



Through God's love, we learn, aspire and achieve; we flourish.

Early Years Foundation Stage – Statement of Intent

At Christ Church, we recognise that young children learn best when the curriculum is catered to their needs and taught in an holistic way. We value the development of skills across the curriculum and believe that each child is unique with individual interests and experiences. We design an environment that enriches the learning of all and nurtures and encourages independence, creativity and growth. We provide an individualised curriculum for every child and set it up so that children make strong links in their learning. Our practice takes a child-centred and organic approach to learning. As a team, we invest our time in the relationships we build with the children and in our understanding of their individual passions, strengths and needs.

We are supported by OPAL (Observation of Play and Learning) approach and through this we assess children against the significant milestones of typical development for their age. We communicate on a daily basis discussing the needs of our children and how they can be planned for. From our combined observations, we plan and create opportunities for children to embed and extend their learning in different areas of the curriculum. Assessment, communication and reflection is at the heart of providing high quality learning experiences.

We value communication with parents and the significant impact this has on a child's learning potential and we regularly share information in partnership. This enables us to plan for their next steps and ensure they are always challenged and making progress. We train our staff to be excellent facilitators of learning in order to enable and support the interests and skills of our children to the best of their potential. Our assessments are effective, meaningful and used for the benefit of children's learning. We limit the amount of paperwork we do, instead choosing to prioritise and notice the little things that make a big difference and act on them quickly. We believe that if we are always trying to capture the moment, we cannot be fully part of the moment. We value the characteristics of learning and encourage our children to become confident and resilient learners, thoughtful and independent, problem-solvers who are inspired to ask questions and lead their own learning. We do this by valuing their interests and their play and by providing the learning environment and resources they need to accomplish this successfully.