

# EYFS: The Areas of Learning in the Early Years Foundation Stage

## Communication & Language

- ◆ Listening attentively, including while completing tasks
- ◆ Listening to stories and responding to prompts and ideas
- ◆ Following instructions to carry out activities
- ◆ Expression of ideas, including real-life and fictional ideas
- ◆ Using past, present and future forms of language

This is a prime area of learning and it is fundamental to other areas of development. Staff talk to children and seek opportunities to enrich language, as children play and explore. Children are encouraged to describe their experiences and feelings and to use a wide range of vocabulary.

## Personal, Social & Emotional Development

- ◆ Building confidence to choose activities and discuss ideas
- ◆ Build awareness of needing help, and confidence to ask
- ◆ Confidence to speak in a group of familiar peers
- ◆ Working as part of a group, following rules where appropriate
- ◆ Forming positive relationships with peers and adults
- ◆ Playing co-operatively, taking turns

This is prime area of learning and it is crucial to all other areas of development. Staff listen to children and observe their play and interactions, and promote thoughtful and considerate behaviour.

## Physical Development

- ◆ Developing control and coordination of movement
- ◆ Handling equipment and tools, including for writing
- ◆ Learning about healthy diet and exercise
- ◆ Managing their own hygiene and personal needs

This is a prime area of learning as physical skills support achievement in other areas of development. Staff observe the children and assess physical control and coordination, and plan activities to develop skills through indoor and outdoor play. To promote fine motor skills, children are encouraged to use a varied range of tools and materials including paint brushes, pens, sponges, dough, threading, sand and scissors. To develop gross motor skills children have lots of energetic challenges such as swimming (19 weekly sessions), forest school, creative outdoor play, activities in our wildlife garden and P.E.



## Mathematics

- ◆ Count reliably with numbers up to 20
- ◆ Use counting on and number knowledge for simple addition
- ◆ Begin to recognise and describe simple patterns
- ◆ Use everyday language to talk about size, position, time, etc.
- ◆ Use mathematical language to describe shapes and

## Understand the World

- ◆ Talk about events in their own lives and that of their family
- ◆ Know about similarities and differences between communities
- ◆ Talk about similarities and differences between objects
- ◆ Make observations of plants and animals
- ◆ Recognise that technology is used in homes and schools

Some aspects of this area of learning are developed through class topics including *Being Me, Toys, Water, Fire of London, Homes, Castles, Hot and Cold* and *The World Around us*. There are also links with *The Herefordshire Agreed R.E. Syllabus* with an emphasis on Christianity and Judaism.

## Literacy

- ◆ Use phonics to decode straightforward words
- ◆ Read simple sentences
- ◆ Discuss what has been read
- ◆ Use phonics knowledge to write simple words and sentences

Literacy is especially important for future learning and so is essential for children to enjoy books, reading and writing from the earliest stages. The classroom is a place where a wide range of books are enjoyed and respected. The children enjoy sharing stories and using information books to support our class topics. Children regularly bring in books from home or the library to help our learning in the classroom.

## Expressive Arts & Design

- ◆ Experiment with songs, music and dance
- ◆ Use a range of artistic materials, tools and techniques
- ◆ Work imaginatively to create new works
- ◆ Represent ideas through art, music, role-play, dance and stories