

Welcome to Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)

As the name suggests, this is the foundation for your child's education. The EYFS begins while your child is at nursery or pre-school. During your child's first year at Park Gate (Reception or Year R), he/she will continue to learn within this curriculum.



There are seven areas of learning and development. These are all inter-connected and encourage the development of curiosity and enthusiasm for learning.

The three prime areas are: Communication and language, Physical development and Personal, social and emotional development.

These three prime areas are strengthened and applied through four specific areas: Literacy, Mathematics, Understanding the world and Expressive arts and design.

The curriculum is planned to ensure a smooth transition from the pre-school setting into more formal schooling. The children will experience a range of opportunities including: child initiated learning, adult initiated learning and focused teaching.

During this first year in school it is vital that we capture the natural enthusiasm and inquisitiveness of children to ensure that they develop independence and interest in learning. This will give the firm foundation required as they move into the next key stages of the curriculum.

Early Years Foundation Stage is key time that the children start to learn the basic skills they will need throughout life. These include reading, writing and number skills. At Park Gate early phonics (letter sounds) is taught through Letters and Sounds and the children are introduced to reading through the Oxford Reading Tree and Collins Big Cat scheme. They will also be encouraged to discover the excitement that can be found in learning new things. They will be given the opportunity to develop the broader skills of independence in learning that will help them throughout their school career and beyond.

