

Early Years

Our Nursery and Reception classes follow the Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage. Our aim is to provide the children with a play based curriculum that is tailored for each child's individual needs. We offer a welcoming, safe and secure environment where children's excitement and love of learning can be sparked and developed. We offer a broad, balanced, relevant and differentiated curriculum which offers continuity and progression through our indoor and outdoor classrooms. We plan through children's interests as we firmly believe if they are interested and motivated they will learn. There is a wide variety of activities on offer both adult led, child led and adult supported. We have a strong family ethos and each child has a designated 'family worker' who they have developed a strong bond with and who can support both the child and their family in their learning. We ensure that we work in conjunction with parents/ carers and have strong communication systems in place to ensure that we share as much information as possible. We work closely as a Foundation Stage Team to ensure that key information and transition from both Nursery to Reception and Reception to Year One is smooth. We also offer a Start Right Group that pre-school children and their parents/carers can attend, this is another opportunity for us to get to know you and your child. Our main priorities are to ensure that our children are secure, safe, happy and learning!

Reading

Reading starts in the Early Years and is facilitated through the Read Write Inc Phonics programme; children are taught sounds and then taught how to blend these sounds for reading. Children are introduced to red words; words that can not be sounded out. Children take home a phoneme book to practise recognising sounds and then high frequency words and when they are ready a reading book that is suited to their ability.

Writing

In the Early Years, any mark that a child makes is considered important as these are the early stages of writing. Children will start ascribing meaning to their marks and as they take part in daily phonics sessions their writing will develop into being able to write some simple CVC words and then onto writing sentences.

Mathematics

The children in Nursery and Reception are immersed in maths, it is in the environment and opportunities are planned to develop mathematical skills. Children in Reception take part in a daily maths carpet sessions.

Science

In the Early Years children look at all aspects of science and particularly enjoy finding out about their environment and the people around them; whether it be learning about what plants need to grow in our outdoor area to why our heart beats faster after a PE session.

Art

Children in the Early Years are encouraged to explore different medias and materials and be imaginative this can be through 2D and 3D work.

Computing

In the Early Years children are encouraged to interact with a variety of different technologies including iPads, computers and programmable toys such as Beebots. Children also have access to the computer room where they can access a variety of programmes and practise their mouse skills.

Design and Technology

Children in the Early Years are encouraged to be creative and make a variety of models for different purposes. Children are encouraged to think of the design process and are shown how to plan.

Geography

In the Early Years we look at our school and local environment. We have a topic of Holidays and Journeys that allows us to look at different places and journeys dependent on the children's interests. We look to develop geographical skills such as caring for our environment and map work.

History

In the Early Years we start with looking at the history of our own families such as what we used to do when we were little. We use key events throughout the year such as bonfire night and Remembrance Day to focus on historical events and use these to look at significant figures.

Music

Children have access to a variety of different musical instruments that allows them to explore with pitch and sound. Children participate in singing lessons and regular music sessions where children are encouraged to sing as part of a group or individually. They are also introduced to rhythms and rhythm planners so children can record their own rhythms.

PE

In the Early Years children focus on improving skills of coordination both gross and fine motor skills, control, manipulation and movement this is through structured PE lessons and through the continuous provision. Children also learn about the positive benefits of being healthy and active and the effects of physical exercise on the body.

RE

Children in the Early Years are taught to have a developing respect for their own cultures and the belief of others. They learn to understand that people have different needs, views, cultures and beliefs that need to be treated with respect and understand that they can expect others to give them the same respect.