



Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) Curriculum and Learning Statement

At Clayesmore School, we provide a rich, engaging, and inclusive learning environment that follows the **Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) framework**. We believe that children learn best when they are happy, secure, and confident, and when learning is play-based, practical, and personalised to their interests and developmental stage.

Our curriculum aims to:

- Support children's personal, social, and emotional development.
- Promote communication, language, and literacy skills.
- Encourage physical development through fine and gross motor activities.
- Develop mathematical understanding through hands-on experiences.
- Inspire creative expression through art, music, and imaginative play.
- Foster understanding of the world, including science, nature, technology, and the wider community.
- Encourage problem-solving, independence, and critical thinking.

Principles of Learning

We follow the EYFS principles that children learn through:

- Active learning – exploring, experimenting, and experiencing new challenges.
- Play-based learning – using imagination, role-play, and practical activities to understand the world.
- Personalised learning – recognising each child's strengths, interests, and learning style.

- High-quality adult interactions – providing guidance, support, and encouragement in all activities.

Key Areas of Learning

The EYFS framework is organised into seven areas of learning and development:

Prime Areas:

1. Personal, Social, and Emotional Development (PSED) – building confidence, self-regulation, and positive relationships.
2. Communication and Language (CL) – developing listening, speaking, understanding, and early literacy skills.
3. Physical Development (PD) – promoting coordination, movement, health, and self-care skills.

Specific Areas:

4. Literacy – recognising letters, sounds, and beginning to read and write.
5. Mathematics – understanding numbers, shapes, patterns, and measurement.
6. Understanding the World (UW) – exploring nature, technology, communities, and cultures.
7. Expressive Arts and Design (EAD) – encouraging creativity through music, dance, art, and imaginative play.

Observation, Assessment, and Planning

- Staff observe children daily to understand their interests, abilities, and next steps in learning.
- Observations are recorded and used to plan activities that are meaningful, challenging, and fun.
- Progress is regularly reviewed to ensure children meet developmental milestones and are supported in areas where they need extra help.
- Parents are actively involved through regular communication, progress updates, and sharing of learning experiences.

Inclusion and Diversity

- All children are valued as individuals, and learning is adapted to meet diverse needs, abilities, and backgrounds.
- Activities are designed to promote respect, tolerance, and understanding of differences.
- Children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) are supported through tailored interventions and the involvement of parents and specialists.

Learning through play and real-life experiences

- Play is central to our curriculum, allowing children to explore, discover, and experiment safely.
- Real-life experiences, such as trips, visits, and outdoor learning, are incorporated to broaden children's understanding of the world.
- We encourage problem-solving, curiosity, and creativity through hands-on learning.

Partnership with Parents

- We recognise that parents are children's first educators.
- Parents are encouraged to share insights, observations, and home experiences to enhance continuity in learning.
- Progress reports and regular meetings ensure open communication between staff and families.

Preparing for the Next Stage

- Our EYFS curriculum ensures children are ready for school, socially, emotionally, and academically.
- We focus on confidence, independence, and curiosity, providing a solid foundation for lifelong learning.

This policy was adopted on	Signed on behalf of the nursery	Date for review
<i>[Insert date]</i>		<i>[Insert date]</i>