



## **How We Plan for your Child**

In the Early Years Foundation Stage we follow a mainly child-led approach to play based learning with the belief that each child develops at his or her own pace. The teachers and teaching assistants support and develop your child in their learning, focussing upon your child's interests rather than an adult formulated plan. Play is a child's work, and we make no distinction between the two, therefore you will probably hear from your child that they play all day, however this is where the learning takes place.

The adults in the classroom will join the children in their learning, whether that's building with blocks, playing with playdough, outside or somewhere else. They will observe what an individual child or group of children is doing and will help develop their knowledge and understanding by asking them questions, providing information, or demonstrating a skill. This quick 'in the moment' planning and teaching means that the new knowledge or skill is immediately useful and meaningful to your child, and is therefore more likely to be retained and used independently in the future. It also means that your child is taught new skills and information at the right level for them.

To maximise learning opportunities, the children have daily access to both an indoor and outdoor classroom, and are encouraged to make their own choices. We have many different areas and activities always available which include (but are not limited to):

- role play/home corner
- blocks and construction
- arts and crafts, including painting, drawing, and junk modelling
- playdough
- small world
- sand
- music and movement
- ICT and technology
- an outdoor kitchen
- gardening
- climbing

Early reading, writing and mathematics skills are seen frequently across all areas and activities. Phonological awareness and development are encouraged when children show an interest.

We come together as a whole class or in small groups at the end of each session to sing songs, read stories, act out the stories we have made up, share our learning and hear about special items children have brought in from home.

As a church school our children routinely attend assembly as part of the whole school.

Children in the Reception Class follow the Read Write Inc programme to support acquisition of reading and ensure letters are formed correctly. This occurs 3 times a week.

There is an expectation that all children will achieve the 'Early Learning Goals' by the end of Reception.