



# Wormley C of E Primary School (V.C)

Have Faith, Show Respect, Take Responsibility and Achieve

## Early Years Foundation Stage Nursery Class

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## Parents' Guide to the Early Years Foundation Stage

### What is the EYFS Framework – why do we have one?

The EYFS Framework exists to support all professionals working in the EYFS to help your child, and was developed with a number of early year's experts and parents.

In 2012 the framework was revised to make it clearer and easier to use, with more focus on the things that matter most. This new framework also has a greater emphasis on your role in helping your child develop.

It sets out:

- The legal welfare requirements that everyone registered to look after children must follow to keep your child **safe** and promote their welfare
- The 7 areas of **learning and development** which guide professionals' engagement with your child's play and activities as they learn new skills and knowledge
- Assessments that will tell you about **your child's progress** through the EYFS
- Expected levels that your child should reach at age 5, usually the end of the reception year; these expectations are called the "**Early Learning Goals (ELGs)**"

There is also guidance for the professionals supporting your child on planning the learning activities, and observing and assessing what and how your child is learning and developing.

### What does it mean for me as a parent?

#### *Ensuring my child's safety*

Much thought has been given to making sure that your child is as safe as possible. Within the EYFS there is a set of welfare standards that everyone must follow. These include the staff/pupil ratios required in a nursery, the administration of medicines and risk assessments.

#### *Quality of provision*

You can find out about the quality of your child's nursery, and other early years providers, in relation to the EYFS Framework by checking what the Government's official inspection body for early years, Ofsted, has to say about it. You can find this information at [www.ofsted.gov.uk/inspection-reports/find-inspection-report](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/inspection-reports/find-inspection-report).

#### *How my child will be learning*

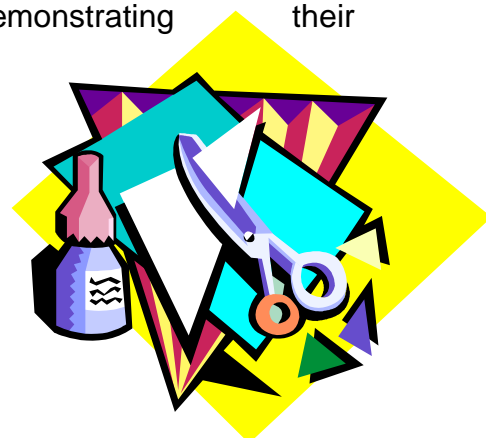
The EYFS Framework explains how and what your child will be learning to support their healthy development.

Your child will be learning skills, acquiring new knowledge and demonstrating their understanding through **7 areas of learning and development**.

Children should mostly develop the **3 prime areas** first.

These are:

- Communication and language;
- Physical development; and
- Personal, social and emotional development.



These prime areas are those most essential for your child's healthy development and future learning.

As children grow, the prime areas will help them to develop skills in **4 specific areas**. These are:

- Literacy;
- Mathematics;
- Understanding the world; and
- Expressive arts and design.

These 7 areas are used to plan for your child's learning activities. The professionals teaching and supporting your child will make sure that the activities are suited to your child's unique needs. This is like the curriculum in primary and secondary schools, but it's suitable for very young children, and it's designed to be really flexible so that staff can follow your child's unique needs and interests.

Children in the EYFS learn by playing and exploring, being active, talking and listening and through creative and critical thinking which takes place both indoors and outside.

## As a mum or dad, how can I help with my child's learning?



All the fun activities that you do with your child at home are essential in supporting their learning and development, and have a really long lasting effect on your child's learning as they progress through school.

Even when your child is very young, talking to them helps them to learn and understand new words and ideas. If you make the time every day to do some of the things suggested with your child it will make a real difference to your child's confidence as a young learner.

If you're looking for new ideas for things to do then find out what is on offer at your local children's centre. Staff can also give you advice about the kinds of books or other activities your child might enjoy at different ages.

