

## Supporting your child in the Foundation Stage

Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) - the curriculum which sets out the expectations for development from birth to 5 years - reviewed & updated for September 2012

The Foundation Stage has 7 areas of learning:

Prime areas: PSED, PD, CL. Specific areas: L, M, UW, EAD

1. Personal, Social and Emotional Development (PSED) - Making Relationships, Self Confidence & Self Awareness, Managing Feeling & Behaviour
2. Physical development (PD) - Moving & Handling, Health & Self-care
3. Communication and Language (CL) - Listening & Attention, Understanding, Speaking
4. Literacy (L) - Reading, Writing
5. Mathematics (M) - Numbers, Shape Space & Measure
6. Understanding the World (UW) - People & Communities, The World, Technology
7. Expressive Arts & Design (EAD) - Exploring & Using Media & Materials, Being Imaginative

We will be making observations & assessments all the time in these 7 areas. Children develop at different rates in different areas - THAT'S NORMAL. We will particularly be looking at how your child uses and applies learnt skills through self initiated activities (Busy Bee Time)

### Characteristics of Learning

Playing & Exploring - engagement

Active Learning - motivation

Creating & Thinking Critically - thinking

My Learning Book - is a 'scrap book' of experiences, development and learning. It will have drawings, evidence of mark making, photographs and written comments of things seen and heard. Your child will select things to go in the book and help stick it in.

Foundation Stage Profile - an end of Key Stage assessment in the 7 areas of learning

In these 17 strands children will be judged as: expected, exceeding or emerging

There will be a written summary of how your child learns based on the Characteristics of Learning

### Targets (areas for development) & reviews.

Parents will be asked to discuss concerns, areas for development etc.

Targets will be set by the class teacher - generally 2 whole class & 2 individual targets (this takes place approximately around each  $\frac{1}{2}$  term holiday)

## Parent observations

You can participate with gathering developmental evidence by recording things you see your child achieving at home - these may be linked to child's targets. You can fill in an observation sticker or share photos & mark making.

NB: It's particularly recording those milestones your child can achieve on their own, the WOW moments, e.g. learning to do their coat up, recognising the numbers on the aisles in Tesco, writing a card for grandma's birthday, discussing why the satsuma went green & mouldy in the fruit bowl, talking about how they felt when the goldfish died

The Learning Journal - paper work containing everything about your child including:

- Pre-school assessments on development (for last term)
- BTIS tracking following on from the pre-school
- 'All about me' sheet
- Targets & reviews
- Learning books
- Profile

## Share at Home Activities

- Maths & Reading games, Challenge cards, Chatter packs
- Please take only 1 at a time & remember to sign them out & back in - for you to change NOT the children & please do not keep them in book bags
- Available to change Tuesday & Thursday morning only (in the Activity room)
- Return to a member of staff if bits missing or broken (inc. the zippy bag)

## Reading at Home

- Find a quiet time when not too tired
- Keep it short but not rushed
- Discuss the pictures, don't cover them up - what are they doing, what do you think happens next, how are they feeling, who's in the story
- Identify individual letters (initially from name) how many can you find
- Identify simple words - put them on postit notes and turn it into a game
- Read own books from home, comics, posters, labels (not always ORT)
- Once recognising some letters try words sound out
- Give difficult words

## Letters and Sounds

This is the phonics scheme we use.

Posters in each class will list the handwriting, letter sounds and high frequency words that will be focused on during that week. There will be a sticker in the home reader detailing this information.

## Foundation Stage Booklets

We will be putting some booklets for you to download on the school website under Curriculum - Helping your child.

Some will be suitable to print off and work through, others are for information and to give you ideas about things to try.

## Websites

- <http://www.bishoptufnell-inf.w-sussex.sch.uk/>
- <http://www.foundationyears.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2012/03/Development-Matters-FINAL-PRINT-AMENDED.pdf>
- [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/190599/Letters\\_and\\_Sounds\\_-\\_DFES-00281-2007.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/190599/Letters_and_Sounds_-_DFES-00281-2007.pdf)
- [www.busythings.co.uk](http://www.busythings.co.uk)
- [www.cbeebies.co.uk](http://www.cbeebies.co.uk)