

The Early Years Foundation Stage at Bradshaw Hall Primary School

Overview

Children develop and learn in their own individual ways. Within the Early Years Foundation Stage, adults observe children as they play and interact with others in everyday activities, to identify areas in which to challenge and extend current learning and development. Children are taught by ensuring opportunities are provided across the prime and specific areas of learning. The ways in which children engage and interact with others and their environment through playing and exploring, active learning, and creating and thinking critically, underpin learning and development across all of the areas.

Areas of Learning and Development

The 'Early Years Foundation Stage' ('EYFS') consists of prime and specific areas of learning.

The **prime** areas begin to develop quickly in response to relationships and experiences, and run through and support learning in all other areas. The prime areas continue to be fundamental throughout the EYFS.

Prime Areas of Learning

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

- Making relationships
- Self-confidence and self-awareness
- Managing feelings and behaviour

Physical Development

- Moving and handling
- Health and self-care

Communication and Language

- Listening and attention
- Understanding
- Speaking

The **specific** areas include essential skills and knowledge. They grow out of the prime areas, and provide important contexts for learning.

Specific Areas of Learning

Literacy

- Reading
- Writing

Mathematics

- Numbers
- Shape, space and measure

Understanding the World

- People and communities
- The world
- Technology

Expressive Arts and Design

- Exploring and using media and materials
- Being imaginative

Characteristics of Effective Learning

The 'Characteristics of Effective Learning' underpin learning and development across all of the prime and specific areas of the EYFS.

The 'Characteristics of Effective Learning' are as follows:

Playing and exploring

- Finding out and exploring
- Playing with what they know
- Being willing to 'have a go'

Active learning

- Being involved and concentrating
- Keeping trying
- Enjoying achieving what they set out to do

Creating and thinking critically

- Having their own ideas
- Making links
- Choosing ways to do things

By the end of Reception children are expected to reach the Early Learning Goals. At Bradshaw Hall we provide a wealth of opportunities to support and enable each child to reach their full potential. The development statements within 'Development Matters' suggest a typical range of development, however, we understand that children develop at their own rates and in their own unique ways.

www.early-education.org.uk/development-matters