

## **EYFS Curriculum**

### **The 7 Areas of Learning and Development**

#### **Prime Areas:**

##### **Communication and Language**

Early language is placed at the heart of our broad and holistic curriculum since the development of children's spoken language underpins all seven areas of learning and development. Regular, high-quality, back and forth interactions between adults and peers enables effective cognitive development. Our half-termly, creative topics immerse children in a language-rich environment both indoors and outdoors to enable the rapid acquisition of a wide and varied vocabulary. Children's language will be built effectively through commenting on what they are interested in or doing, and echoing back what they say with new vocabulary added. Through our topics, children will have frequent opportunities to read and to be read to. By engaging them actively in stories, non-fiction, rhymes and poems, and then providing them with extensive opportunities to use and embed new words in a range of contexts, children will thrive. Conversation, story-telling and role play form a crucial part of our curriculum. Through these activities children will share their ideas and questioning will invite them to elaborate.

##### **Personal, Social and Emotional Development (PSED)**

Children's personal, social and emotional development (PSED) is crucial for children to lead healthy and happy lives, and is fundamental to their cognitive development. As a school we have adopted the Jigsaw program. This is a mindful approach to PSED and PSHE which brings together Personal, Social, Health Education, emotional literacy, social skills and spiritual development in a comprehensive scheme of learning. This programme, alongside other learning opportunities, supports children to manage their emotions, develop a positive sense of self, set themselves simple goals, have confidence in their own abilities, to persist and wait for what they want and direct attention as necessary. As well as this, they will learn how to look after their bodies, including healthy eating, and manage personal needs independently. Adults will support the children so they learn how to make good friendships, co-operate and resolve conflicts peaceably. These attributes will provide a secure platform from which children can achieve at school and in later life.

##### **Physical Development**

Through weekly PE lessons and Forest School sessions, children are exposed to physical activities which are vital in their all-round development by enabling them to pursue happy, healthy and active lives. As well as our weekly PE lessons and Forest School sessions, our curriculum encompasses games and opportunities for play both indoors and outdoors whereby adults support children to develop their core strength, stability, balance, spatial awareness, co-ordination and agility. These gross motor skills provide the foundation for developing healthy bodies and social and emotional well-being. The children's fine motor control and precision which helps with hand-eye co-ordination, is also developed thoroughly through repeated and varied opportunities to explore and play with small world activities, puzzles, arts and crafts and the practice of using small tools. By providing these opportunities alongside feedback and support from adults, the children develop proficiency, control and confidence.

#### **Specific Areas:**

##### **Literacy**

Our curriculum promotes a life-long love of reading. Our creative topics encompass a range of genres and key texts which are chosen to spark children's passion for reading. Our Literacy curriculum, alongside our Read, Write, Inc Phonics programme, ensures that the two dimensions of reading - language comprehension and word reading- are comprehensively covered.

To develop language comprehension (necessary for both reading and writing) language is placed at the centre of our curriculum. Engaging topics allow for adults to talk with the children about the world around them. Considerable time is dedicated to sharing and enjoying books (stories and non-fiction), rhymes, poems and songs together. Our Read, Write, Inc Phonics programme ensures children become skilled in word reading. The programme involves teaching the children both the speedy working out of the pronunciation of unfamiliar printed words (decoding) and the speedy recognition of familiar printed words. As well as this, the programme

develops children's transcription (spelling and handwriting). The progression of the children's transcription is developed in the wider curriculum alongside the composition (articulating ideas and structuring them in speech, before writing) by providing the children with engaging stimuli's and first hand experiences.

### **Mathematics**

Our Maths curriculum is widely based on the White Rose Maths Curriculum for it develops strong grounding in number which is essential so that all children develop the necessary building blocks to excel mathematically. Our Maths curriculum is taught discretely and empowers children to count confidently, develop a deep understanding of the numbers to 10, the relationships between them and the patterns within those numbers. In addition, our curriculum includes rich opportunities for children to develop their spatial reasoning skills across all areas of mathematics including shape, space and measures. Children are provided with frequent and varied opportunities to build and apply their understanding through the wider curriculum. Within the learning environment meaningful role play areas and a home corners are established and children have access to manipulatives, including Numicon, counters, and tens frames for organising counting. Children will develop a secure base of knowledge and vocabulary from which mastery of mathematics is built. Our maths curriculum instils a positive attitude and interest in mathematics.

### **Understanding the World**

Our topic themes have been chosen to allow opportunities to guide the children to make sense of their physical world and their community. Experiences and 'Wow moments' are abundant to increase the children's knowledge and sense of the world around them – from visiting parks, libraries and museums to meeting important members of society such as police officers, nurses and firefighters. Every topic has carefully chosen texts which are aim to foster their understanding of our culturally, socially, technologically and ecologically diverse world.

### **Expressive Arts and Design**

Throughout our curriculum children will encounter and revisit key materials, such as drawing media, paper, paint, cardboard and clay in order to continue to develop expertise as tools for expression and communication. As well as this, within their learning environment, children will have access to a wide range of media, materials and props enabling them to explore and play creatively. We endeavour to provide quality visual, audible and kinaesthetic opportunities in order for the children to develop their understanding, self-expression, vocabulary and ability to communicate through the arts. Partaking in the wider curriculum opportunities such as the in Christmas production and whole school summer production is also fundamental to their development.

All of these key areas of learning are embedded through our creative curriculum topics. Our curriculum planning is underpinned by the following documents:

[Development Matters - non-statutory curriculum guidance for EYFS \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/262292/Development_Matters_-_non-statutory_curriculum_guidance_for_EYFS.pdf)

[Birth To 5 Matters – Guidance by the sector, for the sector](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/262292/Birth_To_5_Matters_-_Guidance_by_the_sector_for_the_sector.pdf)

[Statutory framework for the early years foundation stage \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/262292/Statutory_framework_for_the_early_years_foundation_stage.pdf)