



Early Years Subject Intent Statement

Curious

Caring

Creative

Courageous

Intent

At Archibald First School, we provide an EYFS curriculum that is designed to be flexible, engaging, challenging and exciting. Every child is unique and exceptional and we celebrate and respect differences within our school and Early Years community. The ability to learn is underpinned by the teaching of key basic skills, knowledge and values that then equip our children for their future successes.

We aspire to enable our children to become accomplished, **confident** individuals who are ready to reach their full potential in an ever changing, challenging world. We provide opportunities for the children to be **creative** through a range of experiences and provision.

We place great value of the development of the children as successful learners providing them with the skills and knowledge and understanding they need to prepare them for the challenges of Key Stage 1 and beyond. We aim to build strong foundations in order to go on to become responsible citizens in society.

Our Early Years curriculum is a mix of play-based activities alongside adult directed and adult led activities. We offer activities that are diverse and include varied learning opportunities **including real-life hands-on experiences**. Our provision is enhanced and tailored to allow for open ended play opportunities with real -life authentic objects. Children are naturally motivated to play. Our curriculum builds on play and **curiosity** as motivation.

Having fun, learning together.

Curious, caring, creative and courageous.

We have a long-term plan that shows how we plan to cover the Early Years Curriculum across the Nursery and Reception year. We aim to introduce a new theme each half term, however we also allow for flexibility to enable the children to follow their own interests and ideas too. The themes chosen are ones that we feel will maximise the children's interest and enthusiasm as well as preparing them to be **confident** learners and be the foundations to our Archibald curriculum going through Key Stage One and Two.

All children have daily dough disco sessions, building up children's finger and hand muscles enabling them to become successful writers as they grow.

Nursery:

In Nursery, we concentrate on the Prime Areas of the EYFS curriculum. The children spend the morning together as a Nursery cohort, enabling them to gain confidence with their peers and build positive relationships with the staff and their friends. The curriculum is play based with lots of opportunities for child-initiated activities. The children enjoy a mix of indoor and outdoor time. They follow the same themes as Reception children.

In an afternoon the Nursery children have the opportunity to Plan, Do, Review whilst mixing with the Reception children across the Unit as a whole. There are enhancement activities placed within the zones, however staff are there to support, enhance and challenge the children as well as build up vocabulary and communication.

Reception:

In Reception the children are taught as a Reception cohort in the morning. They have a daily formal phonics session, following Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised, a reading practice session twice a week, and a daily maths focus. Within the morning the children have maths and writing adult led activities to complete alongside play opportunities with Literacy and Math enhancements/focuses. In an afternoon the Reception children have a structured writing session, in the Autumn term this is Squiggle Whilst You Wiggle building on children's gross motor development leading into their fine motor and pencil control ready for the introduction of formal handwriting sessions, following the Nelson handwriting scheme, from Spring term onwards.

The Reception enjoy Plan, Do, Review sessions in the afternoon, where the children plan where they are going to start their play in the afternoon. At this time the children mix with Nursery children too. Reception children also have weekly PE sessions, a Spanish session once a week. On a Wednesday we have a Forest school day for Early Years. Nursery1, Nursery 2, Class 1 and Class 2 are all timetabled for an hour's forest school session with Mrs Ward our forest school Teacher.

Impact

The impact of our Early Years Curriculum is that our children are successful learners and **confident** individuals ready for their next stage of learning in Key Stage 1. That the children have a love for learning, a **curiosity** about the world around them and an understanding that school supports and enhances this.

The Early Years children of Archibald First School are confident around school, they have excellent knowledge of phonics which means they are at expected levels for Reading and Writing. They have enjoyed exploring and learning about numbers to 10, meaning they understanding of the composition of numbers as well as recognising numbers and using them.

The majority of children are at expected levels across all of the Early Learning Goals, with those not quite reaching expected levels having a clear plan as to what support they need to get there.

Regular observations and assessments are completed to monitor progress and to identify any child needing additional support as soon as they need it, therefore enabling children to close gaps and make progress.

Early Years Foundation Stage attainment of the expected standard.

EYFS Data	2018			2019			2022		
	National	Newcastle	Archibald	National	Newcastle	Archibald	National	Newcastle	Archibald
	71.5%	70.9%	88.3%	71.8%	70.4%	85.2%	65.2%	62.3%	83%

Disadvantaged	2018			2019			2022		
	National	Newcastle	Archibald	National	Newcastle	Archibald	National	Newcastle	Archibald
	57%	61%	66.7%	57%	61%	75%	49.5%	50.3%	60%

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