

Expectations for the end of the Early Years Foundation Stage

The **seven areas of learning** outlined in the Early Years curriculum form 17 'Early Learning Goals' (ELG). These ELGs state the government expectation for Reception children at the end of their first year of school. Whilst these end goals are relevant to bear in mind, it is important that children do not miss out on the many developmental steps along the way. There are three characteristics of learning against which all learning is measured - **playing and exploring, active learning and creating and thinking critically**. These characteristics of learning underpin **all seven areas** of learning and development and focus on processes rather than outcomes. Your child will be learning many new skills and we will be working with you on how best to support and help your child to achieve or exceed the goals by the end of the year.

Area of Learning	Developmental aspect	Early Learning Goal
Communication and Language 	Listening and attention	ELG 1 Children listen attentively in a range of situations. They listen to stories, accurately anticipating key events and respond to what they hear with relevant comments, questions or actions. They give their attention to what others say and respond appropriately, while engaged in another activity.
	Understanding	ELG 2 Children follow instructions involving several ideas or actions. They answer 'how' and 'why' questions about their experiences and in response to stories or events.
	Speaking	ELG 3 Children express themselves effectively, showing awareness of listeners' needs. They use past, present and future forms accurately when talking about events that have happened or are to happen in the future. They develop their own narratives and explanations by connecting ideas or events.
Physical Development 	Moving and handling	ELG 4 Children show good control and co-ordination in large and small movements. They move confidently in a range of ways, safely negotiating space. They handle equipment and tools effectively, including pencils for writing.
	Health and self-care	ELG 5 Children know the importance for good health of physical exercise, and a healthy diet, and talk about ways to keep healthy and safe. They manage their own basic hygiene and personal needs successfully, including dressing and going to the toilet independently.
Personal, Social and Emotional Development 	Self-confidence and self-awareness	ELG 6 Children are confident to try new activities, and say why they like some activities more than others. They are confident to speak in a familiar group, will talk about their ideas, and will choose the resources they need for their chosen activities. They say when they do or don't need help.
	Managing feelings and behaviour	ELG 7 Children talk about how they and others show feelings, their own and others' behaviour, and its consequences, and know that some behaviour is unacceptable. They work as part of a group or class, and understand and follow the rules. They adjust their behaviour to different situations, and take changes of routine in their stride.
	Making relationships	ELG 8 Children play co-operatively, taking turns with others. They take account of one another's ideas about how to organise their activity. They show sensitivity to others' needs and feelings, and form positive relationships with adults and other children.

Area of Learning	Developmental aspect	Early Learning Goal
Literacy 	Reading	ELG 9 Children read and understand simple sentences. They use phonic knowledge to decode regular words and read them aloud accurately. They also read some common irregular words. They demonstrate understanding when talking with others about what they have read.
	Writing	ELG 10 Children use their phonic knowledge to write words in ways which match their spoken sounds. They also write some irregular common words. They write simple sentences which can be read by themselves and others. Some words are spelt correctly and others are phonetically plausible.
Maths 	Numbers	ELG 11 Children count reliably with numbers from one to 20, place them in order and say which number is one more or one less than a given number. Using quantities and objects, they add and subtract two single-digit numbers and count on or back to find the answer. They solve problems, including doubling, halving and sharing.
	Shape, space and measure	ELG 12 Children use everyday language to talk about size, weight, capacity, position, distance, time and money to compare quantities and objects and to solve problems. They recognize, create and describe patterns. They explore characteristics of everyday objects and shapes and use mathematical language to describe them.
Understanding the World 	People and communities	ELG 13 Children talk about past and present events in their own lives and in the lives of family members. They know that other children don't always enjoy the same things, and are sensitive to this. They know about similarities and differences between themselves and others, and among families, communities and traditions.
	The World	ELG 14 Children know about similarities and differences in relation to places, objects, materials and living things. They talk about the features of their own immediate environment and how environments might vary from one another. They make observations of animals and plants and explain why some things occur, and talk about changes.
	Technologies	ELG 15 Children recognise that a range of technology is used in places such as homes and schools. They select and use technology for particular purposes.
Expressive arts and design 	Exploring and using media and materials	ELG 16 Children sing songs, make music and dance, and experiment with ways of changing them. They safely use and explore a variety of materials, tools and techniques, experimenting with colour, design, texture, form and function.
	Being imaginative	ELG 17 Children use what they have learnt about media and materials in original ways, thinking about uses and purposes. They represent their own ideas, thoughts and feelings through design and technology, art, music, dance, role play and stories.

At the end of the reception year, a 'Good Level of Development' is defined as achieving all the ELGs 1 – 12. For this, we would expect children to be demonstrating these skills independently. The final goals (13-17) are also significant and count towards an overall score of developmental progress for each child. We recognise that all children are individual and may require different levels of support in moving forward towards or beyond these goals during the year.