

Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)

‘Every child deserves the best possible start in life and the support that enables them to fulfil their potential.’ (EYFS)

At Northwick Park we aim to provide the highest quality care and education for all our children, giving them a strong foundation for their future learning. We create a safe and happy environment with motivating and enjoyable learning experiences that enable children to become confident and independent. We ensure children’s interests are fostered and developed alongside pre-planned adult led activities that meet all aspects of the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum (EYFS).

Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum

The four principles of the EYFS shape our planning and practice within The Foundation Stage. These are:

- Every child is a **unique child**, who is constantly learning and can be resilient, capable, confident and self-assured
- Children learn to be **strong and independent through positive relationships**
- Children learn and develop well in **enabling environments**, in which their experiences respond to their individual needs and there is a strong partnership between practitioners and parents and/or carers
- **Children develop and learn in different ways and at different rates**

We plan an exciting and challenging curriculum based on our observation of children’s needs, interests, and stages of development across the seven areas of learning to enable the children to achieve a Good Level of Development. The curriculum provided is rich and meaningful, with first-hand experiences in which children explore, think creatively and learn to become independent learners. We want our children to develop positive attitudes towards learning gaining confidence for their future.

Our termly and weekly curriculum is delivered using a play-based approach that links all of the aspects with in the 7 areas of the EYFS curriculum, which include:

Prime areas	Personal, Social & Emotional Development	Self Confidence & Self Esteem
		Managing Feelings and Behaviour
		Making Relationships
	Physical Development	Moving & Handling
		Health & Self-care
	Communication & Language	Listening & Attention
	Understanding	
	Speaking	

Specific areas	Literacy	Reading Writing
	Mathematics	Numbers Shape, Space & Measure
	Understanding the World	People & Communities The World
		Technology
	Expressive Arts & Design	Exploring and using Media & Materials Being Imaginative

Children are taught RWI phonics from term 1 of their reception year. Further information can be found on the RWI section of the school website.

Observation and Assessment

As part of our daily practice we observe and assess children's development and learning to inform our future plans. We record our observations in a variety of ways. Everyone is encouraged to contribute and discussions take place. Significant observations of children's achievements are collated in their own personal learning journey, which are shared with parents. Parents are invited to look at their child's learning journey throughout the year and during parents evening. Within the final term of Reception, we provide the parent's with a report based on their child's development against each of the 17 Early Learning Goals within the 7 aspects of the EYFS.