



# Our Curriculum

Whitecross Nursery School

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2023, 6.00 - 7.00pm

# Early Years Foundation Stage, EYFS

- National curriculum starts in Year 1
- EYFS is from birth to five years old
- We have a statutory framework to follow. This guidance changed in 2021.
- We also have non-statutory guidance to help us make up our curriculum; Development Matters and Birth to Five Matters.
- Early years settings and schools are not provided with a curriculum. We make our own curriculum based upon the needs of our children, how we can ensure they all achieve their full potential and that they are on track to meet their early learning goals at the end of reception.

# Subject Areas in EYFS

## Prime Areas

- Communication and Language
- Personal, Social & Emotional Development
- Physical Development

## Specific Areas

- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the World
- Expressive Arts & Design

# Characteristics of Effective Learning

- Playing and Exploring
- Active Learning
- Creating and Thinking Critically

# Seven Key features of effective practice

1. The best for every child
2. High quality care
3. The curriculum: what we want children to learn
4. Pedagogy: helping children to learn
5. Assessment: checking what children have learnt
6. Self-regulation and executive function
7. Partnership with parents

## At Whitecross we offer

- High quality teacher led and taught learning daily.
- High quality indoor and outdoor learning opportunities.
- The chance to attend a Forest School on site.
- Visitors, trips and extended learning opportunities
- An extensive library
- Access to support of outside agencies when necessary
- Wrap around care to support working parents

# Assessment

- Observation
- Teaching groups
- Together time groups
- Playing with children and talking with them

Parents will get two parents in person discussions and a written report on leaving

# Our Day – Together Time

During each session all children attend a 'Together Time'

Together time is time for

- stories
- yoga
- singing
- music
- self regulation skills
- emotion coaching
- fun



# Our Day Adaptive Teaching

All children will be taught in a small group daily.

Teachers plan and deliver

- Phonics
- Maths
- Literacy
- Physical Literacy

Adaptive teaching means all children will learn the same things but at a level that is appropriate for them. Groups change depending upon our assessment, observations and the needs of the children.

# Our Day – Free Flow

Our doors remain open and all children can free flow their learning inside and outside.

The benefits of learning outside are huge! For staff as well as children!

That is why they need to come in water proof trousers, bring wellies, warm waterproof coats, hats and gloves.

Children and staff get muddy and grubby, but they learn well and it makes them happy 😊

# Our Day – More opportunities for fun learning

- ✓ Squiggle while you wiggle
- ✓ Dough disco
- ✓ Cosmic yoga

# Phonics Phase 1

The seven aspects we teach

- Environmental sounds
- Instrumental sounds
- Body percussion
- Rhythm and rhyme
- Alliteration
- Voice sounds
- **Oral** Blending and segmenting

Within each aspect there are three strands

- Auditory discrimination- tuning into sounds
- Auditory memory and sequencing – listening and recalling sounds
- Developing vocabulary and language comprehension  
and
- Discriminating oral phonemes

# Phonics, how to help at home

- Listen for sounds in the home and talk about them
- Listen for and notice sounds outside and talk about them
- Learn and sing together lots of nursery rhymes and songs
- Read lots of stories, especially books with rhythm and rhyme and talk about them
- Play with instruments together
- Mirror play making shapes and sounds in the mirror
- Notice sounds you hear (not see) at the start of words

# Maths, how to help at home

Play with maths is endless .....

- Bath time
- Cooking & baking, measuring weighing, counting, following a recipe
- Setting the table, how many today?
- Pairing clothes and shoes, what is a pair?
- Numbers in the environment, on your door, other doors, letterboxes,
- Toys, how many pieces in the puzzle, dice, board games, card games, matching, pick-a-pair
- Making lists
- Subvertising, say what you see

# Our fantastic children

- Are only three and four years old
- They are only little for a very short time
- Learning should be fun, an adventure and natural
- They are not meant to sit still
- They need good core strength to cope with school
- Getting ahead isn't best, getting the foundations right is!
- They will learn when they are ready, happiness and curiosity are the best teachers.