

## **Teaching and Learning**

### **Curriculum**

**Early Years Foundation Stage**

**Key Stage 1**

**Topics**

There are seven areas of learning and development in the Early Years that must shape educational provision in early years settings.

All areas of learning and development are important and inter-connected. Three areas are particularly crucial for igniting children's curiosity and enthusiasm for learning, and for building their capacity to learn, form relationships and thrive.

Prime Areas:

- Personal, Social and Emotional Development
- Communication and Language
- Physical Development

Staff will also support children in four specific areas, through which the three prime areas are strengthened and applied.

Specific Areas:

- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Knowledge of the world
- Expressive arts and design

This does not mean that all of young children's learning is divided up into these areas ~ they are not subjects in themselves, but provide a framework for planning.

One experience may provide a child with opportunities to develop a number of competencies, skills and understanding across several areas of learning.

Each area of learning has an Early Learning Goal.

## **Key Stage 1**

As children progress through their first year, they are learning through the National Curriculum which provides the framework for the development of the skills, knowledge and understanding which children need to equip them to function successfully in a modern society.

The content of the curriculum is nationally prescribed and comprises 10 subjects. Four of these are 'core': English, Maths, Science, Information & Communications Technology. The others are 'foundation': History, Geography, Art, Music, PE & Design & Technology. R.E. is also a compulsory part of the school curriculum.

With the exception of some aspects of English, Maths, Music & PE, these subjects are not taught separately and in isolation but are taught within a rolling programme of interesting and varied topic. Teachers use the children's ideas around a topic and begin the planning process by starting with Enquiry and Investigation (Science, History and Geography). All topics have a stimulating starting point and children are challenged to investigate, use different strategies to solve problems, collaborate with one another, and share ideas. They develop confidence to think for themselves and they are not afraid to take risks.

Each topic will be the focus for a half term or term's study for all children. The topic provides the experiences through which the teachers link the subjects of the curriculum. Learning objectives are set, shared with children, and activities designed to meet varying capabilities. Through these experiences children will be encouraged to speak and listen, read and write. They will be measuring length, time, weight, volume & capacity, learning about shape & space, handling data and applying numeracy skills.