

Communication and Language Development (CL)

Being with others can be a challenge for some children as there are now new distractions. This area of learning aims to help your child build on their listening and attention skills so that they can focus on what is important at relevant times.

It also helps them to develop their understanding skills so that they are able to follow instructions given to them. Connecting ideas, responding appropriately, and communicating their needs are all supported in 'Speaking', the final aspect of this area of learning.

Literacy (L)

This is more than just being able to read and write. Sharing stories with your child helps them hear a wide range of vocabulary as well as getting them to develop a love for reading themselves. Listening to conversations around them helps them to make sense of words and this in turn allows them to become confident writers. From creating lists for the shopping to retelling of stories they've heard, the skills they learn in this area will help them feel confident to tackle any word or sentence!

Understanding the World (UW)

Family members talking about their past experiences helps children to understand that there was time before them. Children are encouraged to explore the awe and wonder of the natural world and to use technology when it is useful. Being able to experience things in their local community and culture as well as other communities and cultures enables them to appreciate the similarities and differences in the world. This area provides the foundation for children to become well-rounded global citizens.

EYFS Areas of Learning

Whilst your child is in Early Years they will be assessed against the Early Years Curriculum, called the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). This is divided into 7 areas of learning and development which help learning opportunities for your child. The document 'Development Matters' breaks down each area into age bands that can be used to follow your child's progress, but these are stages of development, and the age band your child is working within might not be the same as their actual age.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development (PSED)

To ensure that your child is able to learn, they must first feel safe. This area aims to help your child to develop the skills so that they are able to feel safe amongst their peers and with the adults supporting them.

It will help them form relationships with others as well as becoming more confident when facing new challenges. When things don't go according to plan, they will also be supported so that they control their feelings as well as understand how to behave in different situations.

Physical Development (PD)

The first part of this area is designed to help your child have control over their gross and fine motor skills - the big (gross) movements they need to balance, climb, throw and catch, run or dance and the detailed (fine) control they need to manipulate tools such as scissors or to hold a pencil and make marks or form letters.

The second part of this area is to help your child make healthy choices, from knowing what foods will help keep them healthy to knowing what exercise they need to be doing to keep fit.

Mathematics (M)

Making sense of the mathematical world isn't just about being able to say the numbers in order. Understanding the amount each numeral represents, the different ways it can be created and spotting patterns in number will help your child to become confident in their approach to Number.

Being able to measure and compare things like weight, length and time are all important skills also covered in this area. These skills will help your child make sense of the world around them as well as and make connections between things they observe.

Expressive Arts and Design (EAD)

So much can be achieved through a song and a dance. Using their imaginations in pretend play, or making up songs and stories, and responding to music through sound and movement, this area provides a chance for children's interests to shine.

Being able to explore different materials and tools to produce different pieces of art work is another way for them to become even more imaginative.