

EYFS Policy

Cranleigh C of E Primary School

Date of Policy: Intermittent Review Schedule of Review: Next Review Date: Summer 2024 Spring 2024 Every Year Summer 2025

Aims

In our EYFS (Reception Class) at Cranleigh C of E Primary we aim to:

- Value each child as an individual.
- Provide a structured, secure, caring and well-resourced learning environment, offering a wide range of high-quality learning experiences within the classrooms and in our outdoor learning areas to meet the individual developmental needs of our children.
- Provide an enriched curriculum supported by visitors to school, trips out of school.
- Enable each child to become confident, motivated, happy and independent learners, developing the skills and attitudes to underpin successful future learning.
- Develop independence and individuality.
- Embed the Christian ethos and values of our school community fostering mutual respect for others.
- Establish a professional working partnership with parents and carers.

Teaching and Learning

Our Early Years Curriculum is based on the statutory <u>Early Years Foundation Stage</u> (November 2024) and consider the <u>Development Matters Report</u> (September 2023). The curriculum is taught through engaging topics which ensure well-planned play-based activities underpin the delivery of all areas of learning within the EYFS, with a good balance between child/adult led activities.

There are 4 key themes of the EYFS principles which guide the work of all practitioners:

- a unique child
- positive relationships
- enabling environments
- learning and development

The EYFS curriculum is based on 3 prime areas:

- Communication and language
- Physical development
- Personal, social and emotional development

There are also 4 specific areas through within which the 3 prime areas are strengthened and applied:

- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the world
- Expressive arts and design

Assessment in EYFS

Each child will be continuously assessed throughout their time in Reception. Practitioners will use a variety of assessment methods, including observations, to track progress and determine the next steps in their learning across the three prime areas and four specific areas, in relation to the early learning goals. Ongoing (formative) assessment is a vital part of the learning process. We gather evidence through high-quality interactions, observations, samples of work, assessments, and photographs to inform our judgements. Additionally, we assess children on entry to Reception to ensure that teaching and learning are tailored to meet each child's individual needs.

Induction

At Cranleigh C of E Primary we understand that starting school can be a daunting prospect for some children and parents, so we offer a comprehensive induction programme which starts with short school visits at the end of the summer term, prior to starting in September. Alongside home visits by the class teacher and relevant support staff.

Working with Parents

We strongly believe in the importance of building professional working relationships with parents. At the start of each school year, in addition to the home visit, we hold a meeting to share key information about our approach to teaching phonics, reading, numeracy, and more. We also provide handbooks to guide parents in supporting their child's learning at home. We have an 'open door' policy and actively encourage parents to collaborate with us in supporting each child's development, ensuring we understand the 'whole child' and how this can impact their learning. Beyond formal parent interviews, there are numerous opportunities throughout the year for parents and carers to come into school and engage with their child's learning.

Conclusion

This policy is in line with other school policies and therefore should be read in conjunction with the following policy documents:

- Equal Opportunities Policy Admissions Policy
- Teaching & Learning Policy
- SEN Policy Safeguarding policy
- EYFS Curriculum Overview