

Our Curriculum Intent

Our Curriculum Intent: Safe, effective and sustainable Early Years practice which meets the needs of the children and families we work with.

At Midfield, we offer a language-rich curriculum that is inclusive, inspiring, and responsive to children's needs and interests. We strive to support every child in achieving their very best and to aim for excellence across the curriculum. The curriculum begins with what children already know and can do and then is planned and sequenced to ensure all children acquire the knowledge and skills they need to succeed in their future learning.

In The Early Years, our curriculum is built upon children's current and shared learning experiences. This encourages the children to be excited and inspired and to be enquirers and reflective learners. Children are given broad experiences in order to experience moments of "enchantment" which lead to elements of discovery. Children have ownership of their learning and heightened engagement. We focus on what children already know and can do (their schema) and deliver a child-centred curriculum which ensures all children progress across all areas of learning and development. There is an emphasis on developing children's Social, Moral, Spiritual and Cultural Development and their mental health and wellbeing throughout the curriculum. We utilise the school's extensive grounds, incorporate cultural experiences and take account of the school's locality, ensuring that local events and history are key components of children's learning. We believe in excellence when it comes to children's wellbeing, social and emotional development. We use the Leuven scale alongside our observations to monitor wellbeing and involvement and we work with families and the children alongside our pastoral inclusion team (PIT stop) who offer support for amongst others, bereavement, family separation, anxiety, anger management and low self-esteem.

In the core areas of Literacy and Numeracy we follow the Ruth Miskin Read Write Inc program to teach phonics and letter formation from Nursery through to Year Two. Our home reading books are closely matched to each child's development. In maths we follow White Rose which emphasises maths mastery and deeper thinking of mathematical skills.

Our Early Years staff are forward thinking and actively participate in projects linked to current research which deliver improved outcomes for children. We have recently engaged with local secondary schools in our teens and toddlers project where children are mentored and also The Shaw Trust, a community group where we linked with service users and Elmstead Care Home to deliver an intergenerational project. We are currently seeking to achieve a Schema play mark in our Nursery and an ESC (Education for Sustainable Citizenship) mark in our Reception classes

"Curiosity is the wick in the candle of learning." – William Arthur Ward

