



Four Marks Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum Intent

Our aspirational curriculum encourages children to develop a lifelong love of learning.

Our aim throughout the Reception Year is to provide every child with a happy, secure and stimulating environment in partnership with parents and carers.

We believe every child is unique and our Early Years' team have high expectations of what all our children can achieve. We support each individual to overcome any barriers to learning so that they can all reach their potential.

Through play-based, active learning in our Reception Year we provide each child with a range of engaging opportunities to stimulate their creativity and support their development. We value the importance of the indoor and outdoor environment to develop children's thinking, problem solving and communication skills.

Colleagues promote and encourage a Growth Mindset to allow all children to develop through effort, good teaching, learning and persistence. We are committed to giving our children the best start to their education, teaching them skills which ensure their current well-being and future success – preparing them for life.

Our carefully thought out environment, both inside and outside, encourages and challenges children, through open-ended, natural resources that spark curiosity, awe and wonder. We follow principles from Elizabeth Jarman's 'Communication Friendly Spaces', the Curiosity Approach and Alistair Bryce-Clegg's 'ABC Does' approach to personalised, meaningful displays.

This environment is carefully enhanced, drawing upon children's own interests and fascinations, to ensure that learning is relevant and purposeful. Our skilled and experienced EYFS practitioners engage in high quality interactions with children, integrating our School Values- Love, Integrity, Forgiveness, Equality (LIFE) into everything we do.

The foundational blocks for early reading and mathematics are systematically taught within our curriculum, following the Mastering Number approach to mathematics, and the Essential Letters and Sounds Phonics scheme to ensure children are confidently and independently applying the skills they will need as they progress to year one.

Our curriculum aspirations are built around the EYFS Characteristics of Effective Learning:

EYFS Characteristics of Effective Learning	
Playing and Exploring	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Finding out and exploring• Playing with what they know• Being willing to 'have a go'• being engaged
Active Learning	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Being involved and concentrating• Keep trying• Enjoying achieving what they set out to do• Being motivated
Creating and Thinking Critically	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Having their own ideas• Making links• Choosing ways to do things