



Ashfield Nursery School Curriculum

At Ashfield Nursery School, we believe that young children learn best through play, exploration, and hands-on experiences. Our curriculum follows the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) Framework, ensuring that every child's learning journey is engaging, meaningful, and tailored to their individual needs.

A Play-Based Approach to Learning

Children thrive when they are actively engaged in their learning, both indoors and outdoors. Through