

Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) policy

King's Stanley CofE Primary School



Approved by:

Date:

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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 foundational knowledge and skills needed for good progress throughout the child's time and school and into adult life
- Quality and consistency in teaching and learning so that every child makes good progress and no child gets left behind
- A close working partnership between staff and 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 2024 statutory framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS).

3. Structure of the EYFS

Our EYFS is comprised of one Reception class of maximum 30 children.

4. Curriculum

Our early years setting follows the curriculum as outlined in the 2024 EYFS statutory framework.

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

In Reception, the Curriculum has been planned alongside individual subject leaders, who understand the different approach to Teaching and Learning in Reception and know their curriculum throughout KS1 and KS2. Rather than a lesson based, National Curriculum approach, the children have weekly/ fortnightly foci to deepen and broaden their learning experience. This is made up of lessons, experiences, exploring objects and artefacts, in the moment planning, continuous provisions and enhancements to provision.

4.1 Planning

Staff plan activities and experiences for children that enable children to develop and learn effectively. In order to do this, staff working with the youngest children are expected to focus strongly on the 3 prime areas.

Staff should 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. Where a child may have a special educational need or disability, staff consider whether specialist support is required, linking with relevant services from other agencies, where appropriate.

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

Staff in Reception plan weekly/ fortnightly focus studies to cover the planned curriculum (see Knowledge organisers) and also utilise 'in the moment' planning to develop the children's knowledge and skills in relation to their play and provision they are accessing.

Children in Reception will have access to Continuous and Enhanced Provision. These are related to the 7 areas of learning in addition to adult led activities. Children are given opportunities for repeated practice related to the seven areas of learning to ensure mastery.

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. Staff respond to each child's emerging needs and interests, guiding their development through warm, positive interaction and observation.

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 King's Stanley CofE Primary School, ongoing assessment is an integral part of the learning and development processes. Staff observe pupils to identify their level of achievement, interests and learning styles. These observations are used to shape future planning. Staff also take into account observations shared by parents and/or carers. This is done through conversation and wow vouchers.

Within the first 6 weeks that a child **starts reception**, staff will administer the Reception Baseline Assessment (RBA).

Throughout the year, the children will have a range of short summative assessments in Phonics and Maths to ensure expected progress is being made. At the end of each term, each child is assessed on the 17 Early Learning Goals and if they are within the 'expected stage' for that point in the academic year. Where progress is not as 'expected' the Class Teacher will work alongside other staff to plan implement interventions. Assessments are shaped through staff observation and discussion, working with children, adventure books, recorded work and summative assessment.

Throughout the year, data is uploaded onto the Little Wandle Phonics tracking platform and Insight tracking where appropriate.

At the **end of the EYFS**, staff complete the EYFS profile for each child. Pupils are assessed against the 17 early learning goals, indicating whether they are:

- Meeting expected levels of development
- Not yet reaching expected levels ('emerging')

The profile reflects ongoing observations, and discussions with parents and/or carers. The results of the profile are shared with parents and/or carers for their child.

The profile is moderated internally (referring to the Development Matters [guidance](#)) and in partnership with other local schools, to ensure consistent assessment judgements. EYFS profile data is submitted to the local authority.

6. Working with parents

We recognise that children learn and develop well when there is a strong partnership between staff and parents and/or carers.

Before the children start school, we offer a home visit during which parents/ carers are given an opportunity to confidentially ask questions and we also start to get to know more about the children. Parents and/or carers are kept up to date with their child's progress and development. Parents are invited to Parents' Evenings in Terms 2 and 4 and given a full, written report in Term 6. The EYFS profile helps to provide parents and/or carers with a well-rounded picture of their child's knowledge, understanding and abilities.

The Reception Class Teacher is assigned as 'key person' who helps to ensure that every child's 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, alongside the school SENDco and Family Support Worker also help families to engage with more specialist support, if appropriate.

7. Safeguarding and welfare procedures

Our safeguarding policy includes clear definitions of abuse, detailed reporting procedures, and the identification of a Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL). We ensure all staff receive regular training, adhere to a strict code of conduct, and conduct thorough risk assessments. Confidentiality is maintained, and a whistleblowing policy is in place to protect staff and children. We foster strong partnerships with parents and regularly review our policies to ensure they remain effective and relevant.

We promote good health in general, as well as good oral health, in the early years for example by talking to children about:

- The effects of eating too many sweet things
- The importance of brushing your teeth
- Hand hygiene

The rest of our safeguarding and welfare procedures are outlined in our safeguarding policy.

8. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed and approved by Sophie Beale (Reception Class Teacher) and Holly White (EYFS Governor) every 2 years.

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 child protection and safeguarding policy Safeguarding and CP Policy KSPS
Procedure for responding to illness	See health and safety policy Health Safety School Policy.KSPS.docx
Administering medicines policy	See supporting pupils with medical conditions policy Safeguarding and CP Policy KSPS
Emergency evacuation procedure	See health and safety policy Health Safety School Policy.KSPS.docx
Procedure for checking the identity of visitors	See child protection and safeguarding policy Safeguarding and CP Policy KSPS
Procedures for a parent failing to collect a child and for missing children	See child protection and safeguarding policy Safeguarding and CP Policy KSPS
Procedure for dealing with concerns and complaints	See complaints policy Complaints procedure.doc.odt