

Low Road and Windmill Music Federation

EYFS Curriculum Intent

The children at Low Road and Windmill Music Federation EYFS access a broad and balanced curriculum carefully designed around their strengths and needs. Our curriculum provides children with the foundational knowledge and understanding needed to prepare them for the next stage in their learning journey. It is ambitious for all children and centred round the needs of each unique child.

Stories, festivals, celebrations and children's interests are the main drivers of our curriculum, which is based around the Early Years Foundation Stage Statutory Framework and Development Matters guidance. The Educational Programmes are implemented through a range of child led and adult planned opportunities and first hand experiences across each of the 7 areas of learning.

"Children benefit from an ambitious curriculum that helps them to prepare well for future learning." Windmill Daycare Ofsted May 2022

We intend to develop curious, creative, resilient, independent learners who show high levels of well-being and engagement. This will result in deeper level learning and higher rates of progress across all seven areas of learning.

Our curriculum has always had a strong communication and language focus; however, this has become an even stronger priority due to the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic. Staff introduce children to new vocabulary and repeatedly use this in daily practice to ensure children learn, understand and are able to use the new words when explaining their thoughts and ideas. Children access a vocabulary rich environment where staff spend time engaging in conversations with children of topics of interest to them.

Story Spine: Stories are used as the facilitators to introduce and embed a broad and rich vocabulary and as drivers for learning opportunities across all areas of the curriculum. We have created our own story spine for each stage of the EYFS. 12 books have been selected through careful consideration and consultation with staff, children and parents, for each stage of the EYFS. These books provide the core reading experiences and opportunities for children throughout the EYFS. In addition to this, stories are chosen to enhance the current cohort's curriculum linked to their interests, fascinations or special events and celebrations.

Children are introduced to key story vocabulary, progressively across the EYFS, which then begins to feed into the stories they create. Storytelling and creativity is celebrated when the children's stories are scribed for them and acted out to bring their stories alive.

Phonics: Children in Nursery begin to build the foundational skills they need through daily opportunities for singing, speaking and listening through areas of provision. Children in preschool access short, adult directed, daily phonics sessions. These sessions are focusing on the prerequisite skills needed to access phonics when they enter Reception. Once they start Reception, children access the Little Wandle phonics scheme. Long-term plans for phonics clearly set out the carefully planned and sequenced objectives for the Pre-School year and Reception.

Maths: Children in Nursery begin to build the foundational skills they need through the carefully planned areas of provision, which support early mathematical skills. Practitioners focus on developing the understanding of early mathematical vocabulary so that they can succeed at the next stage of their learning journey. Children in preschool begin to access short, adult directed, daily Maths sessions focusing on the prerequisite skills needed to access the Maths curriculum when they enter Reception. As children move into Reception they access daily Maths sessions, carefully planned and sequenced using the White Rose Maths guidance. Long-term plans for Maths clearly set out the carefully planned and sequenced objectives for the Pre-School year and Reception.