

What is the early years foundation stage?

The Early Years Foundation Stage (E.Y.F.S.) is the stage of education for children from birth to the end of the Reception year.

It is based on the recognition that children learn best through play and active learning.



All of these skills will be developed inside and outside the classroom

- Children will be able to work outside most days – please ensure they bring suitable clothing
- Sometimes play is messy – please be understanding
- Named coat and wellies – named spare uniform to keep on peg



The ways in which the child engages with other people and their environment underpin learning and development across all areas and support the child to remain an effective and motivated learner.

Characteristics of Effective Learning

Playing and exploring – engagement

Finding out and exploring
Playing with what they know
Being willing to 'have a go'

Active learning – motivation

Being involved and concentrating
Keeping trying
Enjoying and achieving what they set out to do

Creating and thinking critically – thinking

Having their own ideas (creative thinking)
Making links (building theories)
Working with ideas (critical thinking)

Three prime areas of learning

Personal, social & Emotional

- Managing self
- Self regulation
- Building relationships

Communication and language

- Listening, attention & understanding
- Speaking

Physical development

- Gross motor skills - large movements
- Fine motor skills - small movements

These prime areas are fundamental throughout the EYFS. They begin to develop quickly in response to relationships and experiences and run through and support learning in all other areas. They are intertwined with the specific areas.

Specific Areas

Literacy

- Comprehension
- Word reading
- Writing

Understanding of the world

- Past and present
- People, culture and communities
- The natural world

Mathematics

- Number
- Numerical patterns

Expressive Arts and Design

- Creating with materials
- Being imaginative and expressive