Sproatley Endowed Academy Early Years Foundat

Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum

We use The National Early Years Framework and its 7 key areas of learning to design a curriculum which inspires and meets the needs of our individual children.



Communication and Language underpins all areas of learning. We provide a language rich environment in which all children are comfortable to explore new vocabulary in a range of contexts. Through carefully chosen texts, storytelling, drama, frequent class, small group and individual discussions, rhymes, role play and songs, we empower all children to ask questions, broaden their understanding and express themselves, everyday.



Personal, Social and Emotional

Development through daily check ins, discussions of scenarios, exploration of characters and an open, caring and listening environment, we support children to become compassionate, understanding and emotionally aware. Our careful choice of texts allows us to explore a range of feelings, experiences and diverse lives, encouraging children to share their own emotions as well as considering those of others. Children are supported to work both alone and collaboratively, sharing their knowledge and ideas to develop strong, kind and respectful relationships with their peers.

Mathematics

Daily NCETM Mastering Number sessions build a strong understanding of number and related skills, using stem sentences and core vocabulary. White Rose Maths is also used to support a broader mathematical understanding, using practical and contextual activities to explore a range of topics. Carefully planned resources, challenges and questioning encourage children to apply and extend their mathematical skills and understanding, using their own interests and questions to lead their own learning.

Physical Development

We encourage the children to be as active as possible, ensuring that there are ample opportunities and resources to develop both fine and gross motor skills. Each morning the children begin with fine motor skills activities and are provided with a range of mark making, creative, construction and malleable equipment to develop the muscles in the hands and fingers in preparation for clear handwriting. Gross motor skills both indoor and outdoor are promoted through a range of large scale equipment in continuous provision, to allow for children to develop their balance, strength, movement and manipulation of equipment. Weekly PE Hub sessions as well as yoya, music and dancing activities also allow the children to improve their body management skills and fitness.

Understanding of the World

We plan topics and texts which follow the interests of the children and meet the needs of each cohort. These are used as a vehicle to ensure that our children progress into KSI with a basic understanding of the natural world, their place within it both geographically and historically, and an understanding of cultures and diversity. Children are encouraged to be inquisitive, to ask questions and foster a love of learning. Children are taught about key figures in the world and history, different faiths using Understanding Christianity and occupations which use specific skill sets. This allows the children to consider the world around us as well as develop ambitions around their future within it. We teach our children to be scientists, historians, explorers, archeologists, giving them to opportunities to explore any avenue they are interested in.

Literacy

Little Wandle Letters and Sounds is used to teach reading and writing, following a SSP to teach GPCs, blending, segmenting to spell and application of skills. Daily phonics sessions maintain a rapid pace, 3x weekly Keep Up Sessions ensure that any gaps are rapidly filled and 3x weekly Reading Practise Sessions ensure that children have the opportunity to apply their reading skills through decoding, prosody and comprehension. Carefully chosen class texts allow opportunity to discuss a range of topics, explore comprehension skills and expand vocabulary. Exposure to a range of writing genres, modelling, shared writing and small group writing allow children to apply their skills to a range of contexts. Children are also encouraged for apply their skills to independent writing and mark making in continuous provision.

Expressive Arts and Design

Children take part in weekly music/listening sessions to develop their appraisal, rhythm and vocal skills. Shared musical experiences also promote the love of music and expression. Children are encouraged and supported to express themselves in a wide range of ways, through singing, dancing, music making and drama. Creative, design and evaluation skills allow children to use their imagination, artistic and engineering skills, using a range of resources and stimuli. Children are given space and opportunity to express their imaginations through developing narratives, following their own interests and experiences. Topics and texts are chosen to meet the needs of our children but continuous provision allow children to lead their own learning and explore their own methods of expression, providing opportunities to explore diversity, experiences and faith.