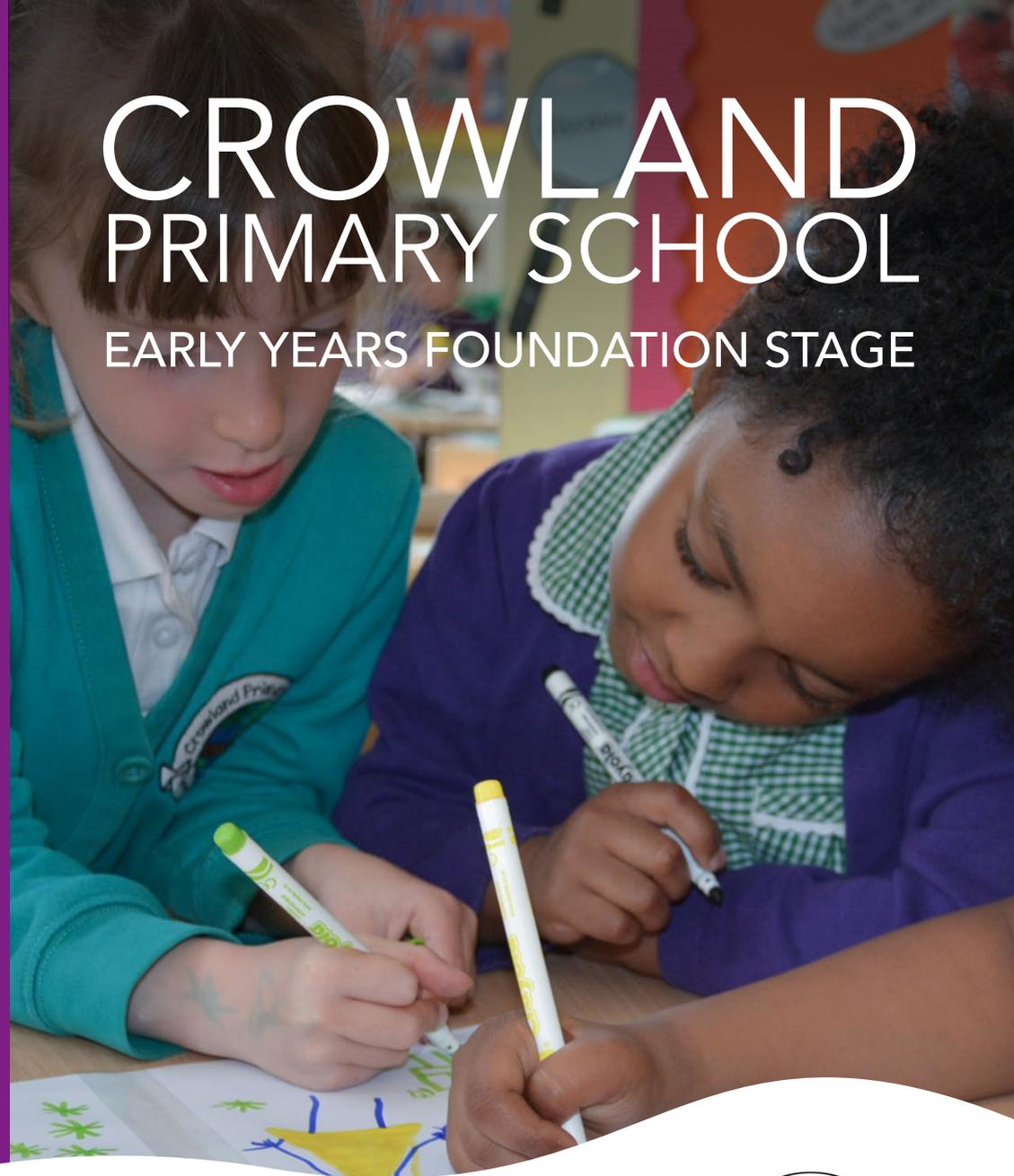


CROWLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

EARLY YEARS FOUNDATION STAGE

Crowland Primary School
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Pupil Premium
Awards 2016
Local Winner



EARLY YEARS FOUNDATION STAGE CURRICULUM (EYFS)

The school follows the EYFS curriculum with its focus on learning through play and direct teaching of key skills. The curriculum focuses on games and activities, investigations and directed tasks across seven areas of learning.

All of the themes and principles below underpin our practice, which allows learning and development to take place:

A Unique Child

Every child is a competent learner from birth who can be resilient, capable, confident and self-assured.

Positive Relationships

Children learn to be strong and independent from a base of loving and secure relationships.



'Key Worker' System

Every child in a class is allocated a 'Key worker', who will develop a special relationship with that child and will monitor their learning and development.

Enabling Environments

The environment plays a key role in supporting and extending children's development and learning.

