



Mill Water School

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Early Years Curriculum Overview

At Mill Water the children in the Early Years classes follow the Foundation Stage curriculum. There are 7 areas of the Early Years Curriculum, divided into 3 prime areas (Personal, Social and Emotional Development, Communication and Language and Physical Development) and 4 Specific areas (Maths, Literacy, Understanding the World and Expressive Art and Design).

As outlined in Development Matters, on-going formative assessment is at the heart of our practice. We observe children as they act and interact in their play and exploration, during everyday activities and through targeted focused independent and adult led activities. We consider the examples of development within each age strand observing and assessing what they can do to help identify where the child may be in their own developmental pathway. We consider ways to support the child to strengthen and deepen their learning and development, using the development statements to identify possible areas in which to challenge and extend their learning. We plan rich and engaging sensory activities and experiences utilising and building on their individual interests.

We work closely with parents to learn about their child's progress and interests at home, parents share 'WOW' moments from home and we also include parents in their child's learning through termly open afternoons where parents can meet, engage in their child's learning and share and contribute to the learning journal. We also gain information advice and support from other professionals working with the child. This joint up working is vital to building up a bigger picture of the child's journey and progress. Their progress is tracked through the EYFS profile and recorded in their learning journals.