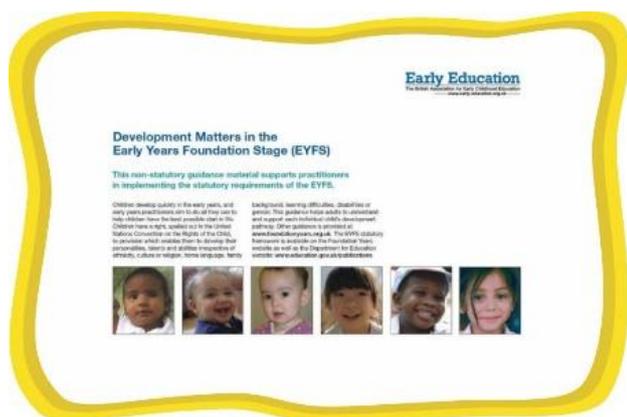


# Curriculum in Early Years



In Nursery and Reception we use the Development Matters document to plan our curriculum.

We use Development Matters as part of daily observation, assessment and planning. It is also used at points during the EYFS as a guide to making best-fit summative judgements. The age/stage bands overlap because these are not fixed age boundaries but suggest a typical range of development.

The curriculum is divided into 7 areas of learning, which are separated into 17 aspects. The Characteristics of Effective Learning run through all areas. In Reception it is also a statutory requirement that children experience Religious Education.

<u>Characteristics of Effective Learning</u>	<u>Area of Learning and Development</u>	<u>Aspect</u>
	<b>Prime Areas</b>	
<u>Playing and exploring – engagement</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Finding out and exploring</li> <li>Playing with what they know</li> <li>Being willing to ‘have a go’</li> </ul>	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		
<u>Active learning – motivation</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Being involved and concentrating</li> <li>Keeping trying</li> <li>Enjoying achieving what they set out to do</li> </ul>	Communication and Language	Listening and attention
		Understanding
		Speaking
	<b>Specific Areas</b>	
<u>Creating and thinking critically</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Having their own ideas</li> <li>Making links</li> <li>Choosing ways to do things</li> </ul>	Literacy	Reading
		Writing
	Mathematics	Numbers
		Shapes, space and measure
	Understanding the World	People and communities
		The world
Technology		
Expressive Arts and Design	Exploring and using media and materials	
	Being imaginative	

In Early Years children learn best through a mixture of:

- child-initiated play, actively supported by adults
- focused learning, with adults guiding the learning through rich experiential activities.

4 key themes:

- **A Unique Child** – adults observe each child’s development and learning to enable planning for next steps. We support pupils to develop a positive sense of their own identity. We identify children who need additional support. We keep children safe and value and respect all children equally.
- **Positive Relationships** – adults help children learn to be strong and independent by developing positive relationships. We foster a sense of belonging and are sensitive to needs. Adults should support a child’s own efforts to encourage independence, but set clear boundaries for behaviour.
- **Enabling Environments** – adults offer stimulating resources relevant to children’s development. We provide learning opportunities through play and support children to take risks and explore.
- **Learning and Development** – adults use the 7 areas of learning to provide learning opportunities whilst fostering the Characteristics of Effective Learning.

Children have access to different learning areas throughout the day:

Indoor areas	Outdoor areas
Construction	Construction (large blocks)
Creative	Creative (large recycled resources)
Fine motor/Writing	Garden (Investigation)
Malleable and sensory	Movement
Reading	Music
Topic role play	Domestic role play
Water	Water
Small World	Sand/soil
ICT	

Adults also work with an individual or small groups to complete activities for Reading, Writing, Number and Shape, Space and Measure.