

## Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum (EYFS)

At Bratton Fleming CP School we adapt our topics in response to the children's interests and take on board their suggestions when it comes to our next steps and planning ideas. We may respond to children's engagement with Superheroes, dinosaurs, type of books/ character or something which is relevant at a particular time of year.

Throughout the Foundation Stage year activities are planned for using the Development Matters descriptors and the Profile scores taken from the 'Foundation Stage Guidance Handbook'. Assessments and observations take place daily and a learning journal is built upon throughout the year which gives an overall picture of each child's development at the end of the Foundation Stage. A record is kept of each child's development and progress which is shared regularly with parents. Parents can contribute to these observations by recording 'WOW' moments for staff to include in their child's learning journal.

The Curriculum is set out into 7 areas of learning -

The three prime areas of learning are:-

- **Communication and Language;** development involves giving young children opportunities to experience a rich language environment; to develop their confidence and skills in expressing themselves; and to speak and listen in a range of situations.
- **Physical Development;** 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.
- **Personal, Social and Emotional Development;** involves helping 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 groups; and to have confidence in their own abilities.

The specific areas of learning are:-

- **Literacy;** development involves encouraging children to link sounds and letters and to begin to read and write. Children must be given access to a wide range of reading materials (books, poems, and other written materials) to ignite their interest.
- **Mathematics;** involves providing children with opportunities to develop and improve their skills in counting, understanding and using numbers, calculating simple addition and subtraction problems; and to describe shapes, spaces and measures.
- **Understanding the world;** 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.
- **Expressive arts and design** involves enabling children to explore and play with a wide range 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.

The three characteristics of effective teaching and learning underpin all that we do in our classroom. These are:-

- **play and exploring** – children investigate, experience things and ‘have a go’
- **active learning** – children concentrate and keep on trying if they encounter difficulties and enjoy achievements
- **creating and thinking critically** – children have and develop their own ideas, make links between ideas and develop strategies for doing things