

How can you help at home?

All the fun activities that you do with your child at home are important in supporting their learning and development, and have a really long lasting effect on your child's learning as they progress through school.

Here are just a few ideas of things you and your child might enjoy.

Ideas for developing gross and fine motor control:

- Give children time to run, jump, climb and PLAY OUTDOORS!
- Encourage children in building, drawing and threading beads.
- Let children explore water and sand, filling and emptying containers and introduce language such as full and empty.
- Work on puzzles together.
- Painting, finger painting and making big patterns on differently shaped paper - talking about the patterns they have made.
- Painting with water on a wall or a fence.
- Encourage children to strengthen their fingers by using clay, play dough or Plasticine for modelling.
- Playing and sorting using tweezers to pick up sequins, buttons or small beads.
- Sprinkling coloured sand, glitter or salt to make pictures.

Ideas for helping socially:

- Encourage your child to use the toilet independently, wash their hands and get dressed themselves especially fastening their coats.
- Play games that encourage sharing and taking turns, help your child to lose!

Ideas for helping with mathematics:

- Talk about shapes you see in and around the house.
- Compare weights when picking things up and model the language heavier/ lighter.
- Point out numbers you see in the local environment.
- Play board games that involve moving a certain amount of steps on, and play with dice and dominoes.
- Sing counting rhymes.
- Handle real coins and play shop.

Ideas for helping with language and literacy:

- Sing songs and nursery rhymes.
- Read regularly to your child and share books together, let your child choose the books, talk about the books and find a great place to snuggle up.
- Allow your child to see you reading for pleasure or writing for a purpose such as making shopping lists or writing birthday cards.

Ideas for helping with Understanding of the World:

- Plant seeds or bulbs in a pot or garden patch.
- Cook / bake together.
- Use the weather - shadows, rain puddles, snow, wind, mist and sun - to extend your child's vocabulary.
- Explore the park at a different time of the year - go off the beaten track.



WOODSEAVES CE PRIMARY ACADEMY

Early Years
Foundation Stage

The Early Learning Goals (ELGs)

The level of development children should be expected to have attained by the end of the EYFS is defined by the early learning goals (ELGs). There are 17 ELG's which each child is assessed against at the end of the Foundation stage (end of Reception year).

COMMUNICATION AND LANGUAGE

- Communication, attention and understanding.
- Speaking.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

- Fine motor skills.
- Gross motor skills.

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Self regulation.
- Managing self.
- Building relationships.

EXPRESSIVE ARTS & DESIGN

- Creating with materials.
- Being imaginative and expressive.

MATHEMATICS

- Number.
- Numerical patterns.

LITERACY

- Comprehension.
- Word reading.
- Writing.

UNDERSTANDING THE WORLD

- Past and present.
- People, cultures and communities.
- The natural world.

The Areas of Learning & Development

There are seven areas of learning and development that must shape educational programmes in all early years settings. Each area of learning and development is important and inter-connected.

Three areas are particularly important for building a foundation for igniting children's curiosity and enthusiasm for learning, forming relationships and thriving. These are the prime areas:

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

We 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

For each area of learning, an educational programme is set out and states the activities and experiences the children must take part in.

In planning what children learn we are required to reflect on the different rates which children are developing and adjust our practice accordingly.

Three characteristics of effective teaching and learning are:

- Playing & exploring – children investigate and experience things, and 'have a go'
- Active learning – children concentrate and keep on trying if they encounter difficulties, and enjoy achievements.
- Creating & thinking critically – Children have and develop their own ideas, make links between ideas, and develop strategies for doing things.

