

# Early Years Foundation Stage Policy (EYFS)

## Long Wittenham C.E. Primary School

This policy supports the school vision enabling us to show our love through kindness, determination and curiosity; strengthening ourselves and our community.



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Next review due: July 2025

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# 1. Aims

This policy aims to ensure:

- That children access a broad and balanced curriculum that gives them the broad range of knowledge and skills needed for good progress through school and life
- Quality and consistency in teaching and learning so that every child makes good progress and no child gets left behind
- Close partnership working between practitioners and with parents and/or carers
- Every child is included and supported through equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practice

## 2. Legislation

This policy is based on requirements set out in the [statutory framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage \(EYFS\)](#).

## 3. Structure of the EYFS

In our school, the EYFS comprises children in the Reception year (YR) only. They have their own designated classroom and class teacher and the majority of their learning takes place here or in the adjoining outdoor learning area.

## 4. Curriculum

Our early years setting follows the curriculum as outlined in the latest version of the EYFS statutory framework.

The EYFS is based upon the overarching principles:

- A Unique Child
- Positive Relationships
- Enabling Environments with teaching and support from adults
- The importance of learning and development.

The EYFS framework includes 7 areas of learning and development that are equally important and inter-connected. However, 3 areas known as the prime areas are seen as particularly important for igniting curiosity and enthusiasm for learning, and for building children's capacity to learn, form relationships and thrive.

The prime areas are:

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

The prime areas are strengthened and applied through 4 specific areas:

- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the world
- Expressive arts and design

### 4.1 Planning

Members of staff plan activities and experiences for children that enable them to develop and learn effectively. Members of staff also take into account the individual needs, interests, and stage of development of each child in their care, and use this information to plan a challenging and enjoyable experience. To provide effectively for children with special educational needs or disabilities, staff consider whether specialist support is required, linking with relevant services from other agencies, if appropriate.

In planning and guiding children's activities, practitioners reflect on the different ways that children learn and include these in their practice.

### 4.2 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. 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.

## 5. Assessment

At Long Wittenham School, ongoing assessment is an integral part of the learning and development processes. Members of staff observe pupils to identify their level of achievement, interests and learning styles. These observations are used to shape future planning. Practitioners also take into account observations shared by parents and/or carers.

Within the first 6 weeks of Reception, staff will administer the Reception Baseline Assessment (RBA).

At the end of the EYFS, the class teacher completes the EYFS profile for each child. Pupils are assessed against the 17 early learning goals, indicating whether they are meeting expected levels of development or are not yet reaching expected levels (*emerging*)

The profile reflects ongoing observations and discussions with parents and/or carers. The profile is moderated internally and in partnership with other local schools, to ensure consistent assessment judgements. EYFS profile data is submitted to the local authority. The results of the profile are then shared with parents and/or carers as part of the Annual Report

## 6. Working with parents

We recognise that children learn and develop well when there is a strong partnership between practitioners and parents and/or carers. Parents and/or carers are kept up to date with their child's progress and development throughout the year and the EYFS profile helps to provide parents and/or carers with a well-rounded picture of their child's knowledge, understanding and abilities.

Each child is assigned a key person who helps to ensure that their learning and care is tailored to meet their needs. The key person supports parents and/or carers in guiding their child's development at home. The key person also helps families to engage with more specialist support, if appropriate. In our school, the key person is the Reception Class Teacher.

## 7. Safeguarding and welfare procedures

We promote healthy lifestyles and good health in general by encouraging physical activity and healthy eating as part of our PSHE curriculum and P.E provision. We also promote good oral health through PSHE as well as through provision for the understanding world strand of the EYFS. Our safeguarding and welfare procedures are outlined in our Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy.

## 8. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed every year. At every review, the policy will be shared with the governing board.

### Appendix 1

List of statutory policies and procedures for the EYFS

Statutory policy or procedure for the EYFS	Where can it be found?
Safeguarding policy and procedures	See School Safeguarding policy
Procedure for responding to illness	See First aid policy and Supporting Pupils With Medical conditions policy
Administering medicines policy	See Supporting Pupils With Medical Needs Policy
Emergency evacuation procedure	See Health and safety policy
Procedure for checking the identity of visitors	See Visitors policy
Procedure for dealing with concerns and complaints	See Complaints Procedure
Intimate care	See intimate care policy