



## Aims of the Early Years Foundation Stage

- Become a valued member of our school community.
- Be given a rich environment to explore and develop their language and imagination.
- Investigate how numbers work, patterns, shape, role play, dance, drama, and all the areas of learning from the EYFS.
- Have an opportunity to practise fine and gross motor skill, increasing their understanding of how their body works and stays healthy.
- Have lots of fun!
- We build on from all the wonderful work YOU and the pre schools have started. We also work really closely with other EYFS providers that your child might still be attending.



## Play

At Mason Moor we believe that all learning within the Early Years Foundation Stage should be play based as we know this is how children learn best. We have a balance of adult led learning (working with an adult) and child initiated learning (where we expect the children to design their own projects and learning experiences in the classroom!) We call this Discovery Time.

Throughout the year, the Foundation children play, make friends, develop and learn. They have great fun, exploring and creating, indoors and outside. They gain independence and confidence and their natural curiosity is encouraged at all times.



## The EYFS Outside Classroom

All children will be given the opportunity to play outside throughout the day whatever the weather. It is important that you dress your child for school appropriately: warm clothes and waterproof coat when it's cold and wet; sun hat and sunscreen when it's sunny.

The children will get wet, muddy and messy when they play outside! We teach the children how to minimise how messy they get ( they do get better at this as they get older!) but it's part of their learning and development we can't expect them not to get messy when playing in mud and water. You are welcome to provide some wellies for outside play.

We will not compromise on allowing children to play outdoors as we believe it to be an essential component of young children's learning and development. Children must be allowed to experience the world around them in a full, messy, muddy, wet environment if they are to make useful meaning of it.





## How your child is getting on.

Each child has their own "Learning Journey" this is where we keep evidence of their learning and samples of work or photographs of what they have been doing. We also have a literacy and maths folder.

You will be able to discuss how your child has settled in and their progress at our parent evenings and drop ins.



## Assessments

Your child will be assessed continually over the Foundation year so we really know what they can do and what their next steps in learning should be.

We refer to the developmental age bands set out in Developmental Matters document.

[https://www.foundationyears.org.uk/files/2012/03/Developmental Matters FINAL PRINTAMENDED.pdf](https://www.foundationyears.org.uk/files/2012/03/Developmental%20Matters%20FINAL%20PRINTAMENDED.pdf)

During the first few weeks at school your child will be assessed and a baseline of their learning will be created. This will support where the learning will start for each child. We will also spend a lot of time playing and interacting with your child to get to know their real talents and achievements!



## Assessments

The EYFS Profile

We also track your child against the 17 Early Learning Goals and declare at the END OF THE YEAR whether they are:

Emerging

Not quite achieving or partly achieving the goal, working below age related expectations.

Expected

Have achieved the goal, and within age related expectations.

Exceeding

Working beyond age related expectations.

This will be reported to you as an end of year report

We also share this carefully with our Year 1 colleagues so they can ensure your child is continually supported effectively in their learning.



## Home learning

We believe learning at school must be linked to the learning we send home.

The children will be sent home half termly phonics/spelling and handwriting booklets. These will need to be sent in to school every week.

Once they are ready the children will bring home reading scheme books. Each child will be expected to read 5 times a week. This will be checked weekly.