Learning & Development

Children develop and learn in different ways and at different rates and all areas of learning and development are equally important and inter-connected. Learning takes place both inside and outside, so children need to wear suitable clothing for the weather, including wellies and waterproof coats, as well as changes of clothes.



THE EARLY YEARS FOUNDATION STAGE CURRICULUM IS DIVIDED INTO THREE PRIME AREAS AND 4 SPECIFIC AREAS OF LEARNING.

Prime areas include:

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

We help to build children's self-esteem, confidence and love of learning. Children learn to share equipment, cooperate with each other and develop friendships with their peers.

Communication and Language

Children will be encouraged to develop their speaking and listening skills. We aim to ensure that children learn and reach a good standard of the English language whilst endeavouring to support home languages in play and learning.

Physical Development

We plan activities which will enable children to develop their motor control and coordination.

Fine motor skills control– through drawing, writing, moulding, cutting, mixing, hammering, weaving and threading.

Large motor skills control– through climbing, rolling, hopping, skipping, building, throwing, catching, aiming, running, dancing and balancing.

We talk about what it means to be healthy and focus on ways to keep ourselves safe as well as promoting independence through dressing and taking good care of ourselves.

The specific areas are:

Literacy

Children will learn through our phonics strategy to link sounds to letters and

will begin to read and write. A wide range of books will be used to foster a love of reading and children will take home books to share with an adult. In addition, children will engage in activities such as listening to stories and rhymes, discussions and role play.

Mathematics

Children will learn about counting, matching, sorting, ordering and comparing. They will develop a good understanding of the number system to 20 (and beyond!) and will know how to add and subtract. They will explore shape and pattern, and will find out about ways of measuring time, length, volume and capacity. Children will be given problems to solve and be encouraged to explain solutions found.

Understanding the World

Children are given opportunities to learn about other people and the world around them. This area includes a wide range of subjects – geography (local area), history (personal and general), science and design technology and ICT.

We have topics each half-term and plan various activities, which enable the children to make discoveries and form conclusions, through questioning and investigating. Children learn to use the computer, camera and microphones. The children are regularly given opportunities to cook and eat a range of dishes, with a global perspective.

Expressive Arts and Design

Children develop their creative skills through art, music, dance and drama. At Crowland the children will be taught to sing a variety of songs and rhymes from around the world, play different instruments and hear a range of music styles, learning about pitch and rhythm. Children will be able to create their own artwork using a wide range of methods such as painting, collage, printing and modelling. Lots of opportunities will be given for children to express themselves through drama and different role-play scenarios.

EXTRA CURRICULAR

Swimming

We are very lucky to have a learner swimming pool on the site, which all Early Years classes use. We do encourage the children to be independent in getting changed. Therefore, we need your help as parents. We would like you to teach your child how to dress and undress themselves at home, and how to dry themselves with a towel.

Class Trips

The children will get the chance to go on a number of trips each year. We require at least one adult for every three children in the Early Years. If you are able to help on a trip please let staff know.

Parental Involvement

If you would like to help your child in your child's class at school, then please let your class teacher know. Also please make us aware of any special areas of interest or expertise you may have that may help us.

We send out newsletters and topic webs once a term so you are informed of the activities and topics we are learning about.

If you have resources, such as, books or ideas that may assist please share them. We welcome help for reading, art, gardening and cooking, anything you have a skill or passion for.



PREPARATORY VISITS

Children who are new to the school (Reception and Nursery) will be offered pre-start visits, accompanied by Parents/Carers. This enables children and parents to look around the school, the classrooms, the outside and meet the Early Years team.



SETTLING-IN PROCEDURES AT CROWLAND

We aim to ensure that starting school is a positive, happy experience. Parents are encouraged to help this process in several ways.

Explain to your child about school, what to expect and the kinds of activities they will be able to do. Parents are also invited to stay with their child for a short while during the first few days to help them settle.

Nursery and Reception

Children who are new to Crowland school will attend half days for the first few days or as agreed with Early Years staff. Then, if settled they can start full-time.

Children with 'Full - Time' Places

All reception and nursery children will attend half day for the first few days.

1st and 2nd Days Children stay half day (9.00 – 12.00).

3rd and 4th Days Children stay half day, but can stay for lunch (9.00 – 12.30).

5th Day Children can stay for a whole day if the child has settled well enough, which will be agreed by Parents and Early Years staff (9.00 – 3.30).

Children with 'Part - Time' Places

Children will start either in am or pm sessions and parents will be encouraged to help their children to settle over the first few days.



TAPESTRY ONLINE LEARNING JOURNAL

We are using the Tapestry online Learning Journal System at Crowland Primary School. This means that staff will take photographs and observations of your child and upload them onto their own learning journal. Parents will be given access to this after the October half-term break and they will be able to see exactly what their child does at school. This creates good home-school links and parents will be able to upload their own pictures, comments and observations about what their child does at home too. This helps to build a stronger picture of each child.

