

Nursery Learning and Development

Dear Parents and Carers

Your child is now entering the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). The EYFS is made up of seven areas of Learning and Development. All areas are connected and are important.

Three areas are particularly crucial for igniting children's curiosity and enthusiasm for learning and building their capacity to learn from relationships and thrive.

Communication and language - development gives children opportunities to experience a rich language environment; to develop their confidence and skills in expressing themselves; and to speak and listen in a range of situations.

Physical development - provides opportunities for young children to be active and interactive; and to develop their co-ordination, control, and movement. Children must also be helped to understand the importance of exercise, and to make healthy food choices.

Personal, social and emotional development - helping children to develop a positive sense of themselves, and others; to form positive relationships and develop respect for others; to develop social skills and learn how to manage their feelings; to understand appropriate behaviour in groups; and to have confidence in the own abilities.

The other four areas, the *specific* areas, through which the three prime areas are strengthened and applied:

Literacy – encouraging children to link sounds and letters and to begin to read and write. Children must be given access to a wide range of reading materials to ignite their interest.

Mathematics – providing children with opportunities to develop and improve their skills in counting, understanding and using numbers, calculating simple addition and subtraction problems; and to describe shape, space and measures.

Understanding the world – guiding children to make sense of their physical world and their community through opportunities to explore, observe and find out about people, places, technology and the environment.

Expressive arts and design – enabling children to explore and play with a wide range of media and materials, as well as providing opportunities and encouragement for sharing their thoughts, ideas and feelings through a variety of activities in art, music, movement, dance, role-play and design and technology.

Throughout the EYFS, as part of the learning and teaching process, we need to assess each child's development with the evidence and photos which will be shown in an individual portfolio.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to ask, we are always happy available at the end of the nursery session.

The Nursery Team