

Greenfield Nursery School



Early Years Foundation Policy

The Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) is the guidance and statutory requirements from the Government for children.

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)

Greenfield Nursery School welcomes all children and we are proud of our inclusive provision. Parents and carers are encouraged to inform the school of any individual needs as soon as possible and they are welcome to visit the school to see our facilities and discuss their child's needs with the Headteacher who is also the Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCO).

The Early Years Foundation Stage

The statutory framework for children aged between 0 and 5 years. It provides the framework for planning for the needs of our children at Greenfield Nursery School.

The Early Years Curriculum is organised into 7 areas of learning.

Each area of learning has a set of developmental stages and early learning outcomes which describe what each child is expected to be learning at each stage. Staff plan the curriculum to ensure the children make good progress towards the Early Learning Goals which children are expected to reach by the end of Reception. We expect all children to make the best possible progress by supporting all children to reach the expected outcomes for nursery by the time they leave.

There are 7 areas of learning:

3 Prime areas of learning

Communication and Language Development

Physical Development

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

4 Specific areas of learning

Literacy

Mathematics

Understanding the World

Expressive Arts and Design

How young children learn

Young children learn by leading their own play, exploring, testing ideas, repeating activities and challenging themselves. Children develop and learn in different ways and at different rates. Children will experience a range of activities both indoors and outdoors, whatever the weather to develop skills, knowledge and independence. Strong routines support children's learning. Children will bring home regular information about what they are learning and there will be challenges to do together at home.

A brief explanation of each area is set out below. The Characteristics of effective teaching and learning are in all areas of learning with a strong emphasis on active learning, play and exploration, and creating and thinking critically.

More information for parents about the EYFS can be found at: <http://www.foundationyears.org.uk/>

The Prime Areas of Learning

Personal, Social and Emotional Development (PSED)

- **Making relationships:** Greenfield Early Years Centre provides a happy, safe and secure environment where children feel valued and respected. Children form positive relationships and learn to work and play together cooperatively.
- **Self-confidence and self-awareness:** Greenfield Early Years Centre encourages independent children who are excited about learning. They are encouraged to express their ideas, speak in a group and make choices.
- **Managing feelings and behaviour:** Children learn about their feelings and that of others. Staff support children to manage their emotions appropriately. We model and expect children to have appropriate behaviour and promote turn taking.

Physical Development

- **Moving and Handling:** improving skills of coordination, control, manipulation and movement in large and small movements e.g. running, jumping, climbing and using pencils and scissors.
- **Health and self-care:** The outdoor environment is used every day with a wide range of activities available. Children learn about the importance of good health, physical exercise and healthy diet, with healthy snack available daily. With encouragement children learn to manage their own hygiene and personal needs, e.g. hand washing and toileting routines.

Communication and Language

- **Listening and Attention:** Children learn to listen to each other and adults individually and within small and large groups. Stories and rhymes are shared every day promoting listening skills and developing language.
- **Understanding:** Children develop their understanding of language through play and exploration. When they respond to questions, they are exploring, predicting, explaining and describing. Following adults instructions extends their learning further.
- **Speaking:** Children access a wide range of opportunities to talk about real experiences and new activities which promote language further.

The Specific Areas of Learning

Mathematics

In the EYFS children's mathematical understanding develops through active learning, play and exploration. They will use indoor and outdoor environments, stories, songs, cooking and games.

- Number: Children will learn to count reliably, order numbers, calculate, problem solve and use mathematical language
- Shape, space and measure: Children will learn about weight, capacity, position, distance, time and money. They will explore, recognise, create and describe patterns and shapes.

Literacy

For both reading and writing children will develop their phonic knowledge which will support them to decode, read and write words. Phonics sessions will take place through a range of learning experiences e.g. listening activities, songs, rhymes and playing with language throughout the EYFS.

- Reading: Children will learn the skills they need to be a reader and to love books. They will be given the opportunity to borrow both library and core reading books to be shared at home. They will become familiar with print and talk about their favourite books and characters.
- Writing: Children are encouraged to develop an interest in mark making through a range of different mediums. As they mature they will start to make letter shapes that are in their names and from other words of interest to them. They will write what is meaningful to them and will be able to read it back to others.

Understanding the World

People and Communities, The World & Technology

In a rich active learning environment children are challenged to learn about themselves and others and the world in which they live.

Expressive Arts and Design

A wide range of media and materials support children to explore; children will sing, make music and dance. A wide range of tools, techniques & creative materials will be available daily for children to create safely.

Being Imaginative; children will be encouraged and supported to express themselves imaginatively through all media.