



East Brent
C of E Academy

Where a Love of Learning is Nurtured and Enriched

Early Years Policy



Date Agreed	September 2024
Review Date	September 2025

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) applies to children from birth to the end of their reception year. East Brent C of E Academy and Pre-School take children in early years from the ages of 2 to 5 years when the children then move on to the National Curriculum within the school.

Aims

At East Brent C of E Academy and Pre-School we aim to provide a high quality of education for all children and we strive to give them a solid foundation for the future. We encourage the children within our setting to be independent and lifelong learners. We set high expectations which help to support the children to develop socially, physically, intellectually, and emotionally so that they can reach their full potential. All our staff work together to ensure that children are kept safe and healthy.

Curriculum

At East Brent we adhere to the Statutory Framework for the early years foundation stage.

The staff at East Brent C of E Academy and Pre-School have worked closely together to develop our own curriculum based on the development matters 2020. Our curriculum ensures that we are providing

- The best for every child
- High-quality care
- A progressional curriculum with an understanding of what we want our children to learn
- A wide range of opportunities and experiences to help children to learn
- A good knowledge of assessment and how we can use everyday discussions to check what children have learnt
- A supportive partnership with parents.

We will

- Provide a balanced curriculum, based on the 7 areas of learning within the EYFS
- Promote equality and anti-discriminatory practice
- Provide support and early intervention for those children that need additional support
- Work closely in partnership with parents and external agencies to support our children
- Provide a range of learning opportunities which challenge and stimulate children of all abilities and ages
- Provide a range of opportunities that will include adult-led and child-initiated learning
- Provide a secure and safe learning environment both indoors and outdoors
- Provide an exciting and challenging curriculum based on our day-to-day observations and discussions, the children's interests, needs and various stages of development.

Areas of Learning:

The EYFS is made up of three **prime areas** of learning:

- Personal, Social and Emotional Development
- Communication and Language
- Physical Development

There are four **specific areas of learning**:

- Literacy
- Maths
- Understanding the world
- Expressive Arts and Design

Teaching

Each area of learning and development is implemented through planned, purposeful play, and through a mix of adult-led and child-initiated activities. Practitioners respond to each child's emerging needs and interests, guiding their development through warm, positive interaction.

We will use the indoor and outdoor environment to promote the areas of learning. There is an outdoor canopy to enable children to stay dry and safe in extreme weather conditions. The outside area has an all-weather soft surface, gardens, an outdoor covered area for sand, water, drawing activities or board games. Children are encouraged to use resources from the classroom or storage areas to develop their play. The Reception class is supported by an Higher level Teaching Assistant. As children grow older, and as their development allows, the balance gradually shifts towards more adult-led activities to help children prepare for more formal learning, ready for year 1.

Inclusion

All children will receive quality first teaching daily and activities will be differentiated accordingly. In addition to this where children have been identified as children who require support or a specific need, intervention programmes will be implemented. Staff will liaise with the SENDCO, parents and external agencies. Children with English as an additional language will be supported with carefully planned activities.

Assessment, Recording and Reporting

- Ongoing assessment is an integral part of the learning and development process.
- Daily practice will include observations and interaction of children's development and progress. These observations will be used to carefully plan the children's next steps.
- Discussions will be held with all adults in the EYFS as well as with parents about individual children's development and next steps
- Parent consultations will take place twice a year,
- Significant moments of children's achievements (Wow moments!) will be shared with parents on Tapestry, our online learning journal. Parents will also be provided with the opportunity to share their wow moments with their child from home.