

# Holmer C of E Academy

## The Early Years



## The EYFS Curriculum

Our Foundation Stage children follow the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework (EYFS). This curriculum is based upon four themes and principles.

**The Unique Child** - We understand that every child is an individual child who is capable in their own right. The holistic child has a variety of needs that need meeting over their time in the Foundation Stage.

**Positive Relationships** - Social interaction is key to children's development. Children become strong, independent learners; as well as scaffolding their learning through positive social interaction.

**Enabling Environments** - Providing a safe, secure and stimulating base for your children is key to their development. The framework allows for experiences that respond to the child's individual needs/ interests; as well as developing a strong partnership between practitioners, parents and carers.

**Learning and Development** - Children develop and learn in different ways. The framework covers the education and care of all children in early years provision, including children with special

# Early Learning Goals

place  
letter  
here

Within 'Development Matters' there are 3 prime areas of learning and 4 specific areas. This framework provides the basis of how we structure the setting, the activities and opportunities we provide; as well as how we assess your child's development. For each of these areas your child will have an 'Early Learning Goal' to work towards.

## Prime Areas

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

## Specific Areas

- Literacy
- Problem solving, numeracy and reasoning
- Understanding the World
- Expressive arts and design

## Characteristics of Effective Learning

- Playing and exploring
- Active learning
- Creating and thinking critically





# Personal, Social and Emotional Development

At school children learn to share toys, to take turns when playing games and to tidy up after themselves.

We encourage the use of the words please and thank you.

We want our children to become independent at changing clothes and shoes, you can help at home by encouraging them to dress on their own.

It is also helpful if children are used to sitting at a table

# Physical Development

This area is about improving skills of co-ordination, control, manipulation and movement.

Physical development also helps children gain confidence in what they can do and enables them to feel the positive benefits of being healthy and active.

We help the children develop their physical skills through movement, dance, gymnastics and games as well as through activities designed to improve fine control skills.

Reception go swimming in the summer term at the Leisure Pool. At Holmer we believe swimming is a vital life skill that all children should learn to do.



# Communication, Language

This area of learning involves the children being read a wide range of books, reading simple texts, writing for a variety of purposes and speaking and listening.



Children are encouraged to develop their language skills through listening, talking, self-expression, reading, predicting and imagining.

We like to develop a love of books by encouraging them to listen to stories, rhymes and poetry and through sharing books at home and at school.

## Mathematics



This area of learning includes counting, sorting, matching, seeking patterns, making connections, recognising relationships and working with numbers, shapes, space and measures.

We help to develop mathematical understanding through stories, songs, games and imaginative play so that children enjoy using and experimenting with numbers.

# Understanding of the World



In this area of learning, the children develop the crucial knowledge, skills and understanding that help them make sense of the world.

This forms the foundation for later work in science, design technology, history, geography and information and communications technology. (ICT)

Children will be using the latest ICT equipment. This includes using laptops, CD-ROMS, simple programmable floor robots and the Interactive Whiteboard.

The children are encouraged to ask questions and develop an enquiring mind.

We help them to develop a love and appreciation of the natural world.

Activities may involve making observations and doing simple investigations.

## Expressive Arts and Design

Creativity is fundamental to successful learning. Being creative enables children to make connections between one area of learning and another and so extend their understanding.

This area of learning includes art, music, dance, role play and imaginative play.

We aim to provide a stimulating environment in which creativity, originality and expressiveness are valued.

The children are encouraged to take time to explore and develop their ideas. They have lots of opportunities for self-expression and to work with a variety of resources.

Role play can help your child develop vital speaking and listening skills, as well as developing imagination and helping them make sense of the world.



# The characteristics of learning:

The Characteristics of Effective Learning and the Prime and Specific Areas of Learning and Development are all interconnected.

‘The ways in which the child engages with other people and their environment – playing and exploring, active learning, and creating and thinking critically – underpin learning and development across all areas and support the child to remain an effective and motivated learner.’

## Playing and exploring –

engagement

Finding out and exploring

Playing with what they know Being willing to ‘have a go’

## Active learning –

motivation

Being involved and concentrating

Keeping trying

Enjoying achieving what they set out to do

## Creating and thinking critically –

thinking

Having their own ideas

Making links Choosing ways to do things

