

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Rainbow Class! We hope you had a wonderful summer holiday and that you are looking forward to our learning journey together. Every term we will send you a newsletter about what we are learning in Rainbow Class, important information that you need to know as well as requests for resources and lots more!

As our learning journey begins we will start off by getting to know the children and their likes and interests through exploring our topic of 'All About Me!'. An important aspect to note is that the nature of the Early Years Foundation Stage is that we plan activities based around children's interests so it is a flexible learning approach and children can have a role in choosing elements of their learning.

The areas of learning and development

There are seven areas of learning and development that shape our educational programmes. All areas of learning are important and inter-connected and crucial for igniting children's curiosity and enthusiasm for learning, and for building their capacity to learn from relationships and thrive.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

We help children to develop respect for themselves and others whilst building positive relationships with adults and peers. All children will be encouraged to increase their independence skills, whilst developing a positive attitude to learning.

Communication and Language

Children are encouraged to listen attentively, talk about their experiences and use language in a variety of ways to communicate with adults and peers.

Literacy

Literacy skills will be taught using a variety of books, text and print in the environment. In writing children will be taught to use pictures, symbols, letters and familiar words to communicate meaning. Children will learn to write their name using appropriate upper and lower case letters and correct letter formation with leading in strokes.

Mathematics

Maths is taught through stories, songs, games, imaginative and practical activities. Children are also taught to use mathematical language to describe and compare shapes, position, size and quantity. Through a variety of activities, children will be provided with opportunities to develop and improve their skills in counting, understanding and using numbers, calculating simple addition and subtraction problems.

Understanding of the World

This area of learning develops the children's understanding of the environment, people around them and features of the natural and man-made world. Children will be encouraged to be curious, ask questions, investigate and explore different aspects of the curriculum. This will provide a foundation for history, geography and science.

Physical Development

Children will be taught to move confidently and imaginatively with increasing control and coordination during outdoor play activities and in P.E. lessons. They will develop increasing skill and control with small apparatus such as bats, balls, hoops, beanbags and quoits. Fine motor control will be developed using tools, scissors, small construction equipment and malleable materials.

Expressive arts and design

Children will be encouraged to explore and play with a wide variety of media and materials, as well as providing opportunities and encouragement for sharing their thoughts, ideas and feelings through a variety of activities in art, music, movement, dance, role-play, and design and technology.

Reading

At ACE we teach reading during daily Ruth Miskin phonic sessions, on the interactive whiteboard, during story times and of course during one to one reading with your child. In the next few weeks, your child will have a book in their reading folder to share with you. Please write comments in your child's reading record of any books you might share together and times when you have practised the letter sounds. This is important to keep a regular dialogue between us and yourself. The reading record and reading book will need to be in your child's book bag in school every day.

Please note these general reminders...

- * The Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum provides learning opportunities through activities inside and outside the classroom. Please ensure that your child wears a warm/rainproof coat (with their name in it) to school, in order for them to experience outside play. We are outside in most weathers!
- * Please make sure your child has their **PE kit in school on Mondays**.
- * We encourage bottles of water to be sent with each child. These are kept in class and children have free access to them. Please make sure they are named.
- * We ask parents to label **EVERYTHING** with your child's name (including all clothing, hats, gloves, wellies, water bottles, book bags and lunchboxes).
- * For health and safety reasons we ask that children do not wear jewellery to school. Hooped earrings should be replaced with studs and children should be able to remove these for P.E. themselves.

*If your child is going home with a relative or another parent please tell staff in the morning or call school to inform them during the day. We will not permit anyone to take your child if we have not been advised by you.

Our main aim is to ensure your child feels happy and safe in school, so please do not hesitate to ask us if you have any questions regarding your child.

We look forward to an inspiring and fun packed term!

Miss Hannah Corrigan
Rainbow Class Teacher

Mrs Lynn Grover
Rainbow Class Teaching Assistant