

Meadows Primary School and Nursery curriculum offer for EYFS.

Our aims:

- To provide a secure and happy environment in which our children are encouraged to work and play with enthusiasm and commitment.
- To maintain a tradition of academic excellence whilst offering the fullest possible range of experiences through a broad and balanced curriculum.
- To promote a spiritual and moral awareness in our pupils based on Christian principles.
- To ensure a friendly and supportive atmosphere in which our children's individual abilities and potential are fully appreciated and nurtured.
- To promote at all times the qualities of integrity, kindness, charity and good manners.

We encourage the children to:

- Be polite
- Be honest
- Be gentle
- Be kind and helpful
- Work hard
- Listen to people
- Look after property.

The EYFS curriculum.

The curriculum is divided into seven areas, three prime areas; Personal, Social and Emotional development, Communication and Language and Physical Development and there are four specific areas; Literacy, Mathematics, Understanding the World and Expressive Arts and Design.

Our activities are based around cross curricular themes that are linked to the interests of the children.

During the year we visit places of interest and Reception enjoy a trip to the theatre.

We also welcome visitors to school to enhance the curriculum.

Personal Social and Emotional Development

This is the promotion of personal qualities, skills, attitudes and values that enable individuals to think for themselves, manage relationships with others, understand moral issues, accept responsibilities and prepare to play an active role as citizens. In line with our aims children will learn:

- The importance of valuing oneself and others
- The importance of listening
- About the range of human emotions and how to manage them effectively

- Co-operation with others in work and play
- The importance of taking responsibility, both in and out of the classroom
- To respect others and their property, opinions and lifestyles
- Courtesy and kindness towards others
- The role, importance and dangers related to drugs and medicines in everyday life.
- How to make simple choices that will enable them to adopt a healthier and safer lifestyle
- To recognise the difference between right and wrong and how to make sensible choices
- That they belong to a variety of groups and communities
- Simple rules governing behaviour at school

In PSED lessons the following broad themes are covered:

Being me

How I feel

People I know

Bullies

Taking turns

Being fair

All sorts of people

Being angry

Communication and Language.

In the EYFS children are surrounded by a rich and engaging environment that supports all aspects of literacy. Children participate in a multitude of practical activities, providing the basis for recording through writing. These are taught both discreetly and through the themes for Nursery and Reception. The main strands of teaching are outlined below.

Speaking and Listening.

Pupils are encouraged to express themselves clearly to individuals, groups. The whole class and through assemblies and plays, to a wider audience. All subjects include opportunities for discussion, and they are also encouraged to share their experiences and talk about interesting events in circle time.

Reading

Pupils are taught to read through a range of genres and texts. They are also encouraged to borrow books from the school and class libraries. Basic words are taught with flash card games enabling children to recognise words by sight, and through the sounds of letters. Great emphasis is placed on enjoyment and understanding.

Writing

Pupils are encouraged to express themselves on paper, writing for a variety of purposes including stories, poems, factual accounts, recipes, lists and letters.

Phonics and spelling

Initial sounds are taught using the “Jolly Phonics” phonic approach and Letters and sounds Pupils are then taught sounds such as sh, ch, th, ee, oo, ay, In written work they are encouraged to attempt to spell as many words as they can. By the end of Reception year many can spell simple basic words such as the, you, and with confidence.

Handwriting

Correct letter and number formation is practised regularly. We encourage correct pencil grip, which is the tripod grip, and good posture.

Additional support

Children who may require additional support are given extra small group or individual tuition by the TA or teacher. This is in addition to that which is provided daily and addresses very specific needs. This support is monitored by class teachers and the SENCo.

Mathematics.

Children learn mathematical skills and problem solving skills through a multitude of practical activities. The children revisit all areas regularly during the year to ensure they have a good understanding of mathematical concepts. Children learn about the following topics:

Sorting activities

- Sort by colour, size, shape and type
- Select own criteria for sorting

Counting

- Count sets of objects reliably
- Estimate sets of objects
- Use a number line correctly
- Put numbers in the right order
- Repeat patterns using objects and numbers
- Use ordinal numbers, e.g. first, second, third

Addition and subtraction

- Know one more/one less
- Count on and back from a given number
- Use +, -, = signs
- Know some number bonds e.g. $5=5+0$, $4+1$, $3+2$, $2+3$, $1+4$. $0+5$
- Find missing numbers e.g. $3+?=5$

Shape

- Explore the properties of 3D shapes – cones, cylinders, cubes, cuboids, spheres
- Explore the properties of 2D shapes – circles, triangles, squares, rectangles
- Use positional language words (above, below, under, next to, between).

Measures

- Use language to compare two quantities (long/longer, short/shorter, tall/taller, high/higher, low/lower, wide/wider, narrow/ narrower)
- Compare without measuring
- Estimate and order
- Estimate and order starting with heaviest/lightest
- Explore which container holds more/less
- Order according to capacity
- Measure using non standard measure
- Measure using standard measures.

