

Kingsteignton School

Early Years Foundation Stage Plan



Rowan Class is set up to promote learning through play, both indoors and outdoors, no matter what the weather. Play is an integral part of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) and children are given lots of opportunity to initiate, explore, investigate and develop their own play, ideas and thinking.

All about the curriculum...

The curriculum consists of three **prime areas**. These areas support the children as they develop through the Foundation Stage and are key for life-long learning. These are:

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

These underpin the **specific areas** of learning which include:

- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding of the World
- Expressive Arts and Design.

Children meet each of these areas of learning in our well-resourced and organised environment. The children have access to a wide variety of resources to support and challenge their creative play. They may learn independently, with others, as well as times when learning is led by adults.

To start the Autumn Term, we will be focussing on an initial topic of "All About Me". This will allow the children to settle into their first Term in Rowan Class. As we progress through the term we will look at topics such as Harvest, Bon Fire Night, Diwali, Christmas and explore the Seasons. The main focus of our learning will be directed through answering a...

Big Question

Such questions are planned with the children's interests, needs and ideas in mind. Rowan Class will work together to decide on the question based on what they would like to learn more about. They then work in a variety of ways on answering their "Big Question".

You can find out what "Big Question" your child is learning about via our school Blog which can be found on our website. There you will also find photos and observations on the learning that is taking place and the answers that we have come up with.

The Prime Areas:

1. Communication and Language

Development involves giving children opportunities to experience a rich language environment; to develop their confidence and skills in expressing themselves; and to speak and listens in a range of situations.

You can help at home by: encouraging your child to bring in items related to our topic or big question to talk about.

2. Physical Development

This involves providing opportunities for young children to be active and interactive; and to develop their co-ordination, control and movement.

Children must also be helped to understand the importance of physical activity, and to make healthy choices in relation to food.

You can help at home by: providing opportunities for your child to climb up, under, through and around obstacles and to feel confident running, jumping and balancing.

3. Personal, Social and Emotional Development

This involves providing opportunities for young children to develop a positive sense of themselves and others; to form positive relationships and develop respect for others; to develop social skills and learn how to manage their feelings; to understand appropriate behaviour in group; and to have confidence in their own abilities

You can help at home by: helping your child to realise their successes and encouraging them to discuss any problems or worries they may have. Helping your child to become independent with tasks such as putting their coat on and fastening their shoes is also a great way to support this area of learning.

The Specific Areas:

In the specific areas of learning and development the three prime areas are strengthened and applied.

4. Literacy

Development involves encouraging children to link sounds and letters and begin to read and write. Children must be given access to a wide range of reading materials and role-play scenarios (books, magazines, poems and other written materials) to ignite their interest and realise real purposes for literacy in everyday life.

You can help at home by: reading with your child for 10 minutes every day and talking about what you read. Practising tricky words will also support your child's confidence in reading.

5. Mathematics

This involves providing children with opportunities to develop and improve their skills in counting, understanding and using numbers, calculating addition and subtraction problems; and to describe shapes, space and measures.

You can help at home by: Drawing attention to and applying number and shape knowledge to day-to-day activities. For example, setting the table with the correct number of knives, forks, spoons etc. Looking out for numbers on houses and in numbers plates on cars is also a fun game to play.

6. Understanding the World

This involves guiding children to make sense of their physical world and their community through opportunities to explore, observe and find out about people, places, technology and the environment.

You can help at home by: talking about things you celebrate at home as a family, talking about your immediate environment and where we live and giving the children any opportunity to further develop their keyboard and mouse skills, as well as using tablets.

7. Expressive arts and design

This involves enabling children to explore and play with a wide variety of media and materials, as well as providing opportunities and encouragement for sharing their thoughts, ideas and feelings through a variety of activities in art, music, movement, dance, role-play and design and technology.

You can help at home by: supporting children to express and develop their ideas in a range of ways: singing, dancing, music, paint, collage, sculpture, construction and role-play.

Our aim is to respond to the children's interests and inspirations whilst meeting their needs and the EYFS curriculum objectives. Children's ideas are acknowledged, planned for, and valued as part of our everyday practice.

If you have any questions about the Early Years Curriculum at Kingsteignton School, please speak to Miss Bull who will be happy to help.