



St Edward's EYFS Intent, Implementation and Impact

2019 – 2020

Intent

At St Edward's we intend for all our children to acquire the knowledge, skills and understanding to be effective, inquisitive and independent learners. Our hope is that all our children believe in their own abilities, which will allow them to develop resilience along with becoming successful in their own school journey and beyond. In order to facilitate this, children in EYFS will have experience of the seven areas of learning. The areas are managed and delivered through balanced whole class/group teaching and play based learning. We intend our EYFS curriculum to be ambitious, endeavouring to give our children the best start in life. We are passionate at St Edward's about creating opportunities for children to express themselves and to thrive through developing their language and communication skills at a very early age. We place a great emphasis on the development of children as individuals which will prepare them for the challenges beyond the EYFS curriculum. In doing this we build strong foundations rooted in academic success, encompassing the children's wellbeing along with their spiritual and moral development, whilst also ensuring that they are happy and curious life-long learners.

Implementation

Our EYFS curriculum recognises prior knowledge by providing first hand learning experiences along with having a child-centered approach. At St Edward's, we ensure that we are aware of each child's individual interests in order to support their learning. Each area is planned to ensure that there is a broad, balanced and progressive learning environment and curriculum. Planning is flexible allowing children to use and to develop their skills. Children develop their independence along with their enquiry and problem solving skills through working independently and collaboratively with their friends and members of staff. Observations and discussions allow staff to identify next steps to ensure that progress is evident. Stimulating environments both inside and outside of the classroom provide engaging activities which children can access independently. Children demonstrate their attitudes and behaviours to learning through the different 'Characteristics of Effective Learning'. To facilitate this in St Edward's our children are immersed in lots of practical, play based learning activities through which they are encouraged to explore, experiment and develop. Outdoor learning is extremely important and outside play based learning is just as important as the work carried out inside the classroom. At St Edward's we use all environments to ensure each child's needs are met through continuous and enhanced provision and each child's interests.

Reading is at the heart of our curriculum. Phonics is taught in stages on a daily basis. The children's reading books reflect the phonics stage that they are at. Children are encouraged to read aloud each day and to identify letters/signs in their learning environments. Displays and role play areas are language and number rich to invite each child to work with their peers to include reading during their independent play. Our inclusive approach means that all children learn, play and progress together.

Impact

In providing a broad and balanced curriculum the individual needs of every child is met including our disadvantaged and SEND pupils. Every member of staff uses ongoing observational assessment to identify children's starting points and to plan experiences which will ensure progress. As a school we believe that our high standards are due to the enriched play-based exploration alongside the rigour of assessment with a rich diet of balanced learning experiences. We measure the percentage of pupils achieving Age Related Expectations by the end of Nursery. The impact of our curriculum will also be measured by how well our pupils develop and embody our school values. At St Edward's we strive to ensure that our children's progress across the EYFS curriculum is rapid and achievable from their starting points and aim for children to achieve their Early Learning Goals by the end of Reception. The impact of our curriculum is also measured by assessment procedures which allow us as a school to measure outcomes against all schools nationally ensuring that our children carry with them the knowledge, skills and attitudes which will make them life long learners and valuable future citizens. Ultimately, we endeavour at St Edward's for all of our pupils to become Key Stage One ready, embedding the school values by the time they leave Reception.