

CURRICULUM NOTES FOR RECEPTION CLASSES

AUTUMN TERM 2021

Your child's education is very much a partnership between home and school. We trust that we will be able to work together to give your child every opportunity to experience a happy and successful time in Reception class.

The Foundation Stage curriculum is divided into seven areas. The three prime areas are: Personal, Social and Emotional Development, Communication and Language and Physical Development. There are also four specific areas: Literacy, Mathematics, Understanding the World and Expressive Arts and Design.

We link our planning to the EYFS curriculum but we also take into consideration the children's interests and experiences. Children enjoy sharing their own experiences, feelings and opinions and this is a good way of introducing a new group of children to each other.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Myself: Why am I precious?

Children come to know that God loves each one of us. We are precious to God. God knows each person's name.

Welcome: Why is 'Welcome' important?

Children learn that we welcome people into our own family. Children learn about Baptism - where we welcome new members into God's family.

Birthday: Why do we celebrate birthdays?

Children understand that we look forward to and celebrate our birthdays. Children also learn about Advent - when people look forward to the birthday of Jesus at Christmas.

The three Prime Areas are in bold. The prime areas are important because they lay the foundations for children's success in all other areas of learning and of life.

PERSONAL, SOCIAL and EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Children learn to:

- **work and play cooperatively and take turns with others**
- **develop positive relationships with adults and peers**
- **know and understand the rules that keep us safe and happy**
- **manage their own basic hygiene and personal needs**
- **understand the importance of healthy lifestyle choices e.g. food, sleep, exercise.**

COMMUNICATION and LANGUAGE

Children learn to:

- **listen attentively and response to what they hear during whole class discussions and small group interactions**
- **participate in small group, class and one-to-one discussions, offering their own ideas, using recently introduced vocabulary.**

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Children learn to:

- **use a range of small tools including scissors, paintbrushes and cutlery**
- **hold a pencil effectively**
- **negotiate space and obstacles safely, with consideration for themselves and others.**

The specific areas provide the range of experiences and opportunities for children to broaden their knowledge and skills.

LITERACY

Children learn to:

- demonstrate understanding of what has been read to them by retelling stories
- recognise their own name
- say a sound for each letter in the alphabet
- hear and say initial sounds in words
- begin to form recognisable letters
- write their own name using the correct letter formation
- can say the sounds in simple words and blend them together
- begin to spell words by identifying sounds within words.

MATHEMATICS

Children learn to:

- count accurately using 1:1 correspondence (touch counting)
- recognise and order numerals 1 – 20
- recognise numbers of objects presented in regular and irregular groups (subitise) to 5 and then within 10
- explore, recognise and create repeating patterns.

UNDERSTANDING the WORLD

Children learn to:

- talk about the lives of the people around them and what they do
- describe their immediate environment (home and school)
- know some similarities and differences between different religions and cultures
- explore, observe and talk about the natural world around them
- begin to understand seasonal changes in autumn and winter.

EXPRESSIVE ARTS and DESIGN

Children learn to:

- make use of props and materials when role playing characters in narratives and stories
- sing a range of well-known nursery rhymes and songs
- perform songs, rhymes, poems and stories with others and try to move in time with music.

We have included some suggestions to help and support your child.

PERSONAL, SOCIAL and EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

You can help your child to draw a simple family tree.

Religion:

God knows and loves each one of us. God knows each person's name.

We follow our Golden Rule of:

'We have kind hands, a gentle voice and love in our hearts.'

COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE and LITERACY

We will be enjoying a variety of books, some familiar and some new stories.

Encourage your child to recite the poem that we have been learning at school each week (this will be sent home).

PROBLEM SOLVING, REASONING and NUMERACY

You can play board games using spotted and numbered dice. Can your child understand the value of the spotted dice quickly? You could also play dominoes. Can your child recognise the number of spots straight away?

UNDERSTANDING the WORLD

Whilst out and about take time to observe and talk about the seasonal changes happening around. Talk about the weather, trees and plants, birds and other animals.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

You could help your child to design and build an obstacle course in the garden. Who can complete the course in the fastest time?

EXPRESSIVE ARTS and DESIGN

Encourage your child to sing songs and say rhymes.