



Early Years Curriculum

Children develop quickly in the early years, and at Lambton Primary School, we aim to do all we can to help children have the best possible start. We understand that each child is unique, and we ensure that we support each child's individual development pathway.

In our foundation stage, children learn through a fun, practical play-based approach. The children are encouraged to become independent learners and discover things through their own child-initiated play. Practitioners also support and extend the children's learning through focused and teacher-led activities.

Our curriculum is based and planned around the seven areas of learning and development.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Personal, social and emotional development is recognised as one of the building blocks of success in life. It supports children's development by helping them to interact effectively and develop positive attitudes to themselves and others.

Communication and Language

Communication in the early years is broken down into three aspects: listening and attention, understanding, and speaking. At Lambton Primary School, the children are given many opportunities to help these skills develop effectively.

Physical Development

Physical development is about how young children gain control of their bodies. It also includes how children learn about keeping themselves active and healthy and how they learn to use equipment and materials successfully and safely.

Literacy

Literacy in the EYFS consists of two main aspects:

Reading is a complex process which takes time; it is based on building a wide vocabulary through listening and talking. The more words a child understands, the better they will be able to make sense of what they read. Vocabulary development comes from having lots of experiences, which extend the child's spoken language and their understanding of what is being said to them.

Writing involves many skills, including physical, cognitive and linguistic skills. It begins with talking, listening and mark-making and develops over time as children acquire an understanding that spoken words can be represented with signs and symbols.

Mathematics

Mathematics is all about understanding and using shape, space, measures and numbers to solve everyday problems. Children will be provided with the opportunity to explore these skills through real life situations and practical concepts.

Children will be provided with the opportunity to experience and explore in practical contexts, so that they can develop these skills effectively.

Understanding the World

Understanding of the world concerns how children learn about other people, the place where they live and about all aspects of the environment. We encourage our children from a very young age to explore and investigate how and why things work and to test out their ideas of what will happen.

Expressive Arts and Design

Expressive arts and design is broken down in to two aspects:

Being imaginative: This is about children's explorations into the world of pretence, building on their experiences of the real world and transforming them into something new – whether through role play, music, pretend play, block play or small world play or a range of other areas.

Exploring and using media and materials

This concerns how children experiment with media and materials, finding out about their properties and modifying and manipulating them. It includes exploring sounds, patterns, movement and experimenting with different tools and techniques.