

Early Years Foundation Stage Vision and Aims



At St John The Baptist Primary school, in the Early Years Foundation Stage, the staff work together towards a shared vision of "**Everyone Different, Everyone Loved**".

We guide the development of children's learning and capabilities with the view to ensuring that all children are ready to benefit fully from the opportunities ahead of them and are able to embrace all possible learning opportunities.

We aim for the children in our EYFS to:

- Happy, secure and to feel safe
- Independent, self-assured risk takers
- Confident, ready and Resilient
- Excited and Motivated to learn
- Socially strong and able to form positive relationships.

All staff deeply care about the children in our EYFS and we treat all children as individuals and promote positive relationships and secure relationships. We make it a priority to form close relationships with families and the wider community to promote the best outcomes for all children. Staff members use consistent boundaries and praise, and these form the backbone of our behaviour management system. We recognise and value individual's strengths and talents and believe in praising effort and valuing the little steps that really make a difference to a child's progress. We know that by doing this, we are building happy and secure children, who feel safe. Praise and clear boundaries contribute to the confidence and resilience of our children.

We hope our children leave EYFS independent, not only in their organisational skills but also in their learning. We believe that all children are intrinsically capable of amazing things and we develop this through setting high expectations for all children. We pose challenges, build confidence and self-esteem, show children how capable they are and support them to reach their potential. We take time to teach independence skills explicitly and support children to develop into well-rounded, ambitious learners. Taking risks is an important part of early learning and we have developed all our environments to promote children having confidence and resilience to attempt these challenges.

Through the Characteristics of Effective Learning, we develop children's active learning skills and help them to understand and respond to feedback.

Perseverance is highly valued and praised. We strongly believe that to develop resilience, we must teach children to be independent learners who problem solve for themselves and know to keep trying and how and when to access help.

Excitement and motivation for learning are developed through planning fun, engaging and challenging lessons based on the needs for all the children. We follow the fascinations and interests of the children and the teaching and learning is fast paced to respond to the changing needs of individuals. We provide new and interesting experiences, building on, and adding to the range of activities children will have had at home or through pre-school experience. We make learning purposeful and rooted in real-life contexts, where possible, so that children have motivating reasons to learn and to help them to apply their knowledge to a range of situations.

We set social development at the core of our learning and understand the value of harmonious relationships, friendship, and kindness. Children are encouraged to always become well-rounded and sociable through the modelling of positive interactions and language. We spend time getting to know families so that we can celebrate each child as an individual and promote mutual respect, understanding for the diverse cultural backgrounds of others and develop a strong moral ethos in every child. We teach about honesty, co-operation and respect. While teaching children to be assertive, we balance this with empathy and understanding for others and support children to solve their friendship problems independently, where possible.