



The Foundation Stage

Teaching in the Foundation Stage

At Lammack we follow the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum, which came into effect in September 2012. This framework is a means of ensuring high standards in education and care, supporting our children's development through a balanced provision of adult led and child initiated opportunities. Our activities are carefully planned to encourage children to become active learners by playing, exploring and creating.

The curriculum is divided into the following 7 areas –

Prime Areas

Personal, Social, Emotional Development	Physical Development	Communication and Language
Making relationships Self – confidence and self -awareness Managing feelings and behaviour	Moving and handling Health and self-care	Listening and attention Understanding Speaking

Specific Areas

Literacy	Mathematics	Understanding the World	Expressive Arts and Design
Reading Writing	Numbers Shape, Space and Measure	People and Communities The World Technology	Exploring and using media and materials Being Imaginative

The learning opportunities are covered through a wide variety of topics, which are changed each half term. Planning is differentiated and activities are planned to meet the needs of individuals both in the outdoor and indoor environments. Curriculum planning is continually monitored for quality, relevance and effectiveness. Parents are informed through a weekly newsletter of the different activities which are planned in all areas of the curriculum. This letter provides valuable information so that parents can support their children by discussing the topics covered at school and giving their children life experiences to fit in with the topics.

All children throughout the Reception classes are encouraged to develop a love of reading, through enjoying and sharing books with each other. Each child is heard to read every day, which makes the children fluent and confident readers. They also visit the library each week, where they can choose a book which is of interest to them.

How is the Foundation Stage assessed?

At the end of the EYFS (in the summer term of the reception year) an assessment is completed which is known as the EYFS Profile. This assessment is carried out by each of the reception teachers and is based on what they, and other staff, have observed over the year. The observations are centred on

the curriculum and also on how the children learn, which are known as the Characteristics of Effective Learning.

All of the information collected is used to measure how much each child has progressed in the 7 areas of learning and development. Parents receive a report on their child's progress, including all the information from his/her EYFS Profile.

Recent developments

- Adapted the new Cornerstones curriculum to enhance the current planning of activities.
- Embedded the maths policy to increase progress, particularly in calculating and problem solving.
- Reviewed the outdoor provision to develop opportunities for writing.

Priorities for future developments

- Following a new government initiative, national testing for Reception-aged children will be introduced from September 2016. The purpose of the 'baseline check' is to assess each child's level of development at the beginning of their schooling in order to measure how they've progressed by age 11