



Ipplepen Primary School EYFS Curriculum Plan for Parents

Our Early Years setting is set up to promote learning through play, both indoors and outdoors, no matter the weather. Play is an integral part of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) and children are given lots of opportunity to initiate, explore, investigate and develop their own play, ideas and thinking.

All about the curriculum...

The curriculum consists of three **prime areas**. These areas support the children as they develop through the Foundation Stage and are key for life-long learning. These are:

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

These underpin the **specific areas** of learning which include:

- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding of the World
- Expressive Arts and Design.

Children meet each of these areas of learning in our well-resourced and organised classroom environment. The children have access to a wide variety of resources to support and challenge their creative play. They may learn independently, with others, as well as times when learning is led by adults.

Each fortnight the class works on answering a '*Big Question*,' which gives direction to our learning. Such questions are planned with the children's interests, needs and ideas in mind. You will receive details about the '*big questions*' via parent mail, along with an activity that will help you support your child's learning at home. However, please see below some general information about the areas of learning.



The Prime Areas:

1. Communication and Language

Development involves giving children opportunities to experience a rich language environment; to develop their confidence and skills in expressing themselves; and to speak and listens in a range of situations.

You can help at home by: encouraging your child to bring in items or to talk about special occasions in *Show and Tell*.

2. Physical Development

This involves providing opportunities for young children to be active and interactive; and to develop their co-ordination, control and movement. Children must also be helped to understand the importance of physical activity, and to make healthy choices in relation to food.

You can help at home by: providing opportunities for your child to climb up, under, through and around obstacles and to feel confident running, jumping and balancing.

3. Personal, Social and Emotional Development

This involves providing opportunities for young children to develop a positive sense of themselves and others; to form positive relationships and develop respect for others; to develop social skills and learn how to manage their feelings; to understand appropriate behaviour in group; and to have confidence in their own abilities

You can help at home by: helping your child to realise their successes and encouraging them to discuss any problems or worries they may have.

The Specific Areas:

In the specific areas of learning and development the three prime areas are strengthened and applied.

4. Literacy

Development involves encouraging children to link sounds and letters and begin to read and write. Children must be given access to a wide range of reading materials and role-play scenarios (books, magazines, poems and other written materials) to ignite their interest and realise real purposes for literacy in everyday life.

You can help at home by: reading with your child for 10 minutes every day and talking about what you read.



5. Mathematics

This involves providing children with opportunities to develop and improve their skills in counting, understanding and using numbers, calculating addition and subtraction problems; and to describe shapes, space and measures.

You can help at home by: Drawing attention to and applying number and shape knowledge to day-to-day activities. For example, setting the table with the correct number of knives, forks, spoons etc.

6. Understanding the World

This involves guiding children to make sense of their physical world and their community through opportunities to explore, observe and find out about people, places, technology and the environment.

You can help at home by: talking about things you celebrate at home as a family, talking about your immediate environment and where we live and giving the children any opportunity to further develop their keyboard and mouse skills, as well as using tablets.

7. Expressive arts and design

This involves enabling children to explore and play with a wide variety of media and materials, as well as providing opportunities and encouragement for sharing their thoughts, ideas and feelings through a variety of activities in art, music, movement, dance, role-play and design and technology.

You can help at home by: supporting children to express and develop their ideas in a range of ways; singing, dancing, music, paint, collage, sculpture, construction and role-play.

The 'What to Expect When' document is also a useful tool for parents and carers who want to learn more about the Early Years Foundation Stage. It can be downloaded from this link:

http://www.foundationyears.org.uk/files/2015/03/4Children_ParentsGuide_2015_WEB.pdf

However, if you have any questions about the Early Years Curriculum at Ipplepen Primary School, please speak to Mrs Lacey or Mrs Welsh.

