

## **The Early Years Foundation Stage**

### **Benwick Butterflies Pre-school**

#### **Parents Guide**

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

The Early Years Foundation Stage (E.Y.F.S) is the stage of education for children from birth to the end of Reception year. It is based on the recognition that children learn best through play and active learning.

The E.Y.F.S has four themes, these are;

1. A Unique Child.
2. Positive Relationships.
3. Enabling Environments.
4. Learning & Development.

Within the themes of Learning and Development there are six areas. All areas are connected to one another and are equally important, these are;

1. Personal, Social and Emotional Development.
2. Communication, Language and Literacy.
3. Problem Solving, Reasoning and Numeracy.
4. Knowledge & Understanding of the World.
5. Physical Development.
6. Creative Development.

#### **Personal, Social and Emotional Development.**

The children will be learning to;

- Become self-confident.
- Take an interest in things.
- Know what their own needs are.
- Dress & un-dress independently.
- Become independent.
- Tell the difference between right and wrong.

#### **Communication, Language and Literacy.**

The children will be learning to;

- Talk confidently and clearly
- Enjoy listening to stories, songs and poems.
- Hear and say sounds and link them to the alphabet.
- Read and write familiar words.
- Learn to use a pencil effectively.

### **Problem Solving, Reasoning and Numeracy.**

The children will be learning to;

- Develop an understanding of maths through stories, games and imaginative play.
- Become comfortable with numbers and with ideas such as “heavier than” or “bigger”.
- Be aware of shape and space.

### **Knowledge & Understanding of the World.**

The children will be learning to;

- Explore and find out about the world around them, asking questions about it.
- Build with different materials, know about everyday technology and learn what it is used for.
- Find out about past events in their lives and their families lives.
- Find out about different cultures & beliefs.

### **Physical Development.**

The children will be learning to;

- Move confidently.
- Control their body.
- Handle equipment.

### **Creative Development.**

The children will explore;

- Colours and shapes
- Making things.
- Role play.
- Making music.

### **Monitoring Progress.**

Each of the six areas of learning has its own set of “Early Learning Goals” which determine what most children are expected to achieve by the end of their Reception year. The E.Y.F.S. learning journey and profile is a summative assessment of each child’s progress towards these goals. The profile is updated regularly throughout the year. It shows your child’s development and areas that need further support.

**“Adults who help children to play are adults who help children to learn”**

