

St Lawrences C of E Primary School with Little Lawrences – Early Years Curriculum Intent and Overview

Children happily facilitate the planning of high quality learning experiences through the careful observation of their individuality, interests and needs. As such, they are able to grow and develop in a nurturing and stimulating environment where they are able to 'soar on wings like eagles'.

At St Lawrences our curriculum celebrates the Early Years Foundation Stage through our understanding of :-

Unique Child Every child is a unique child who is constantly learning & can be resilient, capable, confident & self-assured.	Positive Relationships Children learn to be strong & independent through positive relationships.	Enabling Environments Children learn & develop well in enabling environments, in which their experiences respond to their individual needs and there is a strong partnership between practitioner, parents & carers.	Learning & Development Children develop & learn in different ways. Practitioners teach by ensuring challenging, playful opportunities across the prime and specific areas.
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Long Term Planning remains flexible and fluid as we believe in following children’s individual needs and interests. The children themselves become the facilitators of our planning. The areas outlined below are examples of what topics may be covered each term. The seasons, weather and festivals will feature throughout the year.

<u>Autumn 1</u> Ourselves and Our Families Autumn and Harvest Diwali	<u>Autumn 2</u> Space Remembrance day Diwali Winter and Christmas	<u>Spring 1</u> All Around the World (traditions and stories) Chinese New Year Shrove Tuesday and Lent	<u>Spring 2</u> Easter and Spring Mini-beasts Plants and Flowers Artists	<u>Summer 1</u> Dinosaurs Fossils and Excavation Fairytales Superheroes	<u>Summer 2</u> Seaside Summer Under the sea Pirates
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We deliver a curriculum that allows depth and breadth of learning and development through the seven areas highlighted below. Three Prime areas, highlighted green, hold more emphasis, particularly during Little Lawrences. Later, as the children progress into Reception, or as developmentally ready, there will be a greater emphasis on Literacy and Mathematics. .

Personal, Social and Emotional Development- Through a nurturing, safe environment, children will be provided with experiences and support which enables them to develop a positive sense of themselves and others, respect for others and their environment, social skills and a positive attitude towards learning.

Communication, Language and Literacy- Children will be provided with opportunities to experience a rich language environment; to develop their confidence and skills in expressing themselves and to speak and listen in a range of situations.

Physical Development- Children will be provided with opportunities to be active and interactive, to develop their co-ordination, control and movement. They will be helped to understand the importance of physical activity, and to make healthy choices in relation to food.

Literacy- Children will be supported to link sounds and letters and begin to read and write. They will be encouraged to mark make through a literacy rich environment and be given access to a wide range of reading materials to support the development of a life-long love of reading.

Mathematics- Children will have opportunity to understand and use shape, space, measures and numbers to solve everyday problems posed in their environment. We support children to discover that mathematics is a way of finding things out, exploring and problem solving.

Understanding the World- The children will be guided to make sense of their physical world and their community through opportunities to explore, observe and find out about people, places, technology and the environment. They will discover the awe and wonder of the world.

Expressive Arts and Design- The children will be enabled to explore and play with a wide range of media and materials. They will be provided with opportunities share their thoughts, ideas and feelings through a variety of activities in art, music, movement, dance, role-play, and design and technology.

Our Early Years team recognise the **Characteristics of Effective Learning** outlined below, and will skilfully observe, intervene and guide children in order that they make significant progress in their learning and development.

Playing and Exploring -engagement Finding out and exploring Playing with what they know Being willing to ‘have a go’	Active Learning -motivation Being involved and concentrating Keeping trying Enjoying achieving what they set out to do	Creating and Thinking Critically -thinking Having their own ideas Making links Choosing ways to do things
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