

During their first year at school the children will be working on the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum that was started in their Nursery or Pre-school setting. Our curriculum is planned to ensure a broad and balanced coverage of the objectives so that by the end of the Foundation Stage most children will have achieved (and in some cases exceeded) the learning goals appropriate for their age.

Most of our work is practical, hands-on activity based and links are made across the curriculum to ensure that learning is relevant and meaningful, taking into account the interests and abilities of the individual child. Whenever appropriate we take our learning outside.

The EYFS is split up into seven areas of learning and development. The three prime areas are:

- Communication and Language;
- Physical Development; and
- Personal, Social and Emotional Development.

The four specific areas are:

- Literacy;
- Mathematics;
- Understanding the World; and ☐ Expressive Art and Design.

**Communication and Language** development involves giving 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** involves providing 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 physical activity, and to make healthy choices in relation to food.

**Personal, Social and Emotional Development** involves helping children to create 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 their own abilities.

**Literacy** development involves 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 (books, poems, and other written materials) to ignite their interest.

**Mathematics** involves 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 shapes, spaces, and measures.

**Understanding the World** involves 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** involves 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.