Early Years Foundation Stage Policy – appendix

Hillocks Primary Academy

September 2024



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1 Key personnel

Principal: Miss Claire Gledhill

Early Years Leader: Mrs K Evans

SENDCO: Mrs Charlotte Adams

2 Organisation of learning

There are separate indoor areas for the nursery and reception children with a shared area for outdoor provision. Depending on the cohort size, there are one or two classes in reception; in nursery there are two keyworker groups.

3 Organisation of the academy day

Morning Nursery: 08:45 - 11:45

Afternoon Nursery: 12:30 --15:30

Reception: 08:50 – 15:20

4 Long term curriculum summary

Children in The Early Years follow the Early Years Curriculum which focuses on the Prime Areas of Learning: Communication and Language, Personal, Social and Emotional Development, Physical Development, Literacy and Mathematics plus Understanding the World and Expressive Arts and Design. Topics to be covered are outlined on the long-term plans which can be found here. We follow a one-year cycle in Reception and a two-year cycle to reflect the five-term provision in nursery.

There is a mixture of directed and free choice activities and children are monitored to ensure a balanced programme is accessed. As the children get older, activities are more adult directed, in order to prepare the children for transition into Year 1.

5 Extended nursery provision

To support children and families in our local community, Hillocks Primary Academy offers up to 30 hours free childcare for three and four year-olds within our nursery provision for parents who are eligible for this government funded initiative.

6 Any academy specific assessment arrangements (particularly special academies)

Within six weeks of children starting in nursery, a starting point assessment is carried out. This helps to inform the planned provision. Assessment is part of the daily practice throughout the foundation stage; data is collected termly and used for analysis by both the school and the Trust.

7 Parent partnership

We strongly value relationships with parents and strive to ensure we communicate as clearly and as often as possible. The parent communication platform, Weduc, is used to deliver notices and to provide parents with an insight into their children's learning. Staff are available at the beginning and end of sessions; alternatively, meetings can be set up at a mutually convenient time. Parent/ Carer consultations are also held twice a year, where the progress of children is discussed.

Our Parents as Partners sessions run in the half term prior to children starting nursery: parents and children are welcomed into the setting for one session a week.

8 Compliments, queries and complaints

Parents are encouraged to communicate with the class teacher in the first instance. Following this, an approach can be made to the Foundation Stage Leader or Principal.

9 Date of ratification by Local Academy Committee

September 2024

10 Date of next review

January 2025