

HSTB Early Years – 2022-23

Our 3 I's

Intent

- What do we want our children to learn?

Our intention at Heaton St Barnabas is to provide a holistic curriculum that is rich in awe and wonder, offers real life experiences and is planned in sequence to support the transition to key stage one. We want all our children to develop both physically and emotionally within a rich learning environment that celebrates all cultures, people and communities. We want our children to be independent, ambitious and happy. Our children will be given the opportunity to be stakeholders in their own learning.

It is our intention to:

- Give children a curriculum that offers a range of exciting and meaningful opportunities.
- Encourage children to try new challenges and experiences.
- Broaden their horizons through 'hooks', visitors and trips.
- Provide a curriculum that is inclusive for all, especially the most disadvantaged children, by celebrating their differences and skills.
- Ensure that the environment values and respects all cultures and communities.
- Enhance every child's aspirations! We want them to experience things they have not before, making sure cultural capital is at the heart of what we do.
- Provide an engaging and stimulating learning environment that is language rich and promotes a real love of learning.
- Promote exploration, adventure and challenge through a mixture of adult and child led activities.
- Develop children into confident speakers who express their ideas clearly and interact well with others.
- Provide additional support for those children who need it to make sure they achieve the best possible outcomes.
- Engage in and develop positive, strong relationships between staff and children but also with parents.
- Enhance and improve the skills of all staff working within EYFS through regular CPD, both internal and external.

Implementation

- How do we provide learning opportunities?

Our Curriculum is implemented first and foremost through high quality interactions with the children. At Heaton St Barnabas we make sure we adhere to the teaching, learning and assessment requirements set out in the Statutory Framework for the EYFS. We also promote the welfare of all our children and actively safeguard them.

We prioritise:

- High expectations, from both the staff and the children.
- A language rich environment that creates a love of reading through the sharing of stories, songs and rhymes.
- Introducing children to new vocabulary on a weekly basis to develop their language skills and ensure they flourish as communicators.
- Quality interactions between staff and children that support their learning and communication. In turn, this will help develop confident interactions between peers.
- Tailoring the provision for our children at Heaton St Barnabas to include adult interaction, modelling, enhanced resources and scaffolding where needed.
- The emotional wellbeing of all our children.

At Heaton St Barnabas, our curriculum is delivered through termly topics which are enriched with trips, visitors and the enhancement of provision within the classroom. These topics are developed further by quality texts that help encourage children's speech and language. Planning is also adapted based on the children's needs and interests.

In Reception, we encourage children to become early readers through the teaching of systematic phonics (RWI). Developing a love for reading is shared from the start through stories, rhymes and songs, alongside an inviting and purposeful reading area. Teaching new vocabulary to our children is another priority for us. Vocabulary is discussed and learnt through story time, specific Literacy lessons and in everyday activities. We ensure that all children have the opportunity to be a part of speaking and listening interventions to support their use of new vocabulary.

The outdoor learning environment enables our children to strengthen their gross and fine motor skills through physical play. The children also have the opportunity to develop their fine motor skills within our 'finger gym' area. We also offer time in our natural environment outside along

with forest school activities. Our learning environment is adaptable and can reflect the children's interests and progression. Children are encouraged to problem solve together and to ask questions of each other and the adults.

Parental engagement is of huge importance to us and we believe our parents have a vital role to play in their child's development and learning. We use Tapestry to communicate with parents, building on the home school partnership. Reading diaries, half term overviews and updating the website are all used to inform parents of what and how their child is learning each half term. At Heaton St Barnabas we actively encourage parents to get involved by inviting them to opportunities such as open mornings, parents' evenings, reading workshops and coffee mornings amongst other invitations welcoming parents into school.

Impact

- What do our children know?

Throughout the teaching and learning at Heaton St Barnabas, knowledge and skills are assessed against the 7 areas of learning within EYFS. The impact of their learning is determined through meaningful observations and age appropriate activities. To support the impact of our curriculum, we use the statutory framework and the non-statutory guidance 'Development Matters'.

As teachers and leaders we:

- Celebrate and extend what the children already know on entry to school.
- Utilise the RBA (Reception Baseline Assessment) to identify any gaps in their understanding.
- Evaluate the impact by checking what our children know and what they can do.
- Provide opportunities for high quality interaction within the provision to assess the impact on children's learning.
- Talk to the adults to gain a deeper understanding of how our children learn and where their strengths lie.
- Ask the children to explain their likes and dislikes, taking into account their interests and preferences to learn.
- Continually share our practice to ensure we understand what our children know and use this to inform our next steps planning.
- Monitor progress through termly assessment and progress meetings as a team.
- Prepare the children for their learning into year 1 onwards.

We believe that the impact of our EYFS curriculum is reflected in our confident, happy and resilient children as they transition to key stage one. Our children leave Reception being respectful to others, independent learners and enjoy challenge.