initiatives which give additional focus where our children need it most.

Our vision is ambitious – to redress the inequalities which children bring with them to Foundation Stage and give all children the chance to fulfil their potential.

IMPLEMENTATION

We follow the EYFS Statutory Framework and the DfE Development Matters, which specifies the learning and development requirements for the EYFS. Children acquire new knowledge and skills in the seven areas of learning which are:

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Communication and Language

Physical Development

Literacy

Mathematics

Understanding the World

Expressive Arts and design

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Children's interests drive their learning and the staff use their thorough knowledge of each child to plan their next steps.

Provocations are used to stimulate children's thinking in areas of need or interest and differentiated interactions and resources provide both support and challenge as appropriate.

All FS children experience strong routines and high expectations of behaviour.

Phonics and Number sessions begin in F1 and are built on rapidly in F2. Our curriculum is tailored to our own children and includes Pond and Beyond, Helicopter Stories and Philosophy to address weaker areas identified on entry.

There is a strong emphasis on the Characteristics of Effective Learning where we promote problem solving, perseverance and creative thinking through both our indoor and outdoor provision.

Observations of children's learning take place everyday and are recorded using Tapestry. Parents have access to this online and can also make contributions of children's learning at home.

Individual children's needs are assessed and responded to on a daily basis through professional discussion between staff and termly summative assessments provide an indication of more collective gaps and strengths in children's learning as a result of which provision is adapted accordingly.

The provision grows with the children to provide increasing challenge as children become able to use these skills to support them in their independent learning.

IMPACT

The Impact of our EYFS is evident in the achievements and progress of our children. Having entered Nursery below expectations, our children make rapid progress with 80% reaching GLD at the end of Foundation Stage. They move to Year 1 as confident learners, with improved skills in all areas. The very large majority are competent Readers, Writers and Mathematicians, showing the impact of our tailored curriculum. Our Outdoor Learning focus (Pond and beyond) also results in improved Speaking skills and 80% of children achieve the ELG for The World.

Children's development in the Characteristics of Effective Learning is evident in their ability to generate ideas, problem solve, persevere and reason and show independence in their daily lives and in their learning from a starting point where few of these qualities are in place.