

**Our Early Years Curriculum Intent**

At Hardwick Green Primary Academy we offer an Early Years curriculum that is rich in wonder and memorable experiences.  We ensure that all of our children have a broad curriculum with a good balance of adult led and child initiated activities to ensure the best outcomes for all pupils. We understand that play is an integral part of learning and this is at the heart of our Early Years curriculum. It is our intent that the children who enter our Early Years develop physically, verbally, cognitively, and emotionally whilst embedding a positive attitude to school and learning. That they feel safe and secure and ready to learn.  We are passionate about creating opportunities for children to communicate more easily through developing language and communication skills and specifically teaching vocabulary. We believe that all children deserve to be valued as an individual and we are passionate in allowing all children to achieve their full, unique potential.

We provide a cosy yet stimulating environment that provides exciting opportunities, both indoors and outdoors in promoting challenge, exploration, problem solving, adventure and a real love of learning.

We aim for our children to be confident, resilient and independent, to believe in themselves and interact positively with others.
We endeavour to give the children the Cultural Capital they need for future success i.e. giving each child the best start in life enabling them to fulfil their full potential and achieve future success.
Positive relationships between staff and children, consistent routines and strong relationships with parents are key. We recognise the crucial role that early year’s education has to play in providing firm foundations in order for children to become successful learners.

**The EYFS Framework**

There are seven areas of learning and development that help to shape educational provision in Early Years settings. All areas of learning and development are important and inter-connected. None of the areas of learning can be delivered in isolation from the others. Our children’s learning experiences enable them to develop competency and skills not just academically but also socially, emotionally and physically.

The **three prime areas** which are particularly crucial for igniting children’s curiosity and enthusiasm for learning, and for building their capacity to learn, form relationships are:

* Personal, Social and Emotional Development
* Communication and Language
* Physical Development

Staff will also support children in **four specific areas**, through which the three prime areas are strengthened and applied:

* Literacy
* Mathematics
* Understanding the world
* Expressive arts and design

All those areas of learning are connected together. The characteristics of effective teaching and learning weave through them all. That’s because children in the early years are becoming more powerful learners and thinkers. These characteristics develop as they learn to do new things, acquire new skills, develop socially and emotionally, and become better communicators.

At Hardwick Green Primary Academy, we plan learning experiences considering both the children's individual needs and achievements as well as a range of learning experiences that will assist them to make progress. Well planned play is a key way in which children learn with enjoyment and challenge during the Foundation Stage. Children deepen their understanding by playing, talking, observing, planning, questioning, experimenting, testing, repeating, reflecting and responding to adults and to each other.

Our learning environment is made up of areas which reflect all areas of the curriculum. Here children can make their own choices, encouraging them to play and explore. They can be active learners and are able to create and think critically. Links are made between both indoor and outdoor learning environments, to ensure that all children receive a rich and varied curriculum that supports their learning and development.