



Teaching and learning at Shawclough

We want every child to enjoy learning, build lasting knowledge and skills, and use what they learn in new situations. Our caring, safe environment and broad, balanced curriculum help children grow in confidence and independence.

A carefully planned curriculum

Learning builds step by step on what children already know. Teachers plan clear learning goals, important knowledge and vocabulary, with suitable support and challenge. Our curriculum follows the Early Years framework, National Curriculum, agreed Religious Education syllabus and Relationships and Health Education requirements.

How we teach

Connect learning — recap earlier learning and address gaps.

Vocabulary — explain and practise the key words children need.

Explain clearly — teach in small steps and show children how to succeed.

Check understanding — use questions, thinking time and discussion to spot misunderstandings.

Practise together — guide children, give feedback and gradually reduce support.

Independent practice — help children apply learning and provide further teaching when needed.

Review and reflect — recap learning, discuss useful strategies and identify next steps.

Teachers adapt this shared approach to the subject, children's age and their understanding.

Learning in Nursery and Reception

Children learn through play, stories, routines and planned teaching. Adults use the ShREC approach: Share attention with the child; Respond to their interests and communication; Expand their language and ideas; and sustain a back-and-forth Conversation. Children have time to think, talk and explore.

Inclusion including SEND

We have high expectations for every child. Clear explanations, practical and visual support, flexible groups and purposeful technology help remove barriers. Teachers and teaching assistants work with families, the SENDCO and other professionals to support independence. Teaching in Rainbow and Rainforest is adapted to pupils' needs.

Helping children become confident learners

In Nursery and Reception we use the Characteristics of Effective Learning Dinosaurs to help children understand how they learn. We then build on this in key Stages 1 and 2 with the School Drivers. Our six drivers are Creative thinkers, Effective participators, Reflective learners, Self-managers, Independent enquirers and Team workers. Children practise asking questions, working together, planning, checking their progress and using feedback. Calm routines, organised classrooms and useful displays support learning. We teach careful presentation, pencil grip and posture, with individual adaptations where needed.

Checking learning and working together

Teachers use discussion, questioning, observation and children's work to check learning, correct misunderstandings and plan next steps. Feedback helps children improve. We work with families to support each child's development. Staff use research, professional learning and reviews of pupils' learning to keep improving teaching, drawing on EEF guidance and Rosenshine's principles.



Rochdale

Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education
2025-2030

