



Parent Information Sheet

Reception – The EYFS Curriculum

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) is the stage in your child's life that gets them ready and prepares them for school and underpins all future learning and successes. The EYFS was created to ensure your child's first 5 years are happy, active, exciting, fun and secure, as well as to support their learning, development and care needs. All nurseries, pre-schools, reception classes and childminders must follow the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework.



What Is The EYFS Framework?



The new Early Years Foundation Stage framework, effective from September 2021. The EYFS Framework is there to support all professionals working in the Early Years age group. It has a large emphasis on the adult's role in helping the children develop. It sets out:

- The legal welfare requirements to keep your child safe and promote their welfare
- The 4 themes that underpin key learning experiences
- The characteristics and skills children need to develop in order to become effective learners
- The 7 areas of learning and development your child's play and activities will cover as they learn new skills and knowledge
- Assessments that will tell you about your child's progress
- The expected levels (Early Learning Goals) that your child should reach at the end of Reception Class

What Are The Four Themes?

The curriculum within the Early Years Foundation Stage is planned around four main themes:

A Unique Child	Positive Relationships	Enabling Environments & Teaching Support From Adults	Learning and Development
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Every child is a unique child, who is constantly learning and can be resilient, capable, confident and self-assured	Children learn to be strong and independent through positive relationships	Children learn and develop well in enabling environments with teaching and support from adults, who respond to their individual interests and needs and help them to build their learning over time. Children benefit from a strong partnership between practitioners and parents and/or carers.	Importance of learning and development. Children develop and learn at different rates. The framework covers the education and care of all children in early years provision, including children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND).
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How & What Will My Child Be Learning?

There are 7 areas of learning and development. Children should mostly develop the 3 prime areas first. These prime areas are those most essential for your child's healthy development and future learning. As children grow, the prime areas will help them to develop skills in 4 specific areas:

PRIME AREAS OF LEARNING	
Communication and Language	Listening, Attention & Understanding
	Speaking
Personal, Social and Emotional Development	Self-Regulation
	Managing Self
	Building Relationships
Physical Development	Gross Motor Skills
	Fine Motor Skills
THE SPECIFIC AREAS OF LEARNING	
Literacy	Comprehension
	Word Reading
	Writing
Maths	Number
	Numerical Patterns
Understanding The World	Past & Present
	People, Culture & Communities
	The Natural World
Expressive Arts and Design	Creating With Materials
	Being Imaginative & Expressive

The 7 areas of learning and development are used to plan your child's learning and activities. The staff will ensure that the activities are suited to your child's unique needs. This is a little bit like a curriculum in primary and secondary schools, but it's suitable for very young children and it's designed to be really flexible so that staff can follow your child's unique needs and interests. Children in the EYFS learn by playing and exploring, being active, and through creative and critical thinking which takes place both indoors and outside. Children learn to be strong and independent through positive relationships with other children and adults in the class. Staff will encourage children to become independent, resilient and successful learners.

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. These are called 'Characteristics of Learning':

Playing and exploring (Engagement)	Active learning (Motivation)	Creating and thinking critically (Thinking)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> children investigate and experience things and 'have a go' 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> children concentrate and keep on trying if they encounter difficulties, and enjoy achievements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> children have and develop their own ideas, make links between ideas, and develop strategies for doing things

How Will I Know How My Child Is Getting On?

- Staff are constantly interacting, working and playing with your child. While doing this they are observing their learning and development and ensuring that your child is being extended and challenged whilst also being nurtured and guided in the activities.
- Every child has a Key Person. At Fernhurst Primary School, this is one of the two class teachers. The TA is every child's Co Key Person.
- Please look on Tapestry and the class website with photographic evidence of your child's learning in school. We will use our professional judgements, play experiences and observations of your child to inform you of their development during regular progress meetings.
- An end of year report will be sent out to sum up your child's achievements and targets for their next steps in learning.
- At the end of Reception, you will be informed how your child is achieving towards the Early Learning Goals in their Early Years Foundation Stage Profile (EYFSP).

How Can I Help My Child With Learning?

- Download the Parent Information Sheets from our school website
- Encourage your child to be as independent as possible
- Help your child develop resilience
- Talk to your child and use interesting vocabulary and a growing grammar – be a language role model
- Play with your child – be an active play role model
- Read to your child (especially sharing a bedtime story)
- Hear your child read and practice phonics daily (Reception)
- Sing Nursery Rhymes and songs
- Encourage your child to dance and move in a variety of ways
- Allow your child to be creative - paint, cut, stick and build using junk materials, dough and construction kits
- Cook and bake together
- Spend time together in the garden and explore nature
- Play turn taking games together