



## POLICY DOCUMENT

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) applies to children from birth to the end of their reception year. Beenham Primary School's Early Years Foundation Stage accommodates children from the age of 4 to 5. We have 1 Reception class with a maximum of 15 children. To ensure best practice we have two adults, one teacher and one Early Years teaching assistant attached to the class.

In addition to this we have support staff who also work within the classes and provide extra support and intervention where needed.

### Aims

At Beenham Primary School, we aim to provide the highest quality care and education for all our children therefore giving them the strong foundation for their future. We aim to ensure that all our children develop into independent and lifelong learners.

"When we succeed in giving every child the best start in their early years, we give them what they need today. We also set them up with every chance of success tomorrow."

*Development Matters Sept 2020*

### Early Years Foundation Stage Policy

Our high expectations will enable children to develop socially, physically, intellectually and emotionally and to achieve their full potential. We will ensure that all our children are kept healthy and safe and that they achieve the knowledge and skills they need to start in Key Stage 1.

### Curriculum

Our children follow the curriculum as outlined in the EYFS document. The EYFS is based on seven key features of effective practice as set out in Development Matters 2020

1. The best for every child
2. High-quality care
3. The curriculum: what we want children to learn
4. Pedagogy: helping children to learn
5. Assessment: checking what children have learnt
6. Self-regulation and executive function
7. Partnership with parents

As part of our best practice we:

- Provide a balanced curriculum, based on the EYFS, across the seven areas of learning
- Promote equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practice
- Provide early intervention for those who need additional support
- Work in partnership with parents and where needed outside agencies
- Plan challenging learning experiences for all our children, based on the individual needs of the child
- Provide opportunities for our children to engage in adult led learning and self-initiated learning
- Provide a secure and safe learning environment indoors and outdoors
- Plan an exciting and challenging curriculum based on our observations of children's needs, interests, outdoor learning/ natural world and the stages of development across the seven areas of learning Areas of Learning.

The EYFS is made up of three prime areas of learning:

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

There are four specific areas of learning:

- Literacy
- Maths
- Understanding the World
- Expressive Arts and Design

All seven areas of learning and development are important and interconnected. At Beenham Primary School, children are provided with a range of rich, meaningful first-hand experiences, in which they can explore, think creatively and be active. We provide a well-balanced curriculum and our planning ensures that each child can develop their knowledge, skills and understanding in every area of the EYFS.

Each area of learning and development is implemented through planned, purposeful activities and through a mix of adult led and child-initiated learning.

### **Inclusion**

All children will receive quality first teaching daily and activities will be differentiated accordingly. In addition to this where children have been identified as having a specific need intervention programme will be implemented.

Teachers and Teaching Assistants plan programmes together and where needed with liaison with the Special Needs Co-ordinator. (Please refer to the school's 'SEND Policy' for greater detail).

The needs of children with English as an additional language will be met through planning and support.

### **Assessment, Recording and Reporting**

- Assessments are made in line with the EYFS including the Reception Baseline which happens every September.
- Daily practice includes observations of children's development and progress
- Discussions are held with all adults in EYFS about individual children's development and next steps
- Significant observations of children's achievements are recorded in their learning journeys which are shared with parents
- An end of year report is provided to all parents/carers on their child's development against the seven areas of learning
- At the end of Reception children are assessed against the Early Learning Outcomes for each area of learning.

### **Transitions**

At Beenham Primary School, we recognise that starting school and moving up classes has the potential to be a stressful time for both parents and children. To this end we have established a strong set of procedures for transitions to be smooth as possible.

All children starting in our school have home visits prior to their child starting with us, this gives children the security of meeting with their teacher in a safe, familiar environment and gives parents time to ask questions and share knowledge or any concerns they have about their child. In addition to this all the children have 2 play sessions in the class to meet the other staff and get familiar with their new surroundings. Children coming from different settings to our Reception are visited, where possible, by the class teacher and their progress and development shared by their Nursery key worker. We have a staggered intake in our Early Years to ensure that children who need extra support are given time at each start date to settle in. All children starting in Reception have a booklet to complete during the summer break and parents are given access to our learning platform prior to the start of the school year.

In the summer term all our reception children visit their new Year 1 teacher on two occasions prior to them starting Year 1. The reception teacher will pass on their knowledge of each child's development, progress, and achievement towards the early learning goals to ensure that all teachers have a well-rounded picture of the children prior to starting the new school year.

### **Health and Safety and Safeguarding**

Children learn best when they are healthy, safe, and secure, when their individual needs are met, and when they have positive relationships with the adults caring for them. We follow the safeguarding and welfare requirements detailed in the 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' statutory guidance and adhere to the school's safeguarding policy.

We are a healthy school and participate in the free fruit and milk for under-fives scheme. For our reception children we provide the universal infant free school meal, and the menu is regularly monitored with the catering company. We cater for those children who have special dietary requirements and have robust systems in place ensuring that all children receive the correct meal. Fresh water is readily available for all children, and we encourage children to bring in water bottles with water only. Children are taught the importance of keeping clean and washing their hands correctly.

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| <b>DATE APPROVED: SEPTEMBER 2022</b> | <b>NEXT REVIEW DATE: September 2023</b> |
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