

# The three prime areas of the Early Years Curriculum

## 1. Physical Development early learning goals:



### Moving and handling:

- Children show good control and co-ordination in large and small movements.
- They move confidently in a range of ways, safely negotiating space.
- They handle equipment and tools effectively, including pencils for writing.

### Health and self-care:

- Children know the importance for good health of physical exercise, and a healthy diet, and talk about ways to keep healthy and safe.
- They manage their own basic hygiene and personal needs successfully, including dressing and going to the toilet independently.

## **2. Personal, Social and Emotional early learning goals:**



### **Self-confidence and self-awareness:**

- Children are confident to try new activities, and say why they like some activities more than others.
- They are confident to speak in a familiar group, will talk about their ideas, and will choose the resources they need for their chosen activities.
- They say when they do or don't need help.

### **Managing feelings and behaviour:**

- Children talk about how they and others show feelings, talk about their own and others' behaviour, and its consequences, and know that some behaviour is unacceptable.
- They work as part of a group or class, and understand and follow the rules.
- They adjust their behaviour to different situations, and take changes of routine in their stride.

### **Making relationships:**

- Children play co-operatively, taking turns with others.
- They take account of one another's ideas about how to organise their activity.
- They show sensitivity to others' needs and feelings, and form positive relationships with adults and other children.

### 3. Communication and Language early learning goals:



#### Listening and attention:

- Children listen attentively in a range of situations.
- They listen to stories, accurately anticipating key events and respond to what they hear with relevant comments, questions or actions.
- They give their attention to what others say and respond appropriately, while engaged in another activity.

#### Understanding:

- Children follow instructions involving several ideas or actions.
- They answer 'how' and 'why' questions about their experiences and in response to stories or events.

#### Speaking:

- Children express themselves effectively, showing awareness of listeners' needs.
- They use past, present and future forms accurately when talking about events that have happened or are to happen in the future.
- They develop their own narratives and explanations by connecting ideas or events.

## The four specific areas of the Early Years Curriculum

### 1. Literacy early learning goals:



#### Reading:

- Children read and understand simple sentences.
- They use phonic knowledge to decode regular words and read them aloud accurately.
- They also read some common irregular words.
- They demonstrate understanding when talking with others about what they have read.

#### Writing:

- Children use their phonic knowledge to write words in ways which match their spoken sounds.
- They also write some irregular common words.
- They write simple sentences which can be read by themselves and others.
- Some words are spelt correctly and others are phonetically plausible.

## 2. Mathematics early learning goals



### Numbers:

- Children count reliably with numbers from 1 to 20, place them in order and say which number is one more or one less than a given number.
- Using quantities and objects, they add and subtract two single-digit numbers and count on or back to find the answer.
- They solve problems, including doubling, halving and sharing.

### Shape, space and measures:

- Children use everyday language to talk about size, weight, capacity, position, distance, time and money to compare quantities and objects and to solve problems.
- They recognise, create and describe patterns.
- They explore characteristics of everyday objects and shapes and use mathematical language to describe them.

### **3. Expressive Arts & Design early learning goals:**



#### **Exploring and using media and materials:**

- Children sing songs, make music and dance, and experiment with ways of changing them.
- They safely use and explore a variety of materials, tools and techniques, experimenting with colour, design, texture, form and function.

#### **Being imaginative:**

- Children use what they have learnt about media and materials in original ways, thinking about uses and purposes.
- They represent their own ideas, thoughts and feelings through design and technology, art, music, dance, role-play and stories.

#### 4. Understanding the World early learning goals:



##### People and communities:

- Children talk about past and present events in their own lives and in the lives of family members.
- They know that other children don't always enjoy the same things, and are sensitive to this.
- They know about similarities and differences between themselves and others, and among families, communities and traditions.

##### The world:

- Children know about similarities and differences in relation to places, objects, materials and living things.
- They talk about the features of their own immediate environment and how environments might vary from one another.
- They make observations of animals and plants and explain why some things occur, and talk about changes.

##### Technology:

- Children recognise that a range of technology is used in places such as homes and schools.
- They select and use technology for particular purposes.