

Early Years Foundation Stage

Intent

At Wingrave Church of England School we intend for EYFS to provide a happy, safe and nurturing environment where children develop friendships and their independence as learners. Following the Early Years Foundation Stage framework, we aim to provide a balanced, engaging, exciting and empowering curriculum which motivates children to love learning. We aim to ensure that learning is accessible for all and that all children’s individual learning journey is valued. Learning opportunities are provided in a stimulating indoor and outdoor learning environment where children safely and independently explore and challenge their own learning. We strive to work in collaboration with parents to ensure we value home experiences and develop a true reflection of the whole child. By the end of EYFS we intend to prepare the children for the next stage of their school life and to become lifelong learners.

Implementation

The EYFS curriculum is designed to develop the characteristics of effective learning:

- Creating and thinking critically – children have and develop their own ideas, make links between ideas, and develop strategies for doing things.
- Active learning – children keep on trying if they encounter difficulties and enjoy their achievements.
- Playing and exploring – children investigate and experience things, and ‘have a go’.

We use a Growth Mindset approach to promote positive attitudes to learning which reflect the values and skills needed to promote responsibility for learning and future success.

Children in EYFS follow the Early Years Statutory Framework which has seven main areas of learning.

The Prime Areas;

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

The Specific Areas;

- Literacy
- Mathematics

- Understanding the World
- Expressive Arts and Design

The children are taught the skills required in the EYFS through weekly or half-termly topics which are coherently planned to build upon the children's current knowledge and understanding by a cumulative sequence of lessons. Lessons are taught through a combination of adult led and child led activities, teacher taught whole class sessions, small group sessions and working with individuals. The pupils are encouraged to wonder and ask questions about what they are learning, and this information is used to plan subsequent lessons as the children work towards the achievement of a Good Level of Development by the end of Foundation Stage.

We recognise that children are all unique and will develop at different rates. Close monitoring and playing alongside the children, enables us to know what works best for each individual and to tailor the learning and support to ensure all children achieve.

Parents are regularly informed about their child's progress through Tapestry, and they are provided with the expectations and requirements needed to meet the age-related expectations. We provide workshops and drop-in classroom sessions for parents to learn more about the curriculum and how to support their child at home.

Impact

Through the delivery of a well-planned, child-led and challenging curriculum we aim that the pupils will leave the Early Years Foundation Stage as independent learners, with transferrable skills needed to start Key Stage One. The impact of the EYFS curriculum is that all children make good progress from their individual starting points. We will have supported the children to demonstrate positive attitudes to learning through high levels of curiosity, concentration, and enjoyment. Ultimately becoming resilient learners who are keen to learn, proud of their achievements and have the best possible start to their school life.



“The Kingdom of Heaven is like a tiny mustard seed planted in a field. It is the smallest of all seeds but becomes the largest of plants, and grows into a tree where birds can come and find shelter.”

Matthew 13:31-32