

What is the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) **at** **The Grange School?**

The Early Years is the very first stage of learning for your child, it helps them to develop and become ready for school and also for their future.

At the Grange School our Early Years begins from birth at our weekly parent and tots groups, Tuesday Tots, where we focus on sensory exploration and communication. This then progresses on to our Seedlings room, which takes children from 2 where we focus on socialising and communicating.

This continues into our 3 and 4 year old provision, Saplings, where we continue this development and build friendships, confidence and independence.

Once your child has reached the end of our Nursery provision they can move through into our Reception classes when they continue to develop these skills and also learn skills in mathematics, reading and writing.

All of our Foundation Stage skills are taught through play, we want to ensure your child's Early Years experience is happy, active, exciting, fun and secure, meeting their individual care and learning needs.

What will my child be learning?

The EYFS framework is broken down into 7 areas of learning, 3 prime areas and 4 specific areas.

These are:

- Communication and Language
- Physical Development
- Personal, Social and emotional development.

These prime areas are the most essential for your child's healthy development and future learning.

As your children develop and grow, the prime areas will help them to develop skills in 4 specific areas, these are:

- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the World
- Expressive arts and design

Children in the Early Years learn by playing and exploring, being active and through creative and critical thinking, which takes place both inside and outside. Our teachers are very skilled in planning and adapting both our environment and their activities to support your children's needs.

How can I help with my child's learning?

All the fun activities that you do at home are important in supporting their learning and development, and have a really long lasting effect on your child's learning as they progress through school.

Even when your child is very young and is not yet able to talk, talking to them helps them to learn and understand new words and ideas.

How can I find out how my child is getting on?

Your child will be given a key worker when they start our Foundation Stage, this is a member of staff you will both be able to build up a relationship with and communicate with over any of your child's needs, progress and achievements. Our staff are happy to communicate before or after sessions when appropriate.

During your child's time in our Foundation Stage we will keep an online journal containing photographs, observations and assessments on your child and their achievements. This profile will be shared with you so you can access this information and also share any out of school achievements with us.

At the age of two your child will have '2 year progress check' where your child's key worker will complete a written summary of your child's achievements against the 3 prime areas. This will then be shared with you, allowing you to share this with your health visitor and any other health professionals involved in your child's progress.

When your child reaches the end of their Reception Year you will receive a written report summarising your child's achievements in relation to the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework. This report along with their online journal will be shared with you and also their year 1 teachers to ensure their learning continues at an appropriate level and receives any necessary support.