

## THE EARLY YEARS FOUNDATION STAGE CURRICULUM

We follow the Early Years Foundations Stage Statutory Framework; setting learning, development and care for children from birth to 5

years. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/early-years-foundation-stage-framework--2>



### [Early years foundation stage statutory framework \(EYFS\) - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/early-years-foundation-stage-framework--2)

The standards that school and childcare providers must meet for the learning, development and care of children from birth to 5.

[www.gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk)

It has a framework of 4 main principles;

- **'A Unique Child'** - this outlines child development and inclusive practice as well as keeping safe and well.
- **'Positive Relationships'** - this concerns staff and parents working together and good bonds between staff and children.
- **'Enabling Environments'** - this explains how the room is prepared and the greater outdoor environment is utilised.
- **'Learning and Development'** - is the fourth principle and concerns providing a range of activities and experiences to promote independent learning across the seven developmental areas of learning as set out in the guidance.

The EYFS has three prime areas and four specific areas of learning which we concentrate on developing. The three prime areas are fundamental and support development in all other areas.

#### The prime areas are:

- **Personal, Social and Emotional Development** - developing social skills, building self-esteem and confidence, promoting self-care, good behaviour and independence.
- **Communication and Language** - developing communication skills such as listening and speaking.
- **Physical Development** - movement, a sense of space, health and bodily awareness, using equipment, tools and materials.

#### The specific areas (through which the three prime areas are strengthened and applied) are:

- **Literacy** - encouraging children to link sounds and letters and to begin to read and write.
- **Mathematics** - providing children with opportunities to develop and improve their skills in counting, understanding and using numbers, simple addition and subtraction problems; and to describe shapes, spaces, 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.

- **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.

Each area of learning and development is implemented through planned, purposeful play and through a mix of adult-led and child-initiated activity. Play is essential for children's learning and development, building their confidence as they learn to explore, to think about problems, and relate to others. We respond to each child's needs and interests, guiding their development through warm, positive interaction.

<https://www.foundationyears.org.uk/files/2012/03/Development-Matters-FINAL-PRINT-AMENDED.pdf>