

EARLY YEARS FOUNDATION STAGE

INTENT

Our **intent** for EYFS is to inspire, engage and enthuse our children to be active learners every day, not just in EYFS but throughout their whole school journey. Children's curiosity and enthusiasm for learning is ignited through exciting, open-ended provision areas both inside and outdoors, alongside nurturing and high quality adult interactions, which ensure that children develop the skills needed to learn, form positive relationships and thrive.

Our learning is well-sequenced to ensure that all children have the knowledge and experience necessary to help them succeed, no matter which stage of their learning they are at. Our EYFS establishes firm foundations on which to build future academic, enterprising, social and emotional successes focusing particularly on wellbeing and attitudes to learning.

Child centred learning is at the heart of our approach and we develop a curriculum for EYFS that ensures children develop their vocabulary and language, alongside deep acquisition of knowledge through play-based learning and excellent modelling from all adults. Our environments and provision are strongly immersed in stories and literature to facilitate imagination and wonder.

Ensuring thoughtfully planned, smooth and nurturing transitions for all children, whether they are coming into Nursery, going from Nursery to Reception or Reception to Year 1 is a key part of our intent for Early Years.

IMPLEMENTATION

Our approach is **implemented** through following the children's interests on a daily basis through our play-based curriculum. The balance of child-led learning and adult-guided learning/direct teaching changes as children get older in our EYFS. Our older children have more adult-guided learning and direct teaching.

We facilitate a highly stimulating indoor and outdoor environment, which encompasses open ended, natural, authentic and loose parts play provision. Children have access to the outdoors throughout playing and learning time so that they can learn in an environment that compliments their learning style and allows them to make excellent progress. Pond and Beyond is a key part of our curriculum for EYFS children here at Tadcaster, encouraging children to appreciate the world around them.

Our highly effective practitioners work with the children in the environment to facilitate opportunities for them to explore, investigate and articulate their learning. Their excellent knowledge of the Early Years Curriculum and nurturing interactions allows them to support children's progress in the environment during play, motivating each child to have ownership of their learning. We empower our early learners to see their play as meaningful and valued, developing their confidence to lead their own play.

All adults in EYFS are trained to a high standard to ensure they are skilled to further a child's learning through questioning. They have a good knowledge of each child's next steps so can extend their learning whilst 'at play', ensuring that Every Child Achieves.

Our unique approach also values the importance of acquisition of key skills, facilitated through short, fun and interactive daily Phonics and Maths inputs. Our exciting environment is then enhanced to support the application of key learning, so that children are constantly remembering and embedding what they have learned (learn more, remember more, do more). In addition, high quality stories and literature are in every area of provision to encourage children to use their phonic knowledge, develop descriptive, exciting vocabulary and a love of reading.

Our curriculum for EYFS is underpinned by excellent relationships with children, but also with our parents. We ensure that children have the best possible opportunities to achieve by communicating openly and effectively with parents on a regular basis, through newsletters, Tapestry, termly reports and verbal communication.

IMPACT

The **impact** of our Early Years approach is that when children leave Reception, they are:

- Happy, resilient, capable, confident and self-assured individuals
- Strong, inquisitive and independent learners who thrive in all areas of learning and development
- Capable of developing and sustaining positive relationships within their school community and beyond.
- The majority of our children, with the exception of children with significant SEND, achieve a Good Level of Development