

## Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) policy

### 1. Aims

This policy aims to ensure:

- That children access a broad and balanced curriculum that gives them the broad range of knowledge and skills needed for good progress through school and life
- Quality and consistency in teaching and learning so that every child makes good progress and no child gets left behind
- A close working partnership between staff and parents and/or carers
- Every child is included and supported through equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practice

### 2. Legislation

This policy is based on requirements set out in the [statutory framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage \(EYFS\) that applies from September 2021](#).

### 3. Curriculum

Our early years setting follows the curriculum as outlined in the latest version of the EYFS statutory framework that applies from September 2021.

The EYFS framework includes 7 areas of learning and development that are equally important and inter-connected. However, 3 areas known as the prime areas are seen as particularly important for igniting curiosity and enthusiasm for learning, and for building children's capacity to learn, form relationships and thrive.

The prime areas are:

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

The prime areas are strengthened and applied through 4 specific areas:

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

#### 4.1 Planning

Staff plan a range of activities and experiences that encompasses all areas of the curriculum and cross curricular learning, that enables children to be challenged and develop and learn effectively. In order to do this, staff working with our reception children, focus strongly on the 3 prime areas.

Staff also take into account the individual needs, interests, and stage of development of each child in their care, and use this information to plan challenging and enjoyable learning experiences. Where a child may have a special educational need or disability, staff consider whether specialist support is required, linking with relevant services from other agencies, where appropriate.

In planning and guiding children's learning, staff reflect on the different ways that children learn and include these in their practice.

## 4.2 Teaching

Each area of learning and development is implemented through planned, purposeful play, and through a mix of adult-led and child-initiated activities. Staff respond to each child's emerging needs and interests, guiding their development through warm, positive interaction.

As children grow older, and as their development allows, the balance gradually shifts towards more adult-led activities to help children prepare for more formal learning, ready for year 1.

## 5. Assessment

At London Meed, ongoing assessment is an integral part of the learning and development processes. Staff observe pupils to identify their level of achievement, interests and learning styles. These observations are used to shape future planning.

Within the first 6 weeks that a child **starts reception**, staff will administer the Reception Baseline Assessment (RBA).

At the **end of the EYFS**, staff complete the EYFS profile for each child. Pupils are assessed against the 17 early learning goals, indicating whether they are:

- Meeting expected levels of development
- Not yet reaching expected levels ('emerging')

The profile reflects ongoing observations, and discussions with parents and/or carers. The results of the profile are shared with parents and/or carers for their child.

The profile is moderated internally (referring to the Development Matters [guidance](#)) and in partnership with other local schools, to ensure consistent assessment judgements. EYFS profile data is submitted to the local authority.

## 6. Working with parents

We recognise that children learn and develop well when there is a strong partnership between staff and parents and/or carers.

Parents and/or carers, are kept up to date with their child's progress and development. The progress check and EYFS profile helps to provide parents and/or carers with a well-rounded picture of their child's knowledge, understanding and abilities.

Teachers ensure that their learning and care is tailored to meet their needs. The teacher supports parents and/or carers in guiding their child's development at home. The teacher also helps families to engage with more specialist support, if appropriate.

Parents are invited to an induction meeting during the term prior to their child's admission where the Head Teacher, EYFS staff and Governors discuss the life of the school. Parents are given a 'guide' with procedures and information to help with settling into school.

In addition, children are given the opportunity to visit the school for two 'stay and play' sessions in September, in the weeks prior to starting school. Parents are invited into school for a 6 week in meeting, to find out about learning in the EYFS and have the opportunity to come and work and play with their children in their reception learning environment.

## Admissions

Admissions to London Meed are controlled by the Local Authority. Currently, London Meed offers a full-time place from September for all children who have their 5<sup>th</sup> birthday between 1<sup>st</sup> September and 31<sup>st</sup> August. We work with parents to be flexible in our approach to admissions so that individual needs are catered for.

## 7. Safeguarding and welfare procedures

We promote good oral health and an awareness of and ability to talk about the different factors that support their overall health and wellbeing.

We discuss;

- The effects of eating too many sweet things
- The importance of brushing your teeth
- the importance of regular physical activity and healthy eating

If a child is not picked up by their parent or carer a member of staff will remain with that child. Other adults cannot take the child unless the school has been informed by the child's parent / carer. If an adult does not show, the child will be taken to the office by a member of staff and parents / carers will be contacted.

The rest of our safeguarding and welfare procedures are outlined in our safeguarding policy.

## 8. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed and approved by either the headteacher or deputy headteacher every 2 years.

At every review, the policy will be shared with the governing board.



# LONDON MEED PRIMARY SCHOOL

## Appendix 1. List of statutory policies and procedures for the EYFS

Statutory policy or procedure for the EYFS	Where can it be found?
Safeguarding policy and procedures	See child protection and safeguarding policy
Procedure for responding to illness	See health and safety policy
Administering medicines policy	See supporting pupils with medical conditions policy
Emergency evacuation procedure	See health and safety policy
Procedure for checking the identity of visitors	See child protection and safeguarding policy
Procedures for a parent failing to collect a child and for missing children	See child protection and safeguarding policy
Procedure for dealing with concerns and complaints	See complaints policy

