



# EYFS CURRICULUM

Updated September 2024

Growing Together to:

- Value and respect others
- Build strength through resilience
- Understand the world around us



## Philosophical Foundations

Our practice is built on philosophical foundations, with modern research used to inform a fresh approach. We take into account a variety of teaching methods and early years theorists, however, there are some main philosophies that we are particularly passionate about embedding into our classroom. The following philosophies, used in tandem with modern research and rigorous programmes of learning, ensure that children are able to flourish personally and academically.

### Reggio Emilia

We pride ourselves on having a child-centred approach. We embrace individuality and encourage children to follow their own interests. Staff are facilitators of learning and support children in progressing their skills and knowledge. Our school vision and metacognition characters ensure that children can communicate effectively and work collaboratively to ensure they learn their place in the world through interactions. Our classroom is not overstructured; resources are carefully placed into provision, but in a way that children can freely explore and create.

### Abraham Maslow

We believe strongly in ensuring that the basic needs of our pupils are met in order for them to flourish at school. We give our pupils an exceptional level of care; providing opportunities to sleep if needed, additional snacks if children are hungry, providing children with love, care and security - to name just a few. Our first priority is always that our children feel as safe and cared for as possible. We strongly believe that children's basic needs need to be met before they can be in a position to learn effectively. Among many other benefits, Forest School helps children build confidence and self-esteem through hands-on learning experiences in a natural environment. This presents new risks and challenges and new opportunities to learn from nature.



Jean Piaget

We share Piaget's beliefs that children built their understanding of the world based on their experiences. We provide as many hands-on experiences of the world as possible to allow children to build strong schemas and 'construct' their thoughts effectively. Where we are unable to take children to experiences, such as historical events, we bring such experiences to children through reading or role play.

Albert Bandura

Our school community plays a large role in how children are taught to behave and learn. Foundation Stage children are assigned Year Six buddies before they even start school, and these buddies play an integral role in modelling behaviour and attitudes. Staff treat each other and all children with compassion, love and kindness. Positive behaviour and attitudes are celebrated at every opportunity and we are proud of the impact that this has on Foundation Stage children.

Maria Montessori

Our provision is entirely driven by our respect for each child. We give pupils the freedom to make choices and actively encourage independence. Respect is modelled across the school; between adults, adults to children, and children to children. Pupils are taught to value each other's uniqueness and to use peaceful and communicative conflict resolution. Our environment is enabled to ensure that all children can make progress across the seven EYFS areas.