

A Brief Overview of the Early Years Curriculum



There are seven areas of learning and development that must shape educational programmes in Early Years settings. All areas of learning and development are important and interconnected.

Three areas are particularly crucial for igniting children's curiosity and enthusiasm for learning, and for building their capacity to learn, form relationships and thrive.

These three areas, the **prime areas**, are:

- communication and language
- physical development
- personal, social and emotional development

It is only once children are secure within these prime areas that they are able to begin to make progress in the specific areas of learning.

Providers must also support children in four specific areas, through which the three prime areas are strengthened and applied.

The **specific areas** are:

- literacy
- mathematics
- understanding the world
- expressive arts and design

Each child's level of development must be assessed against the early learning goals (ELGs) at the end of their Reception year.

The above is taken directly from the statutory framework for the early years foundation stage.

Please feel welcome to visit the Nursery and Reception classrooms to look at some of these things in action – we love to have visitors! If you would like to access the children's learning journey's to see evidence of your subject within the early years, please come and ask – we will be more than happy to show you.