

# Welcome to Colmers Farm Primary School





Child's name



# In Reception you will see...

	
Miss Clark (EYFS Lead and Class Teacher)	Mrs Fellows (Class Teacher)

		
Mrs Leonard (Teaching Assistant)	Mrs Fletcher (Teaching Assistant)	Miss Hughes (Teaching Assistant)



# Classes...

You will find out which class your child is in before they start in September.





# What do we do in Reception?

In Reception we learn through focused play activities. These are based on 7 areas of learning.

- Personal Social and Emotional Development,
- Communication and Language,
- Physical Development,
- Literacy,
- Mathematics,
- Understanding the World,
- Expressive Art & Design.

More information regarding the curriculum is at the back of this pack.



## We learn both inside and outside the classroom...





## Outdoor Play...

Children **DO GET MESSY** in Reception. They learn through play. This can involve digging in mud, sand exploration and water play.

They will have access to waterproof overalls and coats and to prevent them from getting too dirty.

Please bring in a **NAMED** pair of wellies for your child which can be kept in school at all times.



## Physical Education and Forest School

We will alternate PE and Forest School each week. One week your child will have an hour focused PE session and the other they will spend half of the day in Forest School.

It would be most helpful if you could get your child used to changing in and out of their uniform and into their kits.

**PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE**

**NAME EVERYTHING!**

Socks, shoes, trousers, tops, dresses, shorts, jumpers,  
coats - **EVERYTHING.**



## You can help us...

From now on and over the summer, could you please try and help build your child's independence.

Encourage them to:

- Use the toilet (including wiping themselves) and wash their hands independently.
- Put on their polo shirts/jumpers & do/undo buttons.
- Put on their skirt/trousers.
- Put on their socks and shoes (VELCRO PLEASE).
- Zip up their coats.
- Use a knife and fork.



## Drinks...

Children need to bring in a named plastic water bottle with a lid into school.



## Lunch and Snack

All EYFS children are entitled to free school meals.

Lunch boxes and plastic bottles should be clearly named!

A fruit snack is usually provided every day for the children to have in the morning.





## Reading and book bags

Book bags are a part of the school uniform and should be brought to school every day.

Your child will be sent a book and reading diary home in the first couple of weeks.

At home you have read the book, please write a comment in the reading diary. We will provide a selection of questions to ask your child in their diaries.

We follow Read Write Inc as a programme for teaching reading and phonics and we plan to provide a reading workshop for parents and carers to give you guidance on how to support the early reading development of your child. (This will hopefully be before Christmas - government restrictions depending).

Please read with your child every night.

**IS REALLY DOES MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE!**

We want you and your child to enjoy reading together!



## Please help us...

**WE CAN'T EMPHASISE ENOUGH....**

Your input at home and your child's school attendance really does make a difference to their progress! We aim for all children to have 97% attendance or above. Holidays during term time are not permitted. Colmers Farm Primary School works with Birmingham City Council attendance team to pursue non-attendance



Good behaviour = Good learning!

Our 3 school rules are ...

Be Ready

Be Respectful

Be Safe

We believe positive reinforcement is a key ingredient to successful learning. We use 'Recognition' cards for the children to earn for a specific whole class target as well as house points which are awarded for positive behaviour.

This helps establish a fair, consistent, but VERY effective approach to promoting good behaviour.

We hope you and your child have a lovely time with us.

If you ever need to speak to us, please feel free to catch us at the end of the day (once all of the children have been dismissed) or make an appointment with the office team.





Please remember....

- If someone else is picking your child up you must send a letter to the office, or ring the office.
- Could you also please notify your class Teacher or TA in the morning where possible.
- Anyone collecting reception aged children must be over the age of 18.

**WE WILL NOT JUST HAND YOUR  
CHILD OVER TO ANYONE!**

# Parents' Guide to the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework

*Exciting times ahead for you and your child!!*

## *What is the Early Years Foundation Stage?*

Welcome to the **Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)**, which is how the Government and early years professionals describe the time in your child's life between birth and age 5.

This is a very important stage as it helps your child get ready for school as well as preparing them for their future learning and successes. From when your child is born up until the age of 5, their early years' experience should be happy, active, exciting, fun and secure; and support their development, care and learning needs.

Nurseries, pre-schools, reception classes and childminders registered to deliver the EYFS must follow a legal document called the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework.

## *What is the EYFS Framework - why do we have one?*

The EYFS Framework exists to support all professionals working in the EYFS to help your child, and was developed with a number of early years experts and parents.

In 2012 the framework was revised to make it clearer and easier to use, with more focus on the things that matter most. This new framework also has a greater emphasis on your role in helping your child develop.

It sets out:

- The legal welfare requirements that everyone registered to look after children must follow to keep your child **safe** and promote their welfare
- The 7 areas of **learning and development** which guide professionals' engagement with your child's play and activities as they learn new skills and knowledge
- Assessments that will tell you about **your child's progress** through the EYFS
- Expected levels that your child should reach at age 5, usually the end of the reception year; these expectations are called the "**Early Learning Goals (ELGs)**"

There is also guidance for the professionals supporting your child on planning the learning activities, and observing and assessing what and how your child is learning and developing.

