

Learning and Teaching in the Early Years

Foundation Stage

Within the EYFS there are three *prime* areas which are most essential for children's healthy development. These are as follows:

- Communication and language,
- Physical Development,
- Personal, social and emotional development.

There are also four *specific* areas, through which the three prime areas are strengthened and applied. The specific areas are:

- literacy;
- mathematics;
- understanding the world; and
- expressive arts and design.

All the areas are delivered through planned, purposeful play with a balance of adult-led and child-initiated activities.

During a week the children will experience a variety of adult led activities encompassing all seven areas of learning. They have access to a stimulating environment which is enhanced regularly in response to the children's interests and developmental needs. The environment is set up to enable the children to be independent in selecting their own activities. Practitioners constantly observe the children at work and play and ensure that all activities meet their needs.

Topics and themes are planned relating to the interests of the children, we also seek parental input through discussion, all about me books and questionnaires.