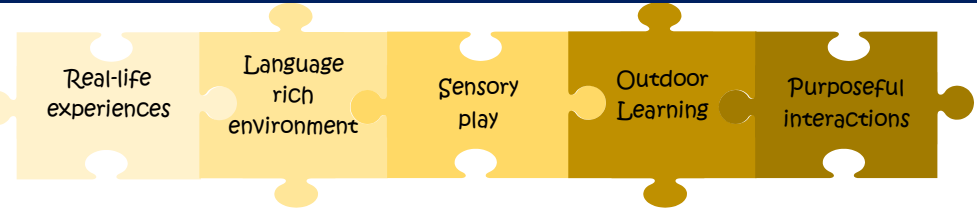


EYFS Curriculum Links



What does Writing look like in Early Years?



In EYFS, children are introduced to Writing through the 'Literacy' area of learning, specifically through the 'Writing' Early Learning Goal and the 'Physical Development' area of learning; 'Gross Motor Skills' and 'Fine Motor Skills' Early Learning Goals. By the end of Reception, Children who are at the expected level of development in the area will:

- Write recognisable letters, most of which are correctly formed. (*Writing*)
- Spell words by identifying sounds in them and representing the sounds with a letter or letters. (*Writing*)
- Write simple phrases and sentences that can be read by others. (*Writing*)
- Hold a pencil effectively in preparation for fluent writing – using the tripod grip in almost all cases. (*Fine Motor Skills*)
- Use a range of small tools, including scissors, paint brushes and cutlery. (*Fine Motor Skills*)
- Begin to show accuracy and care when drawing. (*Fine Motor Skills*)

Our youngest children begin to develop their understanding of mark making and writing in Nursery and Reception by exploring basic movement skills. They are provided with rich opportunities aimed at developing both fine and gross motor skills and begin to understand how to control their movements. As they progress through the early years, children begin to understand that they can communicate through writing and that the marks they make have meaning. Children are exposed to writing in many forms in the indoor and outdoor provision. They have writing materials readily available within the continuous provision. In our school, we teach writing through the Primary Writing Project and children are introduced to this in Reception. They learn stories orally through repetition and through following story maps. The children internalise the stories and are encouraged to 'draw' the story maps. This is often when a real love of writing ignites, as many children try to 'write' the story. Alongside their phonics lessons, using the Sounds-Write phonics scheme, children are able to begin to express themselves. Carefully planned lessons are crafted which enable children to use their phonic knowledge to write purposefully. Letter formation is practised from very early on so as to correct any habits that may form which mean letters are not formed correctly.

Their learning in early years provides strong foundations by preparing them for their transition into the KS1 curriculum where they continue to develop their phonological awareness and begin to write in more detail.