

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)

Colmers Farm Primary School would like to welcome you to reception. Reception is made up of 60 children divided into 3 classes of 20. Here in reception our aim is to provide children with a range of meaningful experiences in a secure and stimulating environment. The Early Years is a little different to that of Key Stage 1 and 2. We are early adopters of the new EYFS framework. All children begin reception with different starting points and develop at different rates. By considering your child's needs, interests and stages of development, we aim to offer challenging and enjoyable experiences across the EYFS curriculum through topics.

Our learning is based around the revised Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum encouraging children's independent learning. The revised Early Years Foundation Stage is based on three prime and four specific areas of learning.

Prime Areas	Specific Areas
Personal, Social and Emotional Development (PSED) Communication and Language (C&L) Physical Development (PD)	Literacy Mathematics Understanding the World Expressive Art & Design

Reception children follow a programme designed to help them achieve what are known as the 'Early Learning Goals' (ELG's). These are targets that most children are expected to achieve by the time they leave Reception.

Below is a brief summary of what we do in each area:

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Children's personal, social and emotional development (PSED) is crucial for children to lead healthy and happy lives and is fundamental to their cognitive development. Here at Colmers Farm Primary School we strive to create strong, warm and supportive relationships with adults, enabling children to develop an understanding of their own feelings and those of others. Children are supported in managing their emotions through specific lessons and throughout the daily environment. Through adult modelling and support, they will learn how to look after their bodies, including healthy eating and oral care, and manage personal needs independently. They will learn how to make good friendships, co-operate and resolve conflicts effectively. These attributes will provide a secure platform from which children can achieve at school and in later life.

Communication and Language

The development of children's spoken language underpins all seven areas of learning and development and forms the foundations for language and cognitive development, therefore, Colmers Farm Primary School place a high focus on this area. We provide a language-rich environment promoting engaging conversations and interactions between all members of our EYFS community. We frequently read to children and engage them actively in through a variety of text types, then providing them with extensive opportunities to use and embed new words in a range of contexts. Through conversation, storytelling and role play children share their ideas with support and modelling from their teacher, and sensitive questioning that invites them to elaborate. The aim is for children to become comfortable using a wide range of vocabulary and language structures.

Physical Development

Physical Development is split into 2 dimensions, gross and fine motor. At Colmers Farm Primary School we provide play opportunities both indoor and out where adults can support children to develop their core strength, stability, balance, spatial awareness, co-ordination and agility. Gross motor skills provide the foundation for developing healthy bodies and social and emotional well-being. Fine motor control and precision helps with hand-eye co-ordination which is later linked to early literacy. We provide a variety of learning opportunities to explore and play with small world activities, puzzles, arts and crafts and the practise of using small tools, all aiding the children to develop physically.

Literacy

We believe it is crucial for children to develop a life-long love of reading. Reading consists of two dimensions: language comprehension and word reading. Language comprehension develops when adults talk with children about the world around them and the books (stories and non-fiction) they read with them. Skilled word reading involves both the speedy decoding and the speedy recognition of familiar printed words. Writing involves spelling and handwriting and articulating ideas and structuring them in speech, before writing. Colmers Farm Primary School develop this through creating topics based around a variety of books (fiction and non-fiction), rhymes, poems and songs.

Mathematics

Our aim is for all children to excel mathematically. We provide opportunities for children to count, develop a deep understanding of the numbers to 10, the relationships between them and the patterns within those numbers. We provide the children with a range of resources to support this, such as using manipulatives, including small pebbles and tens frames for organising counting - children will develop a secure base of knowledge and vocabulary from which mastery of mathematics is built. In addition, our curriculum provides opportunities for children to develop their spatial reasoning skills across all areas of mathematics including shape, space and measures and pattern spotting. We promote a 'have a go' attitude to learning by encouraging talk to adults and peers about what they notice and not be afraid to make mistakes.

Understanding the World

At Colmers Farm Primary School, we guide the children to make sense of their physical world and their community. We provide a range of experiences to increase their knowledge and sense of the world around them - from planned trips to visits from members of society such as police officers, dentists and firefighters. In addition, listening to a broad selection of stories, non-fiction, rhymes and poems also fosters an understanding of our culturally, socially, technologically and ecologically diverse world. As well as building important knowledge, we also use these opportunities to develop and build upon the children's vocabulary ensuring an enriching and widening environment to support later reading comprehension.

Expressive Art and Design

The development of children's artistic and cultural awareness supports their imagination and creativity. We provide the children with regular opportunities to engage with the arts, enabling them to explore and play with a wide range of media and materials. Exploration through all the senses helps develop their understanding, self-expression, vocabulary and ability to communicate through the arts. The frequency, repetition and depth of their experiences are fundamental to their progress in interpreting and appreciating what they hear, respond to and observe.

Our Provision:

We are lucky at CFPS to have such an extensive space to learn in EYFS. We have 3 classrooms of which all areas of the curriculum are covered. Our outdoor area is also planned to provide that those who prefer to learn outside with the opportunity to access all areas of the curriculum. We also have a large reading area where children can get comfy and snuggle up with a book and read for pleasure with their peers. We encourage children to explore flow between all areas of the unit.