

The Intent, Implementation and Impact of the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum



Intent

Our Early Years Curriculum is based on the principles of child development and the educational programmes in the EYFS statutory framework 2024. It is designed to provide a broad and balanced education that meets the needs of all pupils. It facilitates them to gain the skills, knowledge and understanding, as they start out on their educational journey, supporting them to progress from their individual starting points and preparing them for the next stage of their education.

Through the seven areas of learning we aim to provide topics that excite and engage children in their learning, building on own interests and developing their experiences of the world around them. We recognise that all children come into our setting with varied experiences and all staff ensure that the learning opportunities provided widen their knowledge and understanding of the world, setting ambitious expectations for all children.

Implementation

We use the Development matters 2023 and the Lancashire EYFS curriculum framework when planning provision to support learning and development across all seven areas of learning and when planning for characteristics of learning.

In line with the principles of EYFS (unique child, positive relationship, enabling environments, learning and development) our practice starts with the child and their individual development. We observe and assess children on entry to determine their needs, interests, abilities and skills which we use to develop our curriculum. We offer a play based curriculum inside and outside the classroom which is carefully organised and planned for and includes opportunities for children to develop knowledge and skills through a wide range of opportunities and experiences. Play is fundamental to children's development, building their confidence as they learn to explore, to think about problems and relate to others. As children grow older, and as their development allows, the balance gradually shifts towards more adult-led activities to help children prepare for more formal learning, ready for year 1.

Our curriculum is implemented in a considered structured way, by staff modelling and teaching in continuous provision using activities which develop children's skills, knowledge and understanding. This adult led/adult guided learning enables children to learn independently in continuous provision, building on, practising and developing what they have been working on. Key themes and children's interests are developed through areas/stations and experiences in the indoor and outdoor environment.

Impact

At St. Andrews we are working towards all children achieving the early learning goals by the end of the Reception year. Development matters guidance supports staff to identify children's developing knowledge, skills and understanding and attitudes as they make progress towards the early learning goals throughout the foundation stage

Children enter key stage one ready to begin the next chapter of the educational journey. They are equipped with a broad range of knowledge and skills that provide the right foundation for future progress through school and life.