



Early Years Foundation Stage *Curriculum Information for prospective parents*





Early Years Foundation Stage Vision

At St. John's Primary Academy we believe in providing all children with a safe, nurturing and stimulating environment that builds on each individual's needs and interests. We provide children with a wide range of opportunities to learn through play. Our academy ensures that adult-led learning is fun, engaging and suitably challenging. We value the importance of outdoor learning and ensure children have a wealth of opportunities to develop their thinking and problem-solving skills. We are committed to providing the best possible start for our children and instil a real love of learning. Through fun, creative teaching, we aim to actively engage, inspire and enable our children to flourish and succeed.

We seek to provide:

- **Quality and consistency**, so that every child makes good progress and no child gets left behind.
- **A secure foundation** through learning and development opportunities which are planned around the needs and interests of each child and are assessed and reviewed regularly.
- **Partnership working** between academy staff and parents.
- **Equality of opportunity** and anti-discriminatory practice, ensuring that every child is included and supported.



Our Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum

In the Early Years Foundation Stage there are seven areas of learning. We have a creative approach in delivering all aspects of the framework and provide children with a wide range of provision for them to explore across the setting.

- **Communication and Language**

Adults model the correct use of language at all times, introduce new vocabulary whenever possible, facilitate partner talk and support negotiation, planning and organising talk during continuous provision.

- **Physical Development**

There are opportunities for children to develop their fine motor control in all areas of continuous provision across the setting. Opportunities for gross motor control in the setting helps children develop their spatial awareness, balancing and climbing skills as well as managing risks safely. In addition, the Reception children have a P.E. session per week which facilitates the development of gross motor skills but also exposes children to good health and hygiene practices and independence in dressing and undressing.



Our Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum

- **Personal, Social and Emotional Development**

Through our whole school approach to PSHE, circle time, adult-led sessions and continuous provision we encourage our children to be independent, resilient, explore and discuss feelings and emotions and build a positive growth mindset.

- **Literacy**

In the Early Years Foundation Stage, we strive to instil a love of reading. We have daily stories, a focus text each week, support individual reading with strong home links and visit the library weekly. Phonics sessions are delivered daily to build the foundations for reading and writing. There are opportunities for writing in all areas of continuous provision across the setting in addition to focused adult-led group sessions.



Our Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum

- **Mathematics**

We have daily mathematics sessions to develop and embed early number skills through practical activities using concrete apparatus. We constantly strive to promote the use of mathematical language and early reasoning skills at every opportunity during continuous provision as well as adult-led teaching.

- **Understanding the World**

Through a wide range of supported activities and through play, we encourage our children to show care for our environment, respect all living things and respect the beliefs of others whilst learning about a range of cultures. The children also learn about the past and present.



Our Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum

- **Expressive Arts and Design**

We plan a range of opportunities for children to explore and be imaginative through dance, role-play and music. During continuous provision, children have open access to a wide range of media and materials to allow them to use their imagination and demonstrate their creativity.

- **Religious Education**

Our R.E curriculum at St. John's aims to develop spiritual children who are understanding of the beliefs, values and traditions of different faiths. We encourage empathy, tolerance and respect through challenging questions and open discussions. Our R.E curriculum supports wider thinking and allows children to embrace the diverse global community.

In our Early Years Foundation Stage, we deliver weekly R.E. sessions and daily collective worship which encourages the children to ask questions and take part in discussions about religious stories and teachings from the Bible.



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- **Forest School**

We plan regular opportunities for children to access the forest area in order to improve physical fitness, build confidence and independence, develop respect and care for living things, interact and build relationships with peers (teamwork) and to allow exposure to manageable risks.

- **Parent Partnership**

In our Early Years Foundation Stage, we have an open-door policy and always make time to speak to parents as necessary. We have celebration assemblies, workshops, class assemblies, sports days, Christmas performances, parents' meetings and much more.

We also provide regular opportunities for parents to look at their children's journeys.



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You can find out more about St. John's Primary Academy on our website:

www.stjohns-eagle.com

You can also follow us on Twitter:

[@Stjohns_eagle](https://twitter.com/Stjohns_eagle)