

Parent's Guide to Development matters

**Development matters
is the time in your
Child's life between
birth and age 5**

**This leaflet explains how and what
your child will be learning to
Support their healthy
development**

Loan schemes

The nursery provides resources for you to loan so you can continue and support your child's learning whilst at home.

These include:

- Story sacks
- Room Library
- Room bears
- Advice books such as signing, schemas, potty training, and many more

(Please ask in your child's room about these)

We have a book swap available for all children and parents which is located outside the front of the building. *Place a book and take a book*

The nursery has many handouts for parents to take home and keep supporting you and your child. These include:

- 7 area of learning and development
- Attachment
- Information on dummies
- Transitions
- Toilet training
- Every Child a Talker (ECAT)
- Schema development

SEND– special educational needs and disability

The nursery has a designated SENCO (special educational needs coordinator) who is responsible for ensuring any child identified with SEND or a cause for concern (not meeting expected age and stage) is catered for in the setting and the right support is given to help your child reach their full potential.

A child will be identified as having SEND if they are more than a month out of their age and stage on their developmental overview within the prime areas of development. It is the key person's responsibility to raise these concerns with parents/carers.

Parents/carers should also inform staff if they have any concerns regarding their child to ensure the correct support can be given.

The four categories of SEND are:

- Communication and interaction
- Cognition and learning
- Social, emotional and mental health
- Sensory and or physical

For more information on this please speak to your child's key worker.

What is the Development matters Framework?

Your child will be learning new skills, acquiring 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

As a child grows, the prime areas will help them to develop skills in 4 specific areas.

These are:

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

These 7 areas are used to plan your child's learning and activities. The setting will also look at how your child learns and approaches new situations. These elements are referred to as the 3 characteristics of effective learning.

How can I find out about how my child is getting on?

In the setting your child will have a 'Key person'

This is the person who:

- Is your main point of contact in the setting
- Helps your child to become settled, happy and safe
- Is responsible for your child's care, development and learning
- Takes careful note of your child's progress, sharing this with you and giving your ideas as to how to help your child at home

You will be able to get information about your child's development at any time. We give detailed passovers to parents and termly updates regarding your child's development. Parent's evenings are offered on an annual basis

There are two main development checks (at age 2, and again at age 5) when the professionals caring for your child must give you written information about how he or she is doing.

2 year Old Progress Check

At some point after your child turns 2, the professionals working with your child (Health Visitor or your child's key person) must give you a written summary of how your child is against the 3 prime areas of language:

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

It should also have some ideas of how you can support your child's development at home.

It will be useful to share this with other professionals such as your child's health visitor who can use it as part of the health and development review.

Early years profile

At the end of the summer term of the reception year in school—teachers complete an assessment which is known as the Early years Profile.