

# Hintlesham and Chattisham CofE Primary School

## Early Years Foundation Stage



### Intent

At Hintlesham and Chattisham CofE Primary School we believe that all children deserve an education rich in wonder and memorable experiences that allows children's natural creativity and curiosity to flourish, alongside the purposeful acquisition of skills and knowledge. We believe that an education that does all of this gives children the best chance to become well-rounded, happy individuals, ready to succeed in an ever-changing world. It is our intention to provide a broad, balanced and differentiated curriculum, driven by the children's voices, which addresses social, emotional, physical, intellectual, moral and cultural development within a safe, secure, exciting and stimulating environment.

### Our Curriculum Drivers

**Community-** We want our children to develop a sense of pride in themselves and have the upmost respect for others. We will instil good manners and nurture their emotional wellbeing to allow our children to form positive relationships within school and the wider community.

**Communication-** We want our children to become expressive speakers, to find their voice and become passionate readers and writers. We will broaden their vocabulary and encourage talk in all areas of the curriculum.

**Adventure and Possibilities-** We want our children to have aspirations, to be excited about children the real world and all the possibilities it holds. We will give our children opportunities to expand their knowledge of the world around us and encourage them to broaden their horizons. We will nurture their interests, provide opportunities for them to engage in new hands on experiences and help them become confident risk takers!

**Initiative-** We recognise that it is vital that we nurture natural curiosity in our children and encourage their imagination so that they become independent learners. We will give our the skills to think critically, solve problems and make good choices, allowing them to believe anything is possible.

### Implementation

All children have access to a broad, balanced, well-resourced curriculum, which offers opportunities for enjoyment and success through active learning. Planned activities aim to foster good social relationships, promote equal opportunities and support special educational needs. Children learn to co-operate and listen to others. They do this in pairs, small groups and whole class groups. We use short teacher inputs

and access to a cross curricular indoor/outdoor provision. Staff plan for and ensure that both the inside and outside spaces are fun, safe, engaging and offer challenge.

Staff understand that the prime areas of learning begin to develop quickly in response to relationships and experiences and run through and support learning in all other areas. Furthermore, these prime areas continue to be essential throughout the whole of the EYFS. All 7 areas of learning (see below) are used to plan children's learning and activities. Staff use first hand experiences, visitors and visits to enhance children's experiences and to bring their learning to life.

### **Prime Areas**

- Personal and Social Development (PSD)
- Communication and Language (CL)
- Physical Development (PD)

### **Specific Areas**

- Literacy (L)
- Mathematics (M)
- Understanding the World (UtW)
- Expressive Arts and Design (EAD)

Children in EYFS learn by playing and exploring, being active, and through creative and critical thinking which takes place both indoors and outside. Our outdoor areas are used all year round and in most weather conditions. We ensure activities support the Characteristics of Effective Learning to ensure high quality learning takes place. These are:

**Playing and Exploring** – children investigate and experience things, and have a go;

**Active Learning** – children concentrate and keep on trying if they encounter difficulties, and enjoy achievements;

**Creating and Thinking Critically** – children have and develop their own ideas, make links between ideas and develop strategies for doing things.

Daily guided activities are planned to cover different areas of the EYFS curriculum and allow children to develop their next steps in learning. Through observation and discussion, areas of need and next steps are identified for all children to ensure good progress is made. There are also a range of stimulating and engaging activities which the children can access independently and a variety of opportunities for child-initiated play. In planning and guiding children's activities we reflect on the different ways that children learn and use those reflections to guide our practice. Staff in the EYFS make regular observations of the children's learning and frequently assess where the children are, using 'Development Matters'. This practice ensures our planning, adult interactions and learning environment; including continuous provision, support children to reach their next steps. We will include interventions for groups or individuals if and when necessary.

We record observations in a secure online journal called Tapestry. This is shared with parents and family members can add their own observations too. This document is used to support statutory assessment judgements at the end of the Foundation Stage.

## **Impact**

With the successful implementation of both an enriched, rounded and balanced curriculum and a well-structured, safe, active and challenging learning environment, (both indoors and outdoors), children in our Early Years class will have developed the skills, knowledge and understanding that enable them to be effective learners. Children will be actively engaged in learning and their enjoyment of this learning will be apparent to all. All children will have enjoyed a curriculum that provides exciting and enriching experiences and opportunities for them to learn through educational visits and hands on experiences. Children will fully appreciate and understand the world around them, having experienced and found out about different cultures, music, dance, art and history. Children will actively ask questions and be able to work independently. They will be skilful at solving problems and will have effectively developed their personal levels of resilience. At the end of Foundation stage, children will have developed essential knowledge and skills required for everyday life and lifelong learning. EYFS children at Hintlesham and Chattisham CofE Primary will be well rounded, happy, inquisitive learners ready to continue their journey through our school.