

Early Years Policy

Meir Heath Academy



Approved by: Mrs M Southern

Date: April 2020

Last reviewed on: April 2020

Next review due by: April 2024

The term Early Years Foundation Stage is used to describe children who are in our Reception classes.

This policy outlines the purpose, nature and management of the EYFS at Meir Heath Academy. The implementation of this policy is the responsibility of all practitioners working in the EYFS setting. At Meir Heath Academy we believe that all children are entitled to the best possible start to their school life and effective learning and development for young children requires high quality care and education by all practitioners.

At Meir Heath Academy, we want all children to be engaged in the learning process and for their learning to be relevant and purposeful. We believe children develop rapidly during the early years; physically, intellectually, emotionally and socially and that play, both indoors and outdoors, is an ideal vehicle for young children's learning and development. Play based activities help children to explore, investigate, communicate and make sense of the world around them. Children are naturally inquisitive and curious; therefore we aim to provide a stimulating and focussed environment. All children in the Foundation stage should feel included, secure and valued and no child should be disadvantaged.

At Meir Heath Academy we aim to provide the highest quality care and education for all our children thereby giving them a strong foundation for their future learning.

Aim s

- To create a safe and happy environment with motivating and enjoyable learning experiences that enable children to become confident and independent.
- To value the individual child.
- To value and respect the role of parents and carers and to work alongside parents and others to meet their needs and help every child to reach their full potential, building on what they already know, developing a positive attitude towards learning and an enjoyment of learning.
- To provide a range of opportunities to learn through direct experience, enquiry and active exploration, in the classroom and outdoors, using a wide variety of resources.
- To encourage independence and confidence.

As outlined in the EYFS 'Every child deserves the best possible start in life and the support that enables them to fulfil their potential. Children develop quickly in the early years and a child's experiences between birth and age five have a major impact on their future life chances.'

We adhere to the Statutory Framework of the EYFS and the four guiding principles that shape practice within Early Years settings.

- Every child is a **unique child**, who is constantly learning and can be resilient, capable, confident and self-assured.
- Children learn to be strong and independent through **positive relationships**.
- Children learn and develop well in **enabling environments**, in which their experiences respond to their individual needs and there is a strong partnership between practitioners and parents and/or carers.
- **Children develop and learn in different ways and at different rates.**

Principles into practice

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