

# Guide to the EYFS for parents.



## There are four guiding principles in the EYFS:

1. That every child is unique.
2. That every child can learn to be strong and independent through positive relationships.
3. That children learn and develop best in enabling environments.
4. That children develop and learn in different ways and at different rates.

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) sets the standards for the learning, development and care of children from birth to five years old. All schools and Ofsted registered early years providers must follow the EYFS. The EYFS framework is the core document for all early years professionals working in the foundation years.



The EYFS has 7 areas of learning'

### **3 prime areas:**

Personal, Social and Emotional development

Physical Development

Communication and Language

These areas of learning underpin the specific areas of learning:

Literacy

Mathematics

Expressive Art and Design

These 7 areas of learning are used to plan provision to support your child's learning and development. The planning is developed in order to be flexible so that staff can follow your child's unique needs and interests.

Children learn and develop best through play in the Early Years displaying the 'Characteristics of Effective Learning'. These are playing and exploring, active learning and thinking critically.

Children will play for long periods outside and inside, during this time practitioners will carefully facilitate their play to help move their development onto the next stage. The EYFS recommends a balance of child-initiated and adult initiated learning.

### Key person.

The key person is your main point of contact within the setting who is responsible for your child's care, development and learning. They take careful note of your child's progress, sharing this with you and helping you support their learning and development at home too.

### Progress checks.

Your child's Early Years progress is tracked in school until the end of the reception year. At the end of the reception year the class teacher will assess them, based on the classroom observations and your child's learning, using the Early Learning Goals (ELG) which can be found in the Early Years Framework. Let your child's teacher know about what your child does at home with you too.