

The Nursery Curriculum

Organisation of the Curriculum

Planning

The Early Years Foundation Stage Profile is used to plan from alongside the Development Matters document. All areas of learning are included in the planning process:

- Personal, Social and Emotional Development
- Communication and Language
- Physical development
- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the World
- Expressive Arts and Design

The Nursery follows a topic based approach to ensure continuity, progression and coverage of the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile from Nursery and into Reception. The topics that are covered in Nursery are different to those in Reception. The topics have been chosen so they are interesting and exciting and appeal to both boys and girls. We also spend time looking at festivals and celebrations as they happen throughout the year such as Halloween, Bonfire Night, Christmas, Valentine's day, Pancake day and Easter. The Nursery topics are:

- All About Me
- Stories
- Dinosaurs
- Superheroes
- People Who Help Us
- Minibeasts.

Prime areas of learning

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

We aim to ensure each child develops a positive self-concept, to appreciate and respond to others and have self-discipline. We must foster within our children attitudes, values and beliefs ensuring they will become responsible, caring individuals within our multi-cultural society.

We try to ensure each child develops self-confidence, independence, cooperation, sense of achievement, self-awareness, self-discipline and the ability to share and mix. They need to be able to appreciate another person's point of view and adapt a sense of value. They also need to develop skills to manage their own behaviour and adapt their behaviour to a range of different situations.

Communication and Language

We aim to enable our children to communicate clearly their needs, feelings, thoughts and experiences. They need to develop listening and attention skills to enable them to participate as speakers and listeners in a range of situations.

Physical Development

We aim to enable each child to use his/her body effectively and confidently. We strive to develop gross and fine motor skills and encourage children to use these skills both practically and creatively. We promote a positive attitude to a healthy way of life. An emphasis is put on children meeting their own needs and becoming independent and self-reliant. This includes managing their own personal hygiene including using the toilet appropriately and developing independent skills of dressing / undressing and feeding themselves.

Specific Areas of learning

Literacy

We aim to develop readers and writers providing the foundations for future learning in our Nursery. We ensure each child develops in expressive and receptive language and is able to enjoy books and record appropriately. We begin with Phase 1 phonic activities in the Autumn term to develop listening and attention skills before introducing Phase 2 letter sounds in the Spring and Summer terms. We encourage mark making activities through adult led and continuous provision and aim to develop name recognition and name writing skills where appropriate.

Mathematical Development

We hope to enrich the children's opportunities for exploration and investigation of mathematical concepts. We ensure development for each child in colours, shapes, sorting, setting, matching and patterns. We aim to develop their counting skills, number recognition and the use comparative language. We provide opportunities for predicting, estimating, measuring, problem solving, and developing an awareness of time. These are recorded if appropriate.

Understanding of the World

Children develop knowledge and understanding of people and communities, the world and technology. We explore different festivals and cultures and encourage the children to develop a curiosity in their surroundings. The children need to develop skills of exploration, investigation, observation, description, prediction, problem solving and recording. We provide opportunity to develop skills with a range of technology including computers, iPads, Beebots and cameras.

Expressive Arts and Design

Children develop skills by exploring and using different media and materials including music, movement and arts and crafts. They also develop their imagination through role play activities and using construction materials.