## How can I find out how my child is getting on?

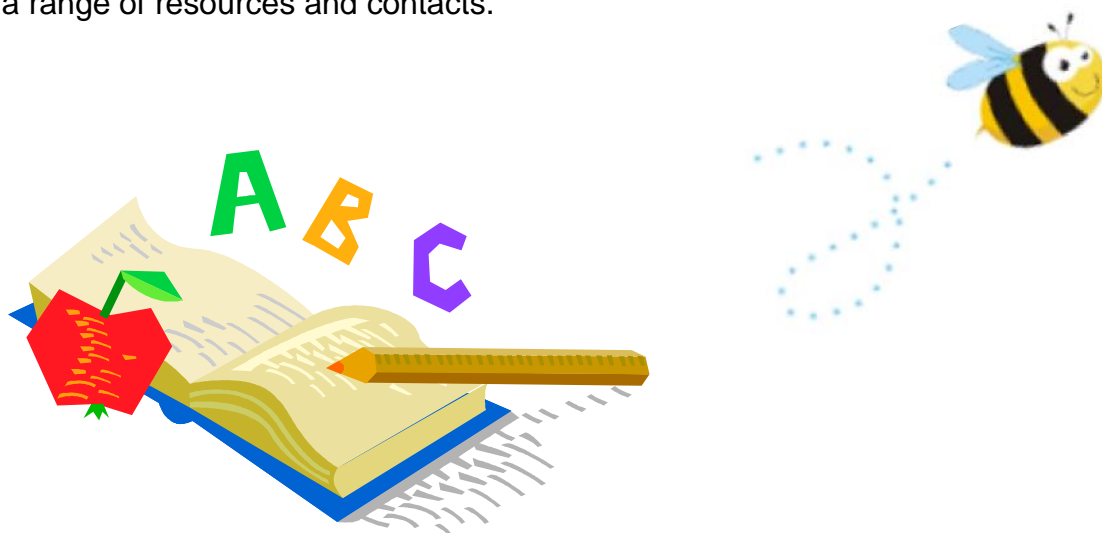
It is important that you and the professionals caring for your child work together. You need to feel comfortable about exchanging information and discussing things that will benefit your child. These conversations will take place with your child's **key person**. This is the person who:

- is your main point of contact within the setting
- helps your child to become settled, happy and safe
- is responsible for your child's care, development and learning
- takes a careful note of your child's progress, sharing this with you and giving you ideas as to how to help your child at home

## Where can I go for further information?

The most important place to find out more is **your child's childminder or nursery** – do ask as many questions as you need to. Providers really do welcome speaking with you. You may want to find out what is on offer at your local **children's centre**.

You can find more details about the **Early Years Foundation Stage** which includes the early learning goals at [www.foundationyears.org.uk](http://www.foundationyears.org.uk). The foundation years website also includes a range of resources and contacts.



## At Wormley C of E Primary School Nursery,

We aspire to:

- provide high quality care and education for children aged 3-4 years and beyond;
- work in partnership with parents to help children to learn and develop;
- add to the life and well-being of the local community; and
- offer children and their parents a service that promotes equality and values diversity.

We aim to ensure that each child:

- is in a safe and stimulating environment;
- is given generous care and attention, because of our ratio of qualified staff to children, as well as volunteer helpers;
- has the chance to join with other children and adults to live, play, work and learn together;
- is helped to take forward her/his learning and development by being helped to build on what she/he already knows and can do;
- has a personal key person who makes sure each child makes satisfying progress; **and enable children as early learners**

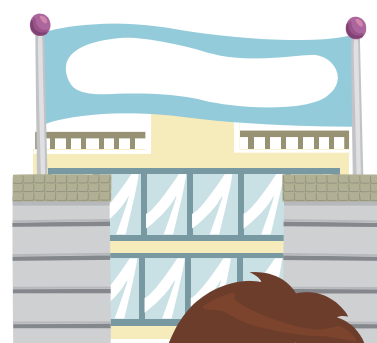
### The Nursery Team:

Nursery Teacher and Foundation Stage Leader - Mrs Debbie Penwill

Early Years Practitioner – (New appointment to be made)

