



## Early Years Intent Statement

At Guildhall Feoffment Primary School, our intention is to make every child's first experiences of school positive and meaningful. We place great emphasis on making our EYFS classrooms a place where children feel safe, valued and motivated to learn. We want children to be excited about coming to school and in the future to remember fondly of the time they spent in Early Years.

Our Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum is designed to promote and encourage all children to be confident, inquisitive and independent happy learners. We are very proud of our provision and we strive to ensure that our team of dedicated staff continue to maintain high standards of education for the children in our care. We provide a curriculum that is tailored to the needs of all of the children in our diverse school community. We recognise and celebrate that each child is unique and has different strengths, interests, prior experiences and learning styles. Our curriculum aims to inspire and open our children's minds, promoting curiosity and the desire to want to learn more. We hope that by developing positive attitudes to learning and by promoting their willingness to make mistakes and challenge themselves, that this will stay with them right through to adulthood.

At Guildhall Feoffment we continually reflect on our curriculum and aim to improve on how it is delivered, adapting it accordingly to the needs of different cohorts and taking into account the topics that the children are passionate about. By creating a holistic and inclusive curriculum we aim to ensure that we provide all children with the best start to their education that enables them to fulfil their full potential and achieve future success regardless of their various starting points and backgrounds. We ensure that all children's individual needs are met through careful planning and assessment, identifying and addressing any issues and implementing early intervention or additional support if required. As well as this, we ensure our curriculum provides children with a wide range of opportunities to gain foundational skills and knowledge that will later be enhanced and embedded in Key Stage One.

Children's personal, social and emotional development is placed at the centre of our curriculum. We believe that this is fundamental for their cognitive development in order for them to lead healthy and happy lives. Strong, warm and supportive relationships with adults enable them to learn how to understand their own feelings and those of others. We help to support the children in our care to manage emotions, develop a positive sense of self, to set themselves simple goals and to have confidence in their own abilities. Through adult modelling and supported interaction with other children, they learn how to make good friendships, co-operate and resolve conflict. These attributes then provide a secure platform from which they can achieve at school and in later life.

The development of children's spoken language underpins all seven areas of our EYFS curriculum. We believe that children's back and forth interactions form the foundations for language and cognitive development. The number and quality of conversations they have with adults and peers throughout the day in our language rich environment is crucial. We place great emphasis on oracy and vocabulary. Ensuring that all staff model high levels of oral and written language, echoing back what children say and adding in new vocabulary. We believe in closing the vocabulary gap by extending the children's vocabulary knowledge and oracy skills through meaningful interactions with the children and by the repetition of our five weekly words which link to our topic. By reading frequently with the children we provide them with extensive opportunities to use and embed these new words in a range of contexts, giving the children the opportunity to thrive. Furthermore, staff are trained on how to vary their questioning with open ended questions which deepen and boarded the children's thinking, reasoning and self-reflection skills enabling them to confidently talk about their experiences and learning.

In our EYFS classes we have high expectations for behaviour and learning, with all adults using consistent strategies which help children to follow and understand our school values and rules: Kindness, Integrity, Compassion and Endeavour. We firstly praise, recognise and reward the effort that children put in and secondly the outcomes of their play and learning. Ensuring that children understand the importance of being resilient, tackling challenges and persevering – even if they may not always succeed first time! We want our children to develop a Growth Mindset and to feel safe in the knowledge that mistakes are okay and that they are the stepping stones to new learning.

We highly value forming positive relationships between home and school in order to provide the very best educational development for all the children in our care. We therefore encourage parents to take an active role in the life of the school, and in particularly in supporting the educational development of the children. We encourage all of our parents to log into Class Dojo, an encrypted and private site; this gives them access to images of their child's work, school information and is an opportunity for them to be able to communicate directly with their class teachers. In EYFS we also have an open door policy where staff are available to speak to their child's teacher before or after school.

We intend:

- To work in partnership with parents and carers to encourage independent, happy learners who thrive in school and reach their full potential from their various starting points.
- To understand children's interests and provide opportunities throughout our EYFS curriculum to support learning, consolidate and deepen knowledge and ensure children meet their individual next steps.

- To offer a wide range of rich, first hand experiences to ensure learning is meaningful and memorable.
- To help the children to develop a 'Growth mindset'
- To model and scaffold new learning with highly trained members of staff via adult led and child led activities.
- To deepen and broaden every child's spoken language, oracy skills and vocabulary knowledge through quality conversations, in a language rich environment.
- To create an exciting, engaging and well planned indoor and outdoor environment, which supports independent and collaborative learning.
- To foster the development of each child's character, their personal development, health and wellbeing. As well as preparing them to make a valuable contribution to society.
- To prepare children to reach the Early Learning goals at the end of the Foundation Stage and ensure every child makes at least good progress from their starting points.
- To support a positive transition between Nursery and Reception and then into KS1.
- To promote the school values of Kindness, Integrity, Compassion and Endeavour.