## *What does it mean for me as a parent?*

### **Ensuring my child's safety**

Much thought has been given to making sure that your child is as safe as possible. Within the EYFS there is a set of welfare standards that everyone must follow. These include the numbers of staff required in a nursery, how many children a childminder can look after, and things like administering medicines and carrying out risk assessments.

## Quality

You can find out about the quality of your child's nursery and other early years providers in relation to the EYFS Framework by checking what the Government's official inspection body for early years, Ofsted, has to say about it. You can find this information at [www.ofsted.gov.uk/inspection-reports/find-inspection-report](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/inspection-reports/find-inspection-report).

## How my child will be learning

The EYFS Framework explains how and what your child will be learning to support their healthy development.

Your child will be learning skills, acquiring new knowledge and demonstrating their understanding through **7 areas of learning and development**.

Children should mostly develop the **3 prime areas** first. These are:

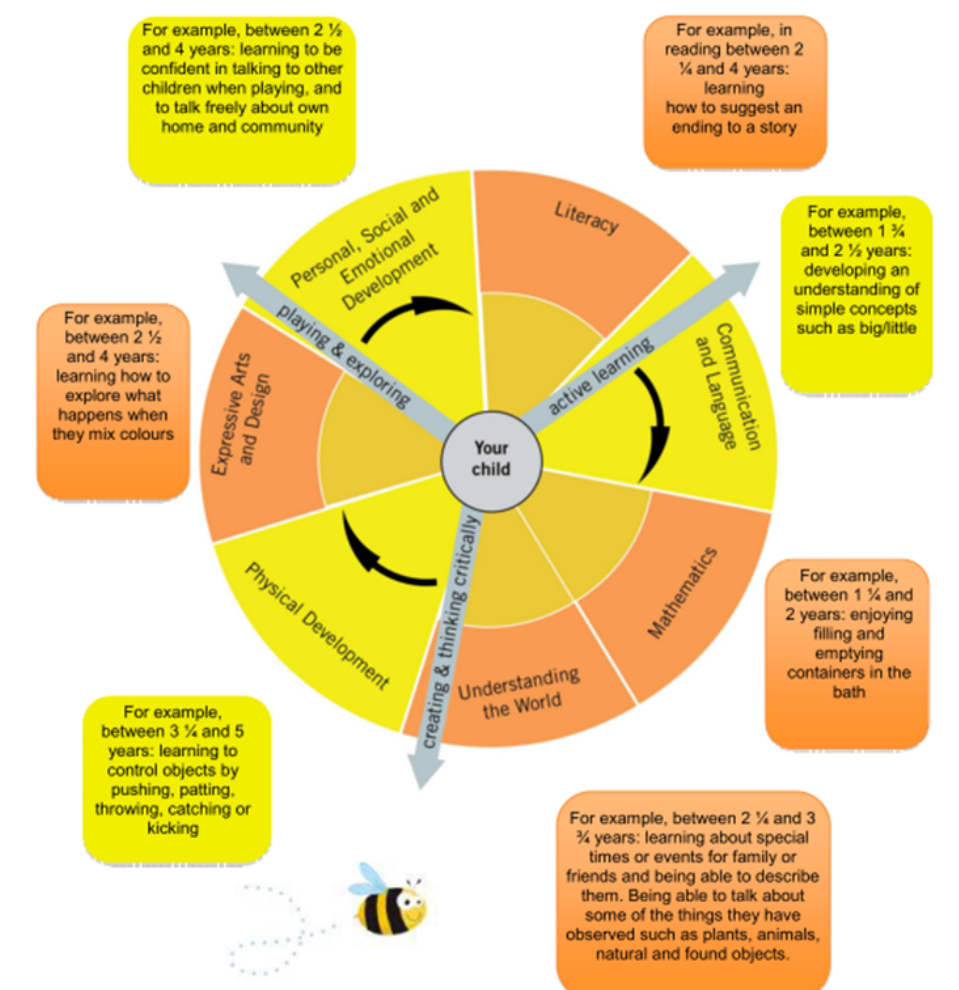
- Communication and language
- Physical development
- Personal, social and emotional development

These prime areas are those most essential for your child's healthy development and future learning. As children grow, the prime areas will help them to develop skills in **4 specific areas**. These are:

- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the world
- Expressive arts and design

These 7 areas are used to plan your child's learning and activities. The professionals teaching and supporting your child will make sure that the activities are suited to your child's unique needs. This is a little bit like a curriculum in primary and secondary schools, but it's suitable for very young children, and it's designed to be really flexible so that staff can follow your child's unique needs and interests.

Children in the EYFS learn by playing and exploring, being active, and through creative and critical thinking which takes place both indoors and outside.



### *As a mum or dad, how can I help with my child's learning?*

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.

Even when your child is very young and is not yet able to talk, talking to them helps them to learn and understand new words and ideas. If you make the time every day to do some of the following things with your child it will make a real difference to your child's confidence as a young learner.



