# Diptford C of E Primary School

Learning in Little Dippers

Reception

Reception is where the excitement begins! Foundation stage children learn together in an environment which is developed around the children's interests. We pride ourselves on being an exciting and engaging place to be - encouraging our children to be independent learners through a range of practical activities. We follow a thematic curriculum which allows us to be creative with our lessons and encourages the children to lead their own learning.
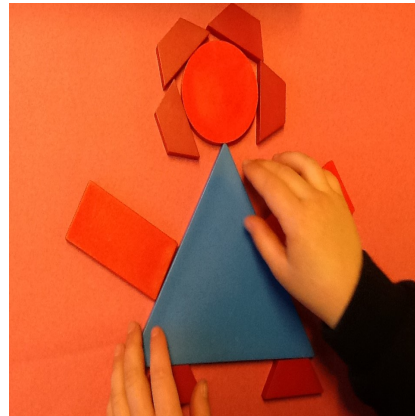
As our Reception children enter the classroom they learn primarily through a variety of play and real-life experiences. Our teaching is delivered through carefully planned tasks and guided key jobs. The children access their environment freely; however they understand they must complete 'key jobs' throughout the week which will scaffold and extend their learning. Their development is tracked through detailed, daily observations and child-initiated interaction. This information is then transferred into your child's personal learning journey on Tapestry - an online diary of information and photographs. We use this to record individual interests, progress and to plan the next steps of your child's learning. We also welcome and encourage home learning and achievements to show a full picture of your child.

The EYFS Curriculum

Our Reception children follow the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework (EYFS).

This curriculum is based upon the following four themes and principles which are at the core of all that we do at diptford Primary School:

The Unique Child - We understand that every child is an individual child who is capable in their own right. The holistic child has a variety of needs that need meeting over their time in the Foundation Stage.

Positive Relationships - Social interaction is key to children's development. Children become strong, independent learners; as well as scaffolding their learning through positive social interaction.

Enabling Environments - Providing a safe, secure and stimulating base for your children is key to their development. The framework allows for experiences that respond to the child's individual needs/interests; as well as developing a strong partnership between practitioners, parents and carers.

Learning and Development - Children develop and learn in different ways. The framework covers the education and care of all children in early years provision, including children with special educational needs and disabilities.

Early Learning Goals

Within the curriculum there are 3 prime areas of learning and 4 specific areas. They are:

Prime Areas
Communication and language
Personal, social and emotional development
Physical development

Specific Areas
Literacy
Problem solving, numeracy and reasoning
Understanding the World
Expressive arts and design

This framework provides the basis of how we structure the setting, the activities and opportunities we provide; as well as how we assess your child's development. For each of these areas your child will have an 'Early Learning Goal' to work towards. For more information about the individual Early Learning Goals (ELGs) and the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework, please use the following links:

Early years foundation stage: assessment and reporting arrangements (ARA)

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/early-years-foundation-stage-assessment-and-reporting-arrangements-ara

EYFS Profile handbook

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/early-years-foundation-stage-profile-handbook

Exemplification materials

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/eyfs-profile-exemplication-materials

Early Years Outcomes

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/early-years-outcomes

We will also be observing how your child approaches and engages in their learning. This is referred to as the 'Characteristics of Effective Learning' and is split into the following three areas:

Characteristics of Effective Learning
Playing and exploring
Active learning
Creating and thinking critically