



## Early Years Curriculum (Reception)

Children in Reception (Class One) are taught using the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) Curriculum. This curriculum sets out the national standards for the development, learning and care of children up to 5 years old. The EYFS is based on four main principles which underpin everything that we do

- The Unique Child
- Positive relationships
- Enabling Environments
- Learning and Development

There are 3 **prime areas** of learning and development. These are as follows:

1. **Personal, Social and Emotional Development:** Children learn to play cooperatively and take turns, forming positive relationships with adults and other children. The children will choose activities and resources and develop confidence to try new things. They will talk about how they and others show feelings. They will understand and follow rules.
2. **Communication and Language:** Children are encouraged to listen and respond appropriately in a range of situations. They learn to follow instructions and answer questions about their experiences. Children are taught how to express themselves effectively, showing an awareness of the listener.
3. **Physical development:** Children develop good control and coordination in large and small movements. They learn to move confidently in a variety of ways. They learn to handle tools and equipment effectively. Children learn about the importance of physical exercise and healthy eating.

In addition to this, there are four **specific areas** of learning and development, as follows:

1. **English:** The children will learn the letter sound (grapheme) and how to blend sounds together to read simple words and sentences. They will show an understanding of what they have read. They will learn to write simple words using their knowledge of letter sounds and write sentences.
2. **Maths:** The children will learn to count reliably with numbers from 1-20, place them in order and find 1 more and 1 less. They will learn to add and take away with numbers up to 10 and solve simple problems. Children will use everyday language to talk about size, weight, capacity, position, distance, time and money. They will recognise, describe and create patterns. They will learn to name and describe shapes.
3. **Understanding the World:** Children will talk about past and present in their own lives and in the lives of family members. They will look at how they have changed since they were a baby. Children will find out about similarities and differences in relation to objects, materials and living things, through learning experiences such as “This is me”. They will make observations of animals and plants and explain why some things occur. Children will talk about the features of their own immediate environment and how environments might vary from one another. Children will learn that a range of technology is used in places such as homes and schools. They will complete simple programmes on the computer.
4. **Expressive arts and design:** Children will use and explore a variety of materials, tools and techniques, experimenting with colour, design, texture, form and function. Children will sing songs and make music. They will explore a variety of musical instruments.

All of the areas of learning and development are interconnected to the **characteristics of effective learning**, which are ‘playing and exploring’, ‘active learning’ and ‘creating and critical thinking’.