

Early Years

Welcome to the Early Years Foundation Stage

In the Foundation Stage our aim is to provide the very best start in life for your child by developing the skills they need to become independent learners. We follow the statutory framework of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS), which sets the standards for learning and development for all children up to the end of their Reception year. Children join our Reception Class from both the private provider onsite nursery and other nurseries. They continue learning through the Early Years Curriculum, which includes the skills of reading, writing and mathematics as well as social skills and a continued understanding of the world.

Learning through play underpins all of the EYFS, therefore, the children learn through a play based curriculum, which draws on their interests and is pitched at each child's personal level of development.

The framework is split into three 'prime' areas of learning and development and four 'specific' areas of learning and development.

Areas of Learning and Development

Prime Areas

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

Specific Areas

- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding of the World
- Expressive Arts and Design

Whilst these seven areas provide a framework for the Early Year's Curriculum, young children's learning does not easily divide up into distinct areas. A particular experience may develop learning over several of the seven areas at any one time. All areas are delivered through a balance of adult led and child initiated activities.

At Highfield's Primary School we recognise that the environment plays a key role in supporting and extending the children's development. We aim to create an attractive, welcoming and stimulating learning environment. We also aim to make it a place where children feel secure and confident, and are challenged to develop their independence. Children have the opportunities to engage in both the indoor and outdoor environments during the school day.

On-going formative assessment is at the heart of our practice. Observations of the children allow us to plan experiences and learning opportunities to deepen their understanding and drive their learning forward to the next stage.