

EYFS 2021 LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT

2021

**Early Years Foundation Stage Framework and the recent changes.**

This is an overview of the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework and to inform you of the recent changes that come into effect this September.

**What Is the Early Years Foundation Stage Statutory Framework?**

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) statutory framework is a government document that all schools and Ofsted-registered early years’ providers in England must follow. It sets standards for the learning, development and care of your child from birth to 5 years old. The standards ensure your child will learn and develop well and are kept healthy and safe.

**What will my child be learning?**

The EYFS framework outlines seven areas of learning and development and educational programs. There are **three prime** areas of learning, which are particularly important for your child’s development and future learning:

Physical Development

Communication and Language

Personal, social and emotional development

There are **four specific** areas of learning, through which the prime areas are strengthened and applied:

Understanding

 the World

Expressive arts

 and design

Maths

Literacy

The Staff will consider your child’s needs and interests to plan challenging and enjoyable activities and experiences.

**How Will My Child Be Learning?**

The EYFS framework identifies the essential role of play in your child’s development. It is through both child-led play and play guided by an adult that your child will develop confidence and relationships with others. Through play, our Early Years’ Team will help your child to extend their vocabulary and develop their communication skills. The EYFS framework identifies three characteristics of effective teaching and learning:

Playing

And

Exploring

Creating and

thinking critically

Active

Learning

A greater focus on teaching specific skills will occur as your child progresses through their time at nursery, which will help them to prepare for reception.

**How Will I Know How My Child Is Doing?**

Our Early Years’ Team will use their professional knowledge to understand your child’s level of development. If we have any concerns about your child's progress, we will discuss these with you.

Whilst at Little Saints we will carry out:

* 3 check point assessments though out the academic year, where we will look at if your child is progressing and if they are on track to meet the ELG’s.
* Two-Year Progress Check (this will happen between the ages of 24 to 36 months)

Discussions at Parents’ Evenings will inform you on how your child is progressing. At the end of the academic year, a report will be given to you to inform you of your child’s progress and whether they are on target to achieve their early learning goals (ELGs). There are 17 ELGs your child is expected to achieve by the end of the EYFS.

**The changes to the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework**

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) has been reformed and there is a new EYFS framework that all early years settings and schools are required to follow from September 2021. These national changes have been made to better support all children’s learning and development. It is also the aim that the new framework will better prepare children for the transition into Key Stage 1.

There are some elements of the EYFS that have not significantly changed and some that have.

Below are some of the key points from the new EYFS reforms that include relevant changes:

* Early Years staff will be spending less time on large amounts of written observations and assessments for evidence collection. This means they can spend more time supporting and engaging with the children and their learning and development needs.
* Children will no longer be assessed against statements from an age band category. Instead, staff will use their experience and knowledge to monitor if a child’s learning and development is on track for their age.
* There is an emphasis on improving children
* Children’s language and vocabulary through increasing opportunities for conversations, reading of a wide range of books and holding discussions around activities in other areas of learning.
* Literacy and numeracy skills focused on in the EYFS have been adapted to better match up with the National Curriculum that starts in year 1.
* There is no longer an exceeding judgement at the end of Reception. Children will instead be challenged to have a greater depth and understanding of ideas.
* Safeguarding and welfare of children is still of upmost priority, with the added mention of teaching children about the importance of good oral health and how to keep teeth clean and healthy.

**In the Moment planning**

In the moment planning works alongside enhancements and continuous provision. Continuous provision is provided daily and is always accessible. Enhancements are provided daily according to the loose topic or children’s interest.

In the moment planning allows the staff to proactively plan around the children’s needs, develop on next steps and allow scientific and exploratory play both with and without adult support. Adults use their knowledge of their children and their experience of the EYFS curriculum aims to develop ideas as they come across them without restraint.

Using a combination of effective questioning and narrative commentaries we assess in the moment the child’s level of understanding. We then support them with new vocabulary or ideas to develop their understanding or address misconceptions. This ensures each child progresses at the time instead of playing catch up. We understand and appreciate that sometimes an adult unintentionally interferes instead of interacting.

Our early year’s team will use their experience and knowledge of the children to decide whether to observe from a distance, interact or comment on a child’s learning.

**Observations**

We will now be using the focus child system to observe and plan for your child. The children will take it in turns to be focus children for a week each term, during that week all staff will observe your child and record learning and teachable moments that took place during play and interactions that week. These observation will then be uploaded to Kinderly for you to see.

All children will still be learning and having those teachable moments it just will not be recorded if they are not the focus child.

By using this method we are wanting to capture those quality moments and not just have a large quantity of observations with no real purpose or learning. This method should also support staff in assessing children’s understanding in context and make links to other areas of the curriculum.

If we notice a child needs some extra support our SENCO will monitor them and work in partnership with parents and their key person to create an I.E.P to support their learning enable them to make progress.

**Assessment**

Whilst at Little Saints we will carry out:

* 3 check point assessments though out the academic year, where we will look at if your child is progressing and if they are on track to meet the ELG’s. This will be done using guidance from the non-statutory framework development matters 2021. You will receive a short summary discussing your child’s progress.
* Two-Year Progress Check (this will happen between the ages of 24 to 36 months)

We will use Kinderly to track your child’s progress as we will upload observations onto Kinderly and link them to the areas of the EYFS which will produce a summary table highlighting any gaps we may have. We will then work on these areas using a little more adult led input to allow full coverage of the curriculum.

Our next steps are done in the moment. When an adult is interacting with a child during independent learning, they talk to the children using effective listening, observing, questioning and commentary to identify an area for development and then fill in the gap in learning.

Your Child will be assigned a key person who will be responsible for ensuring that your child receives all of the above and is the getting the right support in nursery to achieve their full potential.

**Parents**

Parents are encouraged to put post cards from home onto Kinderly. You can upload post cards at any time but we highly encourage you to do it as part of your child’s focus week, this way we can link their interest to the planning for that week.

We hope that this has given you an insight into how/what your child will be learning this academic year.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask.

The Little Saints Team x