



AN INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY OF LEARNERS STRIVING FOR EXCELLENCE
AND CELEBRATING SUCCESS.

Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum

Welcome to Newton International School D Ring.

Our Mission

We aim to provide the highest quality of education possible for students of all abilities. In doing so, we will positively encourage each student to achieve academic excellence, enjoy creative diversity, develop critical thinking skills and become lifelong learners and responsible citizens.

Our Vision

We are an International community of learners striving for excellence and celebrating success.

Early Years Curriculum

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) is the period of education for children from birth to the end of the Foundation Two year. The Foundation Stage Curriculum is based on the recognition that children learn through play and active learning. There are seven areas of learning and development that shape the Early Years Foundation Stage.

Three areas of learning are:

- **Communication and Language**
- **Physical Development**
- **Personal, Social and Emotional Development**

These areas of learning, called the **prime** areas are particularly crucial in enabling children's learning, as they reflect the key skills and capabilities all children need to develop and learn effectively.

We also support children in four **specific** areas, through which the three prime areas are strengthened and applied. These areas are:

- **Literacy**
- **Mathematics**
- **Understanding the World**

• Expressive Arts and Design

Characteristics of Effective Learning

We support children to develop their Characteristics of Effective Learning as we believe they play a central role in a child's learning and are essential in building an effective learner. We follow children's interests to ensure they are engaged and motivated to enable them to develop their creative and critical thinking. The Characteristics of Effective Learning run through and underpin all seven areas of learning and development. They represent processes rather than outcomes. The characteristics of learning – Playing and Exploring, Active Learning and Creating and Thinking Critically support children to become motivated and effective learners.

Learning through play is a very important part of your child's development. We plan our environment to ensure that children have the opportunity to experience a wide range of learning. We ensure that we provide resources which allow children to initiate their own learning, whilst adults play and teach alongside them. All children are encouraged to use our outdoor and indoor learning environment.

Intent

Teaching and learning follows the structure of the statutory Framework for EYFS. We follow the four overarching principles of the **unique child, positive relationships, enabling environments** and the importance of **learning and development**. We recognise that children develop and learn in different ways. In our Foundation Stage we plan for progression to ensure that children know more, remember more and can do more as they move through the school and within the school year.

Through our carefully planned and sequenced curriculum we intend for **all** children to achieve our long-term goals for each area of learning at the end of Foundation Stage as well as a good level of development.

Prime Areas

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Fostering Personal, Social, and Emotional development is fundamental for children's overall well-being and readiness for future learning in Early Years. One effective strategy we utilise to nurture PSE development is the implementation of the "Zones of Regulation" framework.

The Zones of Regulation framework is specifically designed to assist children in identifying and managing their emotions, fostering self-awareness, and acquiring coping mechanisms for emotional regulation.

By integrating the Zones of Regulation framework into our practices within the EYFS, our goal is to equip children with vital emotional regulation skills. These skills not only support their social interactions but also lay a strong foundation for academic success and overall well-being, both presently and in the future.

Communication and Language Development

In our early years program, we cultivate a language-rich environment that is enhanced through the implementation of the Talk for Writing approach.

Oral Storytelling: Encourages children to participate in oral storytelling sessions where they can listen to stories, retell them in their own words, and even create their own imaginative stories.

Story Mapping: Using visual aids such as story maps to help children understand the structure of stories.

Shared Writing: Engages children in shared writing activities where they collaborate with an adult or their peers to compose stories or sentences.

Role-Play and Drama: Encourages dramatic play and role-play activities where children can act out stories or scenarios using language.

Language Games and Rhymes: Incorporates language games, rhymes, and chants into your daily routines to make learning language fun and engaging.

Modeling Language: Modeling rich and varied language by using descriptive words, asking open-ended questions, and providing explanations during everyday interactions with children.

Feedback and Reflection: Providing feedback on children's language use, acknowledging their efforts and gently correcting errors to support their language development. Encourage reflection by asking questions like "What do you think would happen next?" or "Why did the character do that?"

Creating Language-Rich Environments: Ensuring that the learning environment is filled with print-rich materials such as books, labels, and posters that promote language exploration and literacy skills development.

Physical Development

In our EYFS, it's crucial to nurture children's well-being by promoting active play, which is fundamental for their holistic development. We have established an environment that encourages a love for physical activity while enhancing gross and fine motor skills. By integrating regular opportunities for active play into daily routines and using the indoor and

outdoor areas, we can effectively support children in developing these essential skills, fostering physical fitness, and instilling a lifelong appreciation for healthy, active lifestyles.

(P.E.) Sessions: We have regular P.E. sessions led by trained P.E educators that focus on fundamental movement skills such as running, jumping, throwing, catching, and balancing. These sessions provide structured opportunities for children to develop their physical abilities in a supportive and inclusive environment.

