

How Will Your Child Learn?

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) sets the standards for the learning and development of children aged between 0-5 years old.

We place great emphasis upon understanding each child and their family as unique, with different needs and concerns. We understand that each child's progress is individual to them and that different children develop at different rates. With this in mind we aim to plan and resource a challenging environment where children's play can be supported and extended.

What is the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework (EYFS)?

The EYFS Framework exists to support all professionals working in the Early Years to help your child, and was developed with a number of early years experts and parents.

The EYFS Framework sets out:

- The Welfare Requirements which everyone registered to look after children must follow to keep your child **safe** and promote their welfare.
- The 7 areas of **learning and development** which guide professionals' engagement with your child's play and activities as they learn new skills and knowledge.
- The Assessments that will tell you about **your child's progress** and the expected levels your child should reach at age 5, usually at the end of the reception year. These expectations are called the "**Early Learning Goals (ELGs)**".

How your Child will be Learning

All learning is through carefully planned activities so that while your child plays and interacts they are learning all the time. The EYFS Framework explains how and what your child will be learning to support their development. Your child will be learning skills, acquiring new knowledge and demonstrating their understanding through **7 areas of learning and development**.

Children mostly develop in the **3 prime areas** first.

These are:

- **Communication and language**
- **Physical development**
- **Personal, social and emotional development**

These prime areas are those most essential for your child's healthy development and future learning.

As children grow, the prime areas will help them to develop skills in **4 specific areas**.

These are:

- **Literacy**
- **Mathematics**
- **Understanding the world**
- **Expressive arts and design**

These 7 areas are used to plan your child's learning and activities. The staff supporting your child will make sure that activities are suited to your child's unique needs. This is a little like a curriculum in primary and secondary schools, but it's suitable for very young children, and it's designed to be really flexible so that staff can follow your child's unique needs and interests.

What are Early Years Outcomes?

The Early Years Outcomes are contained in a document which can be found on www.gov.uk. This document is a non-statutory guide to support practitioners and inspectors to help understanding of child development through the early years. It can be used by child-minders, nurseries and others, such as Ofsted, throughout the year.

How we Assess Children's Learning and Development

Assessment plays an important part in helping us to recognise your child's progress, understand their needs, and to plan activities and support.

Learning Journey

The Learning Journey is a continuous journey through which children build on all the things they have already experienced and come across new and interesting challenges.

Every child's learning journey takes a personal path based on their own individual interests, experiences and the curriculum on offer. The learning journey comprises a range of different observations and assessments that can be built upon into a picture of the learning, development and care of each child. This works best when you are involved in, and contribute to the learning journey too.

The Importance of Play

We provide safe, secure and stimulating indoor and outdoor spaces, allowing children to learn through play and exploration. Children can enjoy and experience through play the following:

- Freedom
- Space
- Contact with the natural world, both living and physical
- Whole body, multi-sensory experiences
- Real experiences
- A variety of spaces, places and perspective
- Dynamics
- Positive relationships with adults and other children
- Challenges and safety
- Confidence

Play both indoors and outdoors will support a child's learning and overall development.

Children will be provided with experiences that are dynamic, flexible and versatile, where they can choose, create, and be in charge of their play.

Staff will plan and deliver a variety of different activities which will be both adult and child led, that meet both the child's interests and incorporate the aspects of the Early Years Foundation Stage.

Additionally the EYFS requires staff in nursery to do a Two Year Integrated Review.

What is a Two Year Integrated Review?

This has been introduced to enable earlier identification of development needs so any additional support can be put into place as early as possible.

The EYFS Framework does not require this to be completed in a prescribed or standard format. It only specifies that information about a child's development should be provided to parents in the prime areas of learning and development of the EYFS: personal, social and emotional development, physical development; and communication and language.

The results of this review will be shared with you and your child's health visitor.