Early Years Practitioner - Miss Lorraine Chadwick

Play assistant - Mrs Delal Dogan



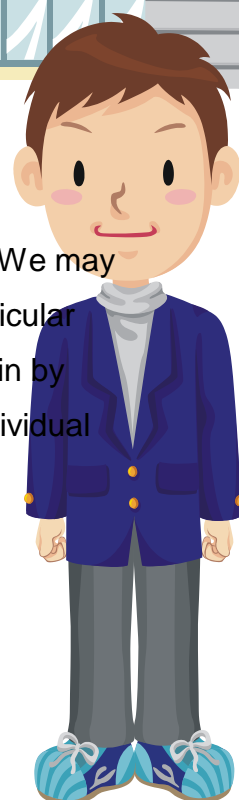
### Starting Nursery

Prior to your child starting at our nursery you will be invited along to visit together. We may also make a home visit, to ensure that what we provide is right for your child's particular needs and interests. Your child will then be given a start date and helped to settle in by their key person. Dates and settling routines may vary depending on class and individual needs.

### Nursery session times

The morning session runs from 9 am until 12 midday.

The afternoon session runs from 12.15 pm until 3.15 pm.





## **The Nursery session**

Our sessions are organised so that the children can choose from, and learn through, a range of activities. The children are also helped and encouraged to take part in adult-led small and large group activities which introduce them to new experiences and help them to gain new skills, as well as helping them to learn to cooperate with others. Learning takes place in both the indoors and outdoors environments daily.



## **Assessment**

We assess how your children are learning and developing by observing them frequently. We use information that we gain from observational notes and photographs to document their progress and identify their next steps. We believe that parents know their children best and we ask them to contribute to assessment by sharing information about what their children like to do at home and how they as parents are supporting development. We usually ask in each holiday for a short observation and photograph.

We make periodic assessment summaries of children's achievement based on our ongoing development records. These form part of children's records of achievement. We undertake these assessment summaries at regular intervals as well as times of transition, such as when a child moves into a different group or when they go on to school.

Your child's record of achievement helps us to celebrate her/his achievements with you and work together to provide what your child needs for her/his well-being and to make

further progress. In addition to informal sharing of achievements and working together parent consultations are held twice annually and you will receive an annual report of your child's learning, achievements and progress.

### **Open classroom**

Once a half term you will be welcomed to spend longer with your child at the beginning or end of the session. This time provides your child with the opportunity to share their learning environment with you. Your child's learning journal will also be available along with post it notes for you to add comments on their achievements.

### **Clothing**

We provide protective clothing for the children when they play with messy activities – aprons and all in one outdoor waterproofs. We encourage children to gain the skills that help them to be independent and look after themselves. These include taking themselves to the toilet and taking off, and putting on, outdoor clothes and shoes. Clothing that is easy for them to manage will help them to do this – grey/black tracksuits bottoms, school polo shirts and sweatshirts for boys and girls. In addition to their shoes your child will require plimsolls for indoor wear and wellington boots for outdoor activities. Clothing should reflect the day's weather conditions - all children will require a sunhat/cap in the summer and warm, waterproof coats in the winter. Young children may spend a great deal of time outdoors so the appropriate clothing is essential. Children will also require a slipper style bag in which to keep their plimsolls and any spare clothing, they will also need a book bag. All items of clothing must be named.

School uniform is available from:

**Penny's School Outfitters, Waltham Cross Herts EN8 9DG**





## Snacks time

The Nursery team ensure snack time is a social time at which children eat together. The children are offered a piece of fresh fruit daily for snack with milk or water. Water is freely available to the children throughout the session and lunch.

## Illness and medicines

If a child appears unwell during the day – has a temperature, sickness, diarrhoea or pains, particularly in the head or stomach the parents will be called and asked to collect the child, or send a known carer to collect on their behalf. After sickness or diarrhoea, parents are asked to keep children home for 48 hours after the last episode. Where children have been prescribed antibiotics, parents are asked to keep them at home for 48 hours before returning to the setting.

Please inform the school if your child is unwell and will be absent.

We hope that you and your child will enjoy being members of our setting and that you both find taking part in our activities interesting and stimulating. Our staff are always ready and willing to talk with you about your ideas, views or questions.

We welcome you warmly.

