

## EARLY YEARS

### AREAS OF LEARNING

#### **Personal, Social and Emotional Development**

The personal and social development of our children is vital. Within the daily programme of activities there are many opportunities for children to develop personal values, understanding of self and others, independence, concentration and co-operation. Within a caring environment, children take part in cultural and religious events and develop a sense of mystery, awe and wonder.



#### **Communication and Language Communication and language**

We provide children with ongoing opportunities to develop their vocabulary, express themselves, share their opinions and listen to the ideas of others. We try to do this by encouraging children to learn through following their own interests and creating an environment rich in communicative opportunities. Role play, imaginative play and exploration are all key to develop communication and language effectively.



#### **Physical Development**

The children develop physical control, coordination, mobility and an awareness of space and others. They are taught to handle appropriate tools, objects, construction and malleable materials safely and with increasing control.

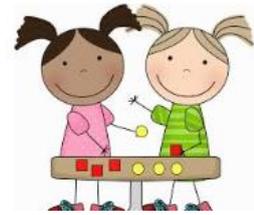
#### **Literacy**

Early literacy is encouraged throughout a wide range of learning opportunities. We help children to develop skills in reading and writing by following the 'Development Matters' documentation. Children experience the joy and pleasure of books and 'reading'. They are encouraged to take library books home to enable parents to share in the enjoyment of reading with their child, and to understand that books can be an important thing in their lives. When staff feel it is appropriate, children will have their own reading book and a selection of words to learn. They are involved in activities relating to some of the different purposes of writing. They use pictures, symbols, familiar letters and words to communicate meaning.



## Mathematics

The mathematical area of learning covers important aspects of mathematical understanding which provide the foundation for numeracy. We focus on achievement through practical activities and on using and understanding language in the development of simple mathematical ideas.



## Expressive Arts and Design



This area of learning develops the child's imagination and the ability to express ideas and feelings. Children respond through art, music, dance and imaginative play. They are encouraged to use a wide range of materials and tools and explore sound and colour, texture, shape, form and space in two and three dimensions.

## Understanding of the World

Children develop knowledge and understanding of their environment, other people, and features of the natural and made world. They begin to acquire skills for later learning in history, geography, science and technology. All children have access to a computer and use a variety of software covering many aspects of the curriculum. We have recently invested in a whole range of equipment to support children's learning including; light-boxes, remote controlled cars, microscopes, magnifying glasses, Ipads and illuminated white boards.