Time

- Know the day
- Order the days of the week
- Know the months and seasons of the year
- Know the time (0 'Clock, half past, quarter past)

Money

- Recognise the coins to £2.00
- Add, subtract and give change using up to 10p.

Helping at home

There are many opportunities for you to give your child valuable practical mathematical experience. These include:

- Cooking – weight and capacity
- Board games - counting, matching, sorting
- Being aware of shapes in the environment
- Shopping – identifying coins and using money
- Clocks – using a clock to identify important events during the day i.e. mealtimes, bedtimes

Understanding the world

Science forms part of the World strand of the EYFS. Children are encouraged to explore and investigate, drawing on their own personal experiences and observing closely using all their senses.

We aim to equip the children with the following skills:

- Show curiosity and interest in the features of objects and living things
- Describe and talk about what they see
- Show curiosity about why things happen and how things work
- Show an understanding of cause and effect
- Notice and comment on patterns
- Show an awareness of change
- Investigate objects and materials using all their senses as appropriate
- Find out about and identify some features of living things, objects and events they observe
- Look closely at similarities, differences, patterns and change

- Ask questions about why things happen and how things work

These skills are taught through the EYFS themes.

Geography forms part of the World strand of the EYFS and we aim to equip children with the following skills.

- Use correct geographical vocabulary
- Use and develop enquiry skills
- Follow simple directions.
- Form views and opinions about the environment.
- Be aware of the local environment
- Be aware of the wider world
- Be aware of ICT in geography

The history curriculum is also an integral part of the World strand of the EYFS. To facilitate the development of concepts, skills and dimensions, teachers will provide experiences by drawing on an assortment of resources. Children will learn:

- To sequence events and objects in order to develop a sense of chronology
- To ask questions about the past
- Nursery rhymes and fairy tales to place in sequence events in a story using pictures and words.
- To use simple time related vocabulary, e.g. yesterday, today, before, after, old, new
- About past and present events in their own lives and those of people they know
- To use a range of resources to find out about the past and to identify similarities and differences between now and the past

The children will learn these skills through cross curricular themes.

ICT

The ICT curriculum is under the umbrella of the world. ICT activities in the EYFS are integrated into all seven areas of learning and children learn how ICT is used in daily life and practise this in role-play situations. The children use the interactive white board, laptops, beebots, CD players and other controlled toys.

Our aim is that children leaving the EYFS at the end of Reception:

- Are confident using a mouse with some control
- Can select a programme of interest
- Log off a computer successfully
- Become familiar with important keys on the computer
- Realise the importance of ICT in our daily lives

- Are able to understand that information can be stored, retrieved and printed.

Religious Education

The children enter school with a variety of experiences and backgrounds. Much of the work is concerned with assemblies and prayers as well as general work about friendship, behaviour and sharing. There are very strong links between RE and PSED.

During the course of EYFS children learn about a number of religious stories as well as some major festivals. Teachers will always consider the children in their class and ensure that work on festivals and celebrations reflect the children's beliefs as well as exploring the beliefs of others.

Physical Education

The aims of Physical Education are to:

- Develop a range of physical skills
- Develop stamina and strength
- Express ideas in dance form
- Develop an appreciation of fair play, honest competition and good sportsmanship
- Develop an appreciation of the aesthetic qualities of movement
- Learn how to cooperate with each other and work successfully in pairs, groups and teams
- Develop physical and mental co-ordination, self-control and confidence
- Develop self-confidence through the understanding on one's own capabilities and limitations
- Provide opportunities for the participation in challenging experiences in a variety of environments
- Motivate each child so that they retain a lifelong interest in all aspects of PE and recognise the importance of living and maintaining a healthy life.

The following areas will be covered in lessons:

Gymnastics

Dance Games skills

Athletics

Art

Art forms part of the Expressive Arts and Design strand in the Early Years Foundation Stage. Pupils develop their creativity and imagination by exploring the visual, tactile and sensory qualities of materials and processes. They learn about the role of art, craft and design in their environment. They begin to understand colour, shape, space, pattern and texture and use them to represent their ideas and feelings. We aim to teach the children to:

- Explore different mark making using a variety of materials
- Draw from observation
- Explore shapes, size, patterns and texture
- Use different pencils to achieve different effects

- Imaginative drawing
- Draw myself
- Use paint and other mediums to explore colour including light and dark and colour mixing, primary and hot and cold colours
- Create textural markings
- Explore the properties of different mediums
- Repeat patterns and shapes
- Experiment with a variety of model making media
- Explore the qualities of different fabrics
- Find different ways of changing fabric e.g. fraying, cutting
- Recognise the similarities and differences of different materials
- Explore ways of threading materials.

Children learn the following skills:

Drawing

Colouring

Printing

3D modelling

Textiles

Collage materials

You can encourage your child to take part in art activities at home. We are always happy to provide recipes for play dough so that the fun can continue.

Music

All children in EYFS take part in weekly music lessons that are taught by the class teacher or TA. The lessons aim to:

- Develop musical memory and accurate pitching through listening and singing
- Explore the singing voice and different kinds of voice production
- Sing in class, in a group and as an individual
- Develop a sense of pulse