

The Early Years Curriculum

Our mission statement

The Early Years Foundation Stage Framework (EYFS)

The EYFS is divided into seven areas of learning.

Three **prime** areas, which underpin all other areas of learning.

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

And four **specific** areas through which the three prime areas are strengthened and applied:

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

The Prime Areas of Learning

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Children learn to work and play together cooperatively, develop their confidence and learn to manage their emotions and behaviour.

Physical Development

Children will develop their skills of coordination, control and gross and fine motor movement. They will learn about the importance of good health, physical exercise and a healthy diet.

Communication and Language

Children will learn to speak to and listen to each other and adults, individually and in small and large groups. They will be provided with the opportunity to experience a rich language environment.

The Specific Areas of Learning

Literacy

Phonics will take place through a range of learning experiences e.g. listening activities, songs, rhymes and playing with language throughout the EYFS. Children will be encouraged to link sounds and letters and to begin to read and write. They will be given access to a wide range of reading and writing materials to ignite their interest.

Mathematics

Children will be provided with opportunities to develop their skills in counting, understanding and using numbers, calculating, simple addition and subtraction problems and to describe shapes, spaces and measures.

Understanding the World

This will involve supporting children to explore the physical world through opportunities to observe and find out about people, places, technology and the environment.

Expressive Arts and Design

Children will be encouraged and supported to investigate a range of media and materials and to express themselves imaginatively through design and technology, art, music, dance, role play and stories.

Learning and Assessment

Children will experience a range of activities, indoors and outdoors, to develop skills, knowledge and independence. These opportunities are across the seven areas of learning. We encourage every child to become an independent, enthusiastic learner with a wide range of skills that they can draw upon and develop throughout their life.

In all areas of learning there is an emphasis on active learning, play and exploration.

Children will bring home information about what they have been learning and how they can be supported at home through a half termly newsletter.

Each child's progress is monitored in a Learning Journal that parents can view and contribute to throughout their time in the Foundation Stage at Roman Way.

At the end of Reception children will be assessed against the Early Learning Goals.

How can I find out more?

In the foundation stage, staff use the Letters and Sounds guidance as a basis for planning and assessment: www.gov.uk/government/publications/letters-and-sounds

The following websites also have excellent phonics activities:

<http://www.letters-and-sounds.com/>

<http://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/freeIndex.htm>

http://www.familylearning.org.uk/phonics_games.html

For more information about the Early Years Curriculum, Framework and Assessment the following website has a parent friendly guide:

<http://www.foundationyears.org.uk>