



What is the Early Years' Quality Mark?

'Recognising high quality Early Years' provision'

Demonstrating your Early Years setting's commitment to continually improving standards of high quality education and care for young children.

Tribal's Quality Mark Early Years programme takes account of recent studies in early childhood education and a global understanding of best practice for our youngest children.

The award recognises improving standards in the provision of communication and language, and mathematics. It provides evidence of high-quality education and care, and can support inspection preparation.

Taken from our Early Years' Quality Mark Report (20.04.17):

'Good practice' identified in relation to the 10 Elements of the Quality Mark:

St Joseph's is a highly cohesive school with a very strong collaborative ethos where all staff and governors continuously strive to ensure that all pupils achieve to the best of their potential in all areas of learning and school life.

- *Since the last assessment the EYFS class has become a pure Early Years class (previously included Year 1 pupils) and a Nursery unit has been established at the school.*
- *Continued investment has been made to enhance the provision within the setting and also promote staff development.*
- *The leadership of the EYFS provides a very clear focus and direction for all involved in the setting, which is firmly based on all pupils achieving their potential in all areas of the EYFS curriculum.*
- *The highly motivated Teaching Assistants play a vital role in supporting all pupils.*
- *Learning is developed through planned, purposeful, yet challenging play in both indoor and outdoor environments.*
- *There is an appropriate balance of adult-led and child initiated activities, with evidence of child led topic focusses.*
- *Effective procedures for monitoring, assessment, target setting and planning for foundation skills are employed.*
- *The quality and depth of information gathered, alongside continuous and rigorous monitoring and assessment ensures that all teaching and support is very effectively targeted. This is for all pupils ensuring that no pupil is overlooked and that any intervention is bespoke to the individual.*
- *Evidence of ICT used appropriately to promote independent and targeted learning.*
- *There are clear systems of communication with parents. They are actively encouraged to be partners in their child's learning through engaging in 'Inspire' sessions, 'Stay and Play' sessions, 'Phonics drop in' and completion of a range of Evaluation forms following these events.*
- *Governors are very well informed about the school and its performance and play an integral part in decision making to ensure the best provision is available for the pupils.*
- *School promotes the use of older children as 'Buddies', partners for younger children, building self- confidence and self-*

esteem.

- *A Learning Walk shows how learning is fun and a wide variety of activities and events enable pupils to practice their foundation skills.*
- *On the day of the assessment, pupils presented excellent behaviour and were seen to be engaged and interested in their learning.*

There is robust evidence within the setting to show how the school has enhanced the provision for Early Years since the last assessment.

All members of the school should feel very proud of its achievements and of the renewal of the Basic Skills Quality Mark for Early Years - a success based firmly on a determination to ensure that every child achieves their best.