



Early Years Foundation Stage

The Curriculum



The Importance of curriculum

Curriculum guidance for the foundation stage suggest that children learn in two major ways:

- When they play freely in well-resourced environment, with adults sometimes intervening sensitively.
- When adults show children how to do things, by modelling.





The 7 Areas of Learning:

- Communication & Language
- Physical Development
- Personal, Social and Emotional Development (3 Prime Areas)
- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the World
- Expressive Arts and Design



Communication & Language

- The development of spoken language underpins all 7 areas of development. Children's back and forth interactions from an early age form the foundations for language and cognitive development.



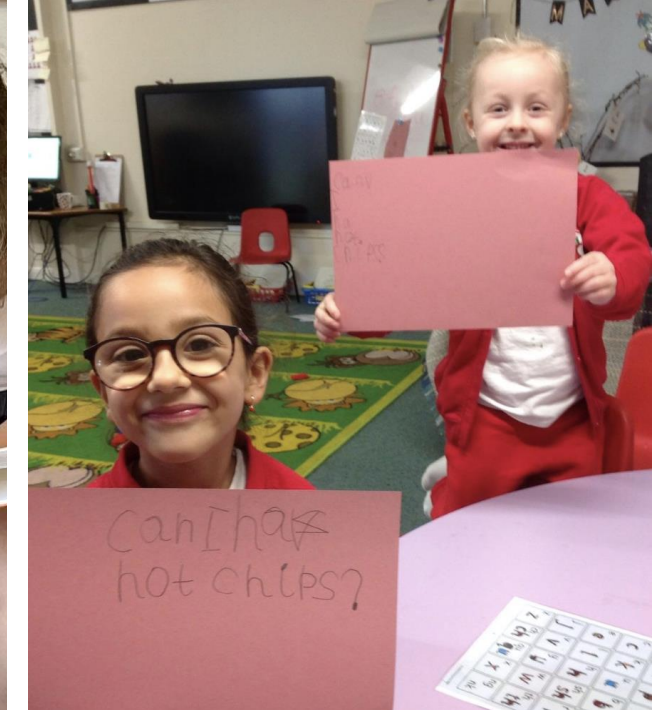
Physical Development

- Physical activity is vital in children all round development, enabling them to pursue happy, healthy and active lives. Gross and fine motor experiences develop incrementally throughout early childhood.



Personal, Social and Emotional Development

- Children's PSED is crucial for children to lead healthy and happy lives and is fundamental to their cognitive development. Strong, warm and supportive relationships with adults and peers enables children to learn how to understand their feelings and those of others.



Literacy

- It is crucial for children to develop a lifelong love of reading. Reading consists of two dimensions, language comprehension and word reading. Writing is a very complex process, it requires bringing together a huge amount of knowledge and skills, both cognitive and physical.



Mathematics

- Developing a strong grounding in number is essential so that all children develop the necessary building blocks to excel in mathematics. Children should be able to count confidently, develop a deep understanding of numbers to 10, the relationships between them and the patterns within those numbers.



Understanding the World

- Understanding the world involves guiding children to make sense of their physical world and their community. The frequency and range of children's personal experiences increase their knowledge and sense of the world around them—from visiting parks, libraries and museums to meeting important members of society such as police officers and firefighters.





Farm school trip



Pocket park and allotment visits





Expressive Arts and Design

- The development of children's artistic and cultural awareness supports their imagination and creativity. It is important that children have regular opportunities to engage with the arts, enabling them to explore and play with a wide range of media and materials. The quality and variety of what children see, hear and participate in is crucial for development.

Play

.....those uninterrupted, spontaneous moments of joy and discovery. That is how children flourish, how they make connections with what they already know and how their self-confidence radiates to all around them. When children play, no matter their age, a degree of learning always takes place. The many skills that children continue to learn through play are those that are rehearsal for the skills that they will need throughout their lives. (Fisher 2022)

