



St Anne's Parent Information Sheet

Nursery & Reception – The EYFS Curriculum

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) is the stage in your child's life that gets them ready and prepares them for school and underpins all future learning and successes. The EYFS was created to ensure your child's first 5 years are happy, active, exciting, fun and secure, as well as to support their learning, development and care needs. All nurseries, pre-schools, reception classes and childminders must follow the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework.



What Is The EYFS Framework?



The EYFS Framework is there to support all professionals working in the Early Years age group. It has a large emphasis on the adult's role in helping the children develop. It sets out:

- The legal welfare requirements to keep your child safe and promote their welfare
- The 4 themes that underpin key learning experiences
- The characteristics and skills children need to develop in order to become effective learners
- The 7 areas of learning and development your child's play and activities will cover as they learn new skills and knowledge
- Assessments that will tell you about your child's progress
- The expected levels (Early Learning Goals) that your child should reach at the end of Reception Class

What Are The Four Themes?

The curriculum within the Early Years Foundation Stage is planned around four main themes:

A Unique Child	Positive Relationships	Enabling Environments	Learning and Development
Every child is a competent learner from birth who can be resilient, capable, confident and self-assured.	Children learn to be strong and independent from a base of loving and secure relationships with parents and/or a key person	The environment plays a key role in supporting and extending children's development and learning	Children develop and learn in different ways and at different rates and all areas of Learning and Development



How & What Will My Child Be Learning?

There are 7 areas of learning and development. Children should mostly develop the 3 prime areas first. These prime areas are those most essential for your child's healthy development and future learning. As children grow, the prime areas will help them to develop skills in 4 specific areas:

PRIME AREAS OF LEARNING	
Communication and Language	Listening and attention
	Understanding
	Speaking
Personal, Social and Emotional Development	Self-confidence and self-awareness
	Managing feelings and behaviour
	Making relationships
Physical Development	Moving and handling
	Health and self-care
THE SPECIFIC AREAS OF LEARNING	
Literacy	Reading
	Writing
Maths	Number
	Shape, Space and Measures
Understanding The World	People and Communities
	The World
	Technology
Expressive Arts and Design	Exploring and Using Media and Materials
	Being Imaginative





The 7 areas of learning and development are used to plan your child's learning and activities. The staff will ensure that the activities are suited to your child's unique needs. This is a little bit like a curriculum in primary and secondary schools, but it's suitable for very young children and it's designed to be really flexible so that staff can follow your child's unique needs and interests. Children in the EYFS learn by playing and exploring, being active, and through creative and critical thinking which takes place both indoors and outside. Children learn to be strong and independent through positive relationships with other children and adults in the class.

The ways in which the child engages with other people and their environment underpin learning and development across all areas and support the child to remain an effective and motivated learner. These are called 'Characteristics of Learning':

Playing and exploring (Engagement)	Active learning (Motivation)	Creating and thinking critically (Thinking)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Finding out and exploring• Playing with what they know• Being willing to 'have a go'	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Being involved and concentrating• Keeping trying• Enjoying achieving what they set out to do	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Having their own ideas• Making links• Choosing ways to do things

How Will I Know How My Child Is Getting On?

- Staff are constantly interacting, working and playing with your child. While doing this they are observing their learning and development and ensuring that your child is being extended and challenged whilst also being nurtured and guided in the activities.
- Your child's achievements will be shared with you through Links Books, Parent Progress meetings. An end of year report will be sent out to sum up your child's achievements and targets for next steps in learning.
- At the end of Reception, you will be informed how your child is achieving towards the Early Learning Goals.

High Achievers

- If your child is achieving well, rather than moving on to the following year group's work many schools will encourage more in-depth and investigative work to allow a greater mastery and understanding of concepts and ideas.

How Can I Help My Child With Learning?

- Download the Parent Support Sheets from our school website
- Encourage your child to be as independent as possible
- Talk to your child and use interesting vocabulary and a growing grammar
- Read to your child
- Sing Nursery Rhymes
- Allow your child to be creative - paint, cut, stick and build using junk materials, dough and construction kits
- Cook and bake together
- Spend time together in the garden
- Play turn taking games together
- Complete any activities by Nursery & Reception



More Information

If you would like more information, please use the links below:

- What to expect and when - <https://primarysite-prod-sorted.s3.amazonaws.com/st-annes-sutton-coldfield/UploadedDocument/2259473edcad4dc680e428966afb78eb/parents-guide-what-to-expect-and-when.pdf>
- The EYFS Developmental Stages - <https://www.foundationyears.org.uk/files/2012/03/Development-Matters-FINAL-PRINT-AMENDED.pdf>
- Helpful hints as to how to help your child at home - <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/Parents/>