

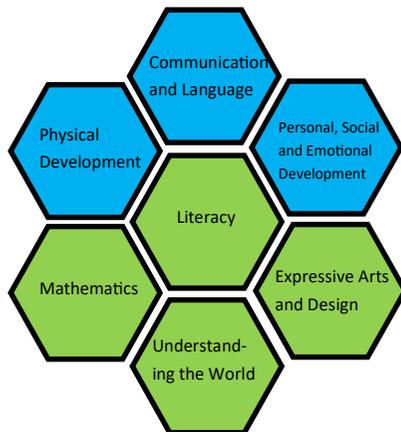
# The EYFS Curriculum

September 2023 onwards

The Early Years curriculum is child centred and tailored to provide our pupils with meaningful experiences, through a thematic and sequential approach, in a safe and positive environment, working towards the Early Learning Goals.

Each day is arranged with a mixture of Teacher Directed sessions and Planned Play.

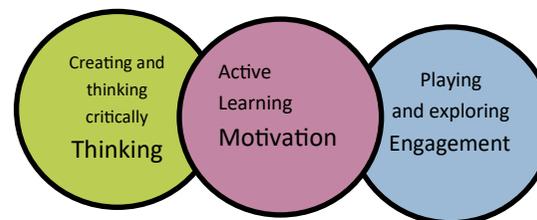
The Teacher directed sessions plan for the Specific Areas of Literacy, Mathematics, Understanding the World and Expressive, Arts and Design and incorporate the Prime Areas of Communication and Language, Physical development and Personal, Social and Emotional Development.



## Planned Play

Much of our learning in the Early Years Foundation Stage focusses on learning through play. We do this in a variety of different ways including planned play. During planned play sessions the staff will facilitate learning through the use of a range of different engaging practical activities that will support the pupils in achieving their targets. The learning is supported with the use of symbols and symbol supported environment cards with key questions. During this time the children are free to make choices for other toys or activities that are not set up in the classes and are encouraged to develop and extend their interests and social skills.

The planned play opportunities allow children to develop the characteristics of effective learning which are embedded in the Early Years Curriculum



## Free Flow Play

Every morning and afternoon our Early Years classes engage in free flow play. During this time our two Year 1 classes join and our two Year R classes as well as Honeybees Nursery join and open their doors to the shared outside areas. The pupils are then able to go in and out of the classes or the outside area and use the activities.

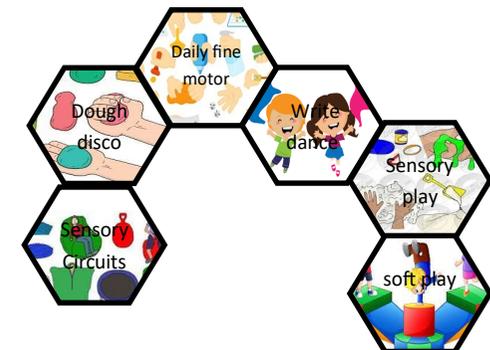
## Behaviours for Learning and Independence

Within our Foundation stage we work hard with our pupils to establish behaviours for learning including; developing their resilience and confidence to explore and find out new things through high levels of motivation, independence and persist when things are challenging. To be able to self regulate and find ways to manage their own emotions and sensory needs. We strongly encourage parents to support this.

The pupils achieve this through a range of ways including; visual timetables, now and then boards, symbol supported activities and use of photographs. Adults scaffold learning to challenge thinking and provide activities that encourage learning through trial and error, and problem solving. We recognise the challenges that our pupils face and employ strategies to develop these key skills over the year, enabling them to be ready to transition to Key Stage 1.

## Physical/Sensory

In order to support pupils physical and sensory needs a range of different activities are offered across the week and as aids in the classroom. Including but not exclusively limited to:



## Community Experiences

Throughout the year we try to provide opportunities for the children to experience transitioning into the community to experience real life experiences. We have visited Sittingbourne Library where we have shared in a sensory story, visited Sittingbourne soft play, Windchimes, beach, Wildwood, the local park and Little Potter's. We are always looking for other opportunities to experience learning out within the wider community.

## Evidence for Learning and achievements

Observations of learning are noted and recorded on Evidence for Learning by all staff as they work with and observe the children. These observations are used to track each child's progress against the EHCP targets and recorded on Evidence for Learning.

These targets are reviewed termly and updated.

Pupil achievements are celebrated in a range of different ways including stickers and certificates and through Early Years bi-termly Celebration assemblies.

## The Learning Environment

Our Early Years classrooms are adapted to meet the unique needs of each child whilst giving them the opportunity to experience all aspects of the curriculum. All of our classrooms have direct access to a secure outside area which is used to promote learning in all curriculum areas.



Children can also benefit from additional spaces such as the sensory garden, soft play, Sensory circuit room, Imagination pod, hydrotherapy pool and PE hall.

## Working in partnership

Early Years staff work closely with a range of professionals to support each child's learning and development.



Therapy programmes and interventions are fully integrated into the class routines and reviewed frequently.

# Meadowfield Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum

*September 2023 on-*

