



Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) Statement

At Fishponds CE Primary School, the Early Years Foundation Stage provides the foundation for lifelong learning, enabling children to develop the knowledge, skills, values and attitudes required to achieve their full potential. Our provision is underpinned by the [Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage](#) and reflects the principles, safeguarding requirements and educational expectations set out by the Department for Education. We are committed to ensuring that every child receives a broad, balanced and ambitious curriculum that promotes high-quality learning, development and care.

We believe that every child is unique and capable of achieving success. Through a nurturing, inclusive and stimulating environment, we support children to develop confidence, resilience, independence and a positive sense of self. We are committed to equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practice, ensuring that all children, regardless of their background, needs or starting points, are valued, included and enabled to thrive.

Our curriculum is carefully designed around the seven areas of learning and development within the EYFS Framework. We place particular emphasis on the prime areas of communication and language, personal, social and emotional development and physical development, recognising their significance in establishing strong foundations for future learning. Through purposeful play, high-quality interactions and well-planned teaching, children are encouraged to explore, investigate, create, problem-solve and develop the characteristics of effective learning: playing and exploring, active learning and creating and thinking critically.

Language development sits at the heart of our Early Years provision. We recognise the importance of developing children's vocabulary, communication skills and understanding of language, and provide rich opportunities for meaningful talk, storytelling, reading and shared experiences throughout the day. We create engaging indoor and outdoor learning environments that inspire curiosity, encourage independence and enable children to apply and deepen their learning across all areas of the curriculum.

As a Church of England school, our provision is grounded in Christian values and promotes respect, kindness, compassion and understanding. We encourage children to develop positive relationships, appreciate diversity and value the contributions of others. Through opportunities to learn about themselves, their community and the wider world, children develop a strong sense of belonging and an understanding of their role within society.

Assessment is an integral part of our practice and is used effectively to identify children's strengths, celebrate achievements and inform future learning. Through ongoing observation, professional dialogue and partnership with families, we ensure that learning experiences are responsive to children's individual needs and support sustained progress from their starting points.

We recognise that parents and carers are children's first and most influential educators. Strong partnerships between home and school are central to our approach and support the best possible outcomes for children. By working collaboratively with families, maintaining open communication and valuing shared knowledge of each child, we create a supportive learning community that promotes children's wellbeing, development and achievement.

Safeguarding and welfare are paramount. We are committed to providing a safe, secure and welcoming environment where children feel happy, valued and protected. All staff uphold statutory safeguarding requirements and work together to promote children's health, wellbeing and personal development, ensuring they are ready to learn and flourish.

Our aim is that every child leaves the Early Years Foundation Stage as a confident, capable and enthusiastic learner who has developed a love of learning, a strong sense of self and the skills necessary for a successful transition into Key Stage 1. Through high expectations, meaningful experiences and a commitment to excellence, we strive to ensure that every child is prepared for the next stage of their education and for future success in school and life.