



# Early Years Foundation Stage

## Princefield First School – Vision Statement



At Princefield First School and Nursery our children are at the heart of all that we do.

We want all of our Early Years children to have the best possible start to their learning journey. We strive to ensure that all our Early Years children receive consistent high-quality care and teaching to give them the best possible foundation to grow, explore and achieve their full potential.

We want our Early Years pupils to be happy, confident and well-rounded children, who feel safe, secure and valued in our Nursery and Reception classes, where they can begin their life-long love of learning.

In our Early Years we recognise that every child is a unique individual and we have the highest ambitions for all of our children. Our children arrive with different starting points in their knowledge, skills and understanding and we recognise that they will all develop at different speeds.

We continually observe, assess and then plan and teach according to each child's individual needs to ensure that every single child in our Early Years thrives and achieves their full potential, providing targeted support and additional challenge where needed.

We are committed to break down any barriers to learning, ensuring our learning opportunities are inclusive for all, with the vision that all children in our Early Years make high and consistent progress.

We celebrate difference and we work hard to ensure our children grow to be kind, respectful and understanding members of the community, where different cultures and beliefs are celebrated, instilling British values in all that we do.

At Princefield, we are passionate about celebrating our children's successes, no matter how small. We value all individual achievements, encouraging a sense of self-pride in our children when they achieve their goals.

We believe in providing all our children with a safe, secure and stimulating learning environment. All of our Early Years children will learn through play and first-hand experiences. Learning will be active, fun, engaging and challenging.

At Princefield, we will deliver our ambitious Early Years curriculum, using a balance of child-initiated play, adult-modelled play and adult-led activities, covering all areas of the Early Years Curriculum.

In our Nursery we want our children to develop a secure foundation in the prime areas, communication and language, personal and social development and physical development skills. These skills are then enhanced and strengthened in our Reception classes.

Our Reception children have a broad and balanced curriculum, enhancing and strengthening learning in these Prime areas which then includes the teaching of skills through the specific areas of Literacy, Maths, Understanding the World and Expressive Art and Design.

We engage our children with exciting learning themes which are designed to develop knowledge and awe and wonder of the world around them. We support our children to embrace curiosity and exploration. We work hard to ensure our curriculum is interesting, creative, relevant and motivational. We deliver a carefully sequenced curriculum from Nursery through to Reception that allows all our children to achieve

their next steps but also encourages creativity and imagination and which also has gives opportunity for our children to take their learning in a direction that reflects their own interests.

We recognise that children learn to be confident and independent through the development of secure, positive relationships. We want all our children to feel nurtured and to have a voice. All adults in our Early Years will be role-models for our children, providing high quality interactions that will challenge, inspire and deepen each child's knowledge and understanding. We are passionate about developing a language rich environment, where every child is spoken to, listened to and has the opportunity to develop and widen their vocabulary in a range of situations.

We understand and appreciate the importance of the indoor and outdoor environment for learning and we provide indoor and outdoor spaces that enable our children to play, select their own resources and set their own goals. Our classrooms and outdoor areas allow for exploring the natural world, being physical and active and allow our pupils to be both independent and also to collaborate and work together with others.

We highly value the importance of outdoor learning and we give our children lots of opportunity for learning outdoors, all year round in all weathers, encouraging care for their world, a deep understanding of the seasons and nature, the environment and living things, alongside supporting the mental well-being that comes with being outside.

We are passionate about developing a love of reading from the start, sharing high quality stories, non-fiction books, poetry and rhymes, opening our children to a world of adventure and imagination and to instil in them a love of reading for pleasure. We teach early phonics skills in Nursery and in Reception teach daily phonics lessons using the Monster Phonics Scheme, teaching the decoding skills needed to start each child's journey towards becoming a confident and independent reader.

As a visible learning school, we are passionate about children understanding how they learn through the characteristics of effective teaching and learning. We provide opportunities for our children to play and explore, learn in an active way and think creatively and critically. We strive to encourage our children to be resilient and persevere when things are challenging and to give them opportunity to set their own goals and reflect on the different ways that they learn.

We have high-expectations of all our children's behaviour and we work hard to teach our children to become kind, respectful and well mannered, forming positive relationships with others, as valued members of our school community, sharing our school values of being honest, enthusiastic, inspirational, resilient and a team.

We strive to develop caring, respectful, professional relationships with our children's families, as we recognise that parents and carers know their child best. We work in partnership with families, actively involving them in their child's education. We are a welcoming school, where parents are kept informed about their child's progress, attainment and well-being. We encourage parental engagement in our children's Early Years through stay and play sessions and through regular contact via our online Learning Journey Tapestry and Class Dojo. We consult parents about their children's experiences outside of our Nursery and Reception, to ensure that we see and value the whole child and build this knowledge into our teaching and children's next steps.

We work in partnership with numerous outside agencies to enhance the learning experiences of all of our children, to support children with SEND and to help all of our children to succeed.

At Princefield we are committed to giving our children the best possible start to their school life.

Our vision is that every one of our children leaves our Early Years as confident, independent, well-rounded children, excited and fully 'school ready' to begin the next stage of their learning journey in Year One.