Specific Areas

Literacy

Literacy plays a fundamental role in our Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) curriculum, and we are committed to fostering strong literacy skills in our students from the outset. Central to our approach is the implementation of a comprehensive phonics scheme, which forms the backbone of our literacy instruction.

Through systematic phonics instruction, we empower children to develop essential skills in decoding and encoding words, laying the groundwork for fluent reading and accurate spelling. Our phonics scheme follows a structured progression, introducing phonemes and graphemes in a logical sequence to ensure mastery and confidence in reading and writing.

In addition to phonics, our literacy curriculum incorporates a range of engaging activities and resources designed to promote language development, comprehension, and communication skills. Through storytelling, shared reading experiences, writing tasks, and interactive language games, we provide children with rich opportunities to explore and express themselves through language. We use Talk for Writing as an innovative approach to teaching literacy that combines storytelling, speaking, and writing to support children's language development and literacy skills.

By fostering a love for reading and writing from an early age, we aim to equip our students with the foundational literacy skills they need to succeed academically and beyond.

Mathematics

Mathematics is integral to our Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) curriculum, and we employ a structured approach to support mathematical development in Foundation One and Foundation Two using evidence-based frameworks.

In Foundation One, we utilise the Birth to 5 Matters framework to guide our mathematical provision. This framework recognises the importance of mathematical development from birth and provides a comprehensive set of guidelines for supporting children's mathematical understanding in the early years. Through hands-on exploration, play-based activities, and real-life experiences, we encourage children to develop fundamental mathematical concepts such as counting, sorting, pattern recognition, and shape recognition.

As children progress into Foundation Two, we transition to using the White Rose Maths scheme to further support mathematical learning. The White Rose Maths scheme is renowned for its mastery approach, which emphasizes deep understanding, problem-solving, and mathematical fluency. Through a carefully sequenced progression of learning objectives and engaging, interactive resources, we provide children with the opportunity to build upon their foundational mathematical knowledge and skills.

In both Foundation One and Foundation Two, our approach to mathematics education is holistic, incorporating mathematical concepts into all areas of learning and everyday experiences. By fostering a positive attitude towards mathematics and providing a supportive learning environment, we aim to instill confidence and enthusiasm for mathematical exploration and discovery in our young learners.

Understanding the World

Understanding the world encompasses the scientific aspect of learning, through exploration, investigation, and discovery, children develop an understanding of the world around them, including the natural environment, technology, and the wider community.

Our approach to understanding the world in EYFS is grounded in hands-on, experiential learning. We provide children with opportunities to explore and engage with the natural world through outdoor exploration, gardening, and observing plants, animals, and natural phenomena. By encouraging curiosity and inquiry, we foster a sense of wonder and appreciation for the diversity and complexity of the world.

In addition to exploring the natural world, we integrate scientific concepts into everyday experiences and activities. Through experiments, investigations, and sensory exploration, children develop scientific skills such as observation, prediction, experimentation, and critical thinking. We provide resources and materials that stimulate curiosity and promote exploration, allowing children to investigate and make sense of the world around them.

Furthermore, we incorporate technology into our understanding of the world curriculum, providing opportunities for children to explore and engage with digital technologies such as computers, tablets, and interactive whiteboards. By integrating technology into learning experiences, we support children in developing digital literacy skills and an understanding of the role of technology in modern society.

Expressive Art and Design

Expressive Arts and Design is a vital aspect of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) curriculum, fostering children's creativity, imagination, and self-expression. This area of learning encompasses both visual arts (such as painting, drawing, and sculpture) and performing arts (such as music, dance, and role-play).

In our EYFS provision, we provide rich and varied opportunities for children to explore, experiment, and create through expressive arts and design. Here's how we approach this area of learning:

Exploration and Experimentation: We encourage children to explore a wide range of materials, tools, and techniques, allowing them to experiment freely and express themselves creatively. This might involve painting with different textures, sculpting with clay, or using found objects to create collages.

Imaginative Play and Role-Play: We provide opportunities for children to engage in imaginative play and role-play, where they can express themselves through storytelling, acting out scenarios, and adopting different roles. This not only encourages creativity but also supports language development and social skills.

Music and Movement: We incorporate music and movement into our daily routines, providing opportunities for children to sing, dance, and explore rhythm and sound. We may use musical instruments, songs, and movement activities to inspire creativity and self-expression.

Celebrating Cultural Diversity: We celebrate and explore different cultures and traditions through expressive arts and design, introducing children to a variety of artistic styles, music genres, and cultural practices. This fosters an appreciation for diversity and encourages children to express themselves in culturally meaningful ways.

Encouraging Reflection and Expression: We provide opportunities for children to reflect on their own work and express their thoughts, feelings, and ideas through art and creative activities. This might involve group discussions, individual reflections, or using visual journals to document their creative process.

