

St. Peter's Community Primary School

Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum



When starting school, your child will be continuing the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). The EYFS begins when your child is born and continues through until he or she is five. At school your child will be offered a range of learning experiences which will allow them to explore, investigate, build upon, question, talk about, observe, reflect and respond to. Quite a challenge! Through well-planned play and a stimulating environment, we aim to ensure your child learns with enjoyment and challenge during the EYFS.



The Four Core Principles that underpin work carried out in Nursery/Reception

Through the various areas of the curriculum, we address the four core principles of the Early Years Foundation Stage:

A Unique Child

At St. Peter's, we believe that every child is a competent learner who can be resilient, capable, confident and self-assured. The work carried out by our staff ensures that the unique child is catered for in a safe, inclusive environment that addresses the children's health and wellbeing.

Positive Relationships

At St. Peter's, children learn to be strong and independent from a base of loving and secure relationships with members of staff. Positive relationships are developed through an understanding of feelings, friendships and communication. Children's learning is supported through positive interactions, listening to the children and effective teaching.



Enabling Environments

The environment plays a key role in supporting and extending children's development and learning. Through observations, assessment and planning, appropriate learning opportunities that start with the child can be found within the Foundation Stage. The staff and other professionals support individual children's needs on their learning journey. Both the indoor and outdoor environment is used to stimulate and engage the pupils in their learning.



Learning and Development

Children develop and learn in different ways and at different rates. All areas of learning and development are equally important and inter-connected. We believe in first-hand experience and learning through play. The adults facilitate the children's learning, encouraging them to



develop their ability to make decisions and to transform understanding/skills. We ensure that the children are able to access all 6 areas of learning and development.

EYFS Curriculum

From September 2012 the new Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum is split into three **prime areas of learning**:

- personal, social and emotional development
- communication and language
- physical development

and **four specific areas of learning**:

- literacy
- mathematics
- expressive arts and design
- understanding the world.



and is taught through a wide range of activities, both indoors and outside.

The children's progress is monitored by careful observations which are then used to plan their next steps. During the first few weeks the emphasis is on settling in and assessing what your child can already do.

The curriculum for the EYFS underpins all future learning by supporting, nurturing, promoting and developing children's:

Personal, social and emotional well-being:

Providing opportunities for each child to become a valued member of their class and the school with a positive self image and high self esteem;

Attitudes towards their learning:

Developing enthusiasm for learning and confidence in their ability to be successful learners;

Social skills:

Providing opportunities that enable the children to learn how to co-operate and work harmoniously alongside and with each other and to listen to each other;



Attention skills and persistence:

Helping the children to concentrate on their own play or on a group task;

Language and communication:

Providing opportunities for all children to talk and communicate in a widening range of situations, to respond to adults and each other, to practise and extend the range of vocabulary and communication skills they use and to listen carefully.



Reading and writing:

Providing opportunities for all children to explore, enjoy, learn about and use words in a broad range of contexts and to experience a rich variety of books;



Problem solving, reasoning and Numeracy (Mathematics):

With opportunities for all children to develop their understanding of number, measurement, pattern, shape and space in a broad range of contexts in which they can explore, enjoy, learn, practise and talk;

Knowledge and understanding of the world:

With opportunities for all children to solve problems, make decisions, experiment, predict, plan and question in a variety of contexts, and to explore and find out about their environment and people and places that have significance in their lives;

Physical development:

With opportunities for all children to develop and practise their fine and gross motor skills, and to increase their understanding of how their bodies work and what they need to do to be healthy and safe;



Creative development:

With opportunities for all children to explore and share their thoughts, ideas and feelings through a variety of art, design and technology, music, movement, dance and imaginative and role play activities.

Based on these principles, the EYFS at St Peter's aims to:

- Provide a safe and stimulating environment in which children feel happy and secure.
- Encourage the emotional, social, physical, creative and intellectual development of children.
- Promote the welfare of children.
- Encourage positive attitudes to self and others, and develop confidence and self esteem.
- Create opportunities for play.
- Provide opportunities to stimulate interest and imagination.
- Extend children's abilities to communicate ideas and feelings in a variety of ways.

