



EYFS Curriculum Intent Statement

**Our Curriculum (Intent)**

Our Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) curriculum is carefully designed to help children become confident, curious and independent learners who are well prepared for Year 1 and beyond.

Across the year, children explore a range of exciting enquiry themes that help them make sense of themselves, their community and the wider world. Learning begins with children’s own experiences and interests before gradually broadening their understanding of the world around them.

Within the context of bespoke themes and key events throughout the year, children develop important knowledge, vocabulary and skills through play, exploration, stories and first-hand experiences.

Stories, rhymes and high-quality texts are at the heart of our curriculum and inspire discussion, creativity, imaginative play and a love of reading. We place a strong emphasis on communication and language, helping children develop confidence in speaking, listening and expressing their ideas.

Our termly themes, lines of enquiry and key knowledge are as follows:

	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Theme	Marvellous Me!	Sparkle and Shine	Once Upon a Time	Spring Adventure	Wonderful Wallingford	On the Move
Line of enquiry	<i>Who am I?</i>	<i>Why do we celebrate?</i>	<i>What is a traditional tale?</i>	<i>How do things grow and change?</i>	<i>Where do I belong? What role do I play in my local community?</i>	<i>How and why do people move?</i>
Key knowledge	Self, family, routines, growth	Seasonal celebrations, family celebrations, celebrating our similarities and differences	Traditional tales, how life is different now than it was in the past, royalty, seasonal celebrations	Seasons, nature, life cycles	My school, my local area, maps, people who help us, comparing local and contrasting environments, comparing life in the past to life now	Journeys, transport, routes, transition into Year 1
Curriculum links to Year 1	“Exploring the UK” (identity, belonging)	“Royal Stories Through Time” (celebrations, traditions)	“Play, Then and Now” (past/ present, change over time)	“Weather Watchers” (seasonal change)	“Beside the Seaside” (places, environments)	“Tracks Through Time” (movement, journeys)

Please see the **Termly Curriculum Maps** on the website for further details of what learning will happen each term.

Our curriculum is carefully sequenced to build strong foundations for future learning. Rather than introducing formal Key Stage 1 topics too early, we focus on developing the **knowledge, vocabulary, curiosity** and **independence** children need to **thrive as lifelong learners**.

Children learn through the seven areas of learning:

**Prime Areas**

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

**Specific Areas**

- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the World
- Expressive Arts and Design

**How We Teach (Implementation)**

In Reception, children learn through a carefully balanced mix of:

- Well-resourced indoor and outdoor continuous provision
- Purposeful play and hands-on exploration
- Adult-led focused teaching sessions
- High-quality interactions and conversations
- Daily phonics, literacy and maths activities
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Communication and language are central to everything we do. Adults model rich vocabulary, encourage meaningful conversations and support children to develop confidence in speaking and listening throughout the day.

Stories and books are woven throughout the curriculum and help children develop imagination, vocabulary and an understanding of the world around them.

Our staff get to know every child as an individual, observing and supporting their learning closely so that activities can be tailored to children's needs, interests and next steps. This ensures all children are both supported and appropriately challenged as they grow in confidence and independence.

We value strong partnerships with families and work closely together to celebrate achievements and support learning at home.

**Learning Environment**

Our classroom and outdoor learning area are thoughtfully designed to spark imagination, creativity and exploration. Children have access to a wide range of exciting resources that encourage independence, active learning, critical thinking and collaboration.

Learning through play is an important part of our curriculum and allows children to practise, apply and deepen the skills they have been taught.

Outdoor learning plays a key role throughout the year, supporting children's physical development, curiosity and wellbeing while allowing them to learn through first-hand experiences and exploration of the natural world.

## Assessment and Progress (Impact)

We assess children's learning through ongoing observations, interactions and carefully planned assessment opportunities as they play and learn.

At the end of Reception, children are assessed against the Early Learning Goals. Please see document on the website for more information on what these are.

We aspire for every child to make strong progress from their starting points and to develop key skills across the curriculum.

By the end of Reception, children leave as confident communicators, enthusiastic readers and independent learners who are well prepared for the next stage of their education.

We celebrate each child's achievements and work closely with families to support every step of their learning journey.