

Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum overview

Children's learning and development in Reception is based upon supporting them to achieve the Early Learning Goals. These Goals set out the national expectations for children's attainment at the end of the Reception year in each area of learning. The boxes below provide an overview of the areas of learning the children will explore. These will be achieved through learning inside the classroom, in the outside area, trips, performances and many other experiences.

Communication and Language

Listening and attention: Children listen attentively in a range of situations, responding to what they hear appropriately.

Understanding: Children follow instructions and answer 'how' and 'why' questions.

Speaking: Children express themselves effectively, using past, present and future forms accurately.

Personal Social and Emotional Development

Making Relationships: Children play co-operatively with others, showing sensitivity to others' feelings.

Self-confidence and self-awareness: Children are confident to try new activities and speak in a familiar group about their views.

Managing feelings and behaviour: Children understand and follow the rule and adjust their behaviour to different situations.

Prime
areas

Physical Development

Moving and Handling: Children show good control and co-ordination. They move confidently in a range of ways and handle tools effectively, including pencils for writing.

Health and Self-Care: Children know the importance of exercise and diet, and how to stay safe. They manage their own basic hygiene and personal needs successfully, including dressing and going to the toilet independently.

Specific areas

Literacy

Reading: Children read and understand simple sentences. They use phonic knowledge to decode regular words and read them aloud accurately. They also read some common irregular words. They demonstrate understanding when talking with others about what they have read.

Writing: Children use their phonic knowledge to write words, some of which are spelt correctly. They write simple sentences which can be read by themselves and others.

Mathematical Development

Numbers: Children count reliably with numbers to 20, place them in order and say which number is one more or one less. Using objects, they add and subtract two single-digit numbers. They solve problems, including doubling, halving and sharing.

Shape Space and Measure: Children use everyday language to compare size, weight, capacity, position, distance, time and money. They recognise, create and describe patterns. They explore characteristics of everyday objects and shapes and use mathematical language to describe them.

Understanding the World

People and communities: Children talk about events in their own and others' lives. They know about similarities and differences between themselves and others.

The world: Children know about similarities and differences in relation to places, objects, materials and living things. They make observations about their environment and talk about changes.

Technology: Children recognise that a range of technology is used in places such as homes and schools. They select and use technology for particular purposes.

Expressive Arts and Design

Media and Materials: Children sing songs, make music and dance, and experiment with ways of changing them. They safely use and explore a variety of materials, tools and techniques, experimenting with colour, design, texture, form and function.

Being Imaginative: Children use what they have learnt about media and materials in original ways, thinking about uses and purposes. They represent their own ideas, thoughts and feelings through design and technology, art, music, dance, role play and stories.