



Learning in the Foundation Stage



The aim of this leaflet is to provide you with an understanding of how your child will learn during their time in the Foundation Stage at Ashleigh Primary School and Nursery.

How do children learn best?

- team work
- problem solving
- challenge
- personal experiences
- exploring
- playing
- making their own choices
- questioning
- adapting
- communicating

We believe these skills support your child in their early development and prepare them to be learners. When we create an environment for these skills to develop, we are providing children with the opportunity to build the foundations of their life-long learning.

In the Foundation Stage we take a child led approach to our teaching. We respond to the children's interests and encourage them to decide what they would like to learn about.



We follow a framework which is called the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum. This provides us with Developmental Groups and Early Learning Goals which your child will work toward achieving. There is no expected time for each goal to be achieved; they will achieve it when they are ready.

A Day in Reception

Teaching sessions are used to teach discrete skills for number, phonics, writing and topic.

Enhancement time follows the teaching sessions to allow children the opportunity to apply the skills they have learnt. The children have the free-flow between indoor and outdoor environments.

During enhancement time we make observations, take photographs, make video recordings and collect children's comments.

The evidence gathered contributes to a learning story to capture achievement and development which support assessments.

Assessments are made against the early learning goals to make a best fit judgement for each child.

Key person time is used to support children in building relationships, developing confidence, listening to others and responding to what they say. Each child is allocated a key person who is responsible for leading this group.

The Foundation Stage Curriculum

The Foundation Stage Curriculum is made up of 3 prime areas of learning:

PSED: Personal, social and emotional development. This area develops social skills, attitude to learning, self-confidence, self-awareness and supports them in managing feelings and behaviour (this is also delivered through our PATHS curriculum from Reception onwards).

C & L: Communication and Language. This area develops skills such as listening and attention, understanding and communicating with others.

PD: Physical Development. This area teaches children about their bodies, how to be healthy and develop skills such as control, movement, strength and using equipment safely.

There are also 4 specific areas:

L: Literacy. This area develops skills in reading and writing, through the teaching of phonics and supporting children to apply these skills in all areas of their learning. **M:**

Mathematics. This area develops skills such as counting, addition, subtraction, understanding shape and measuring.

UW: Understanding the World. This area develops a child's understanding of the environment and their community, the world and technology around them.

E, A & D: Expressive Arts and Design. This area develops their imagination and the skills of singing, drama, making, painting and using different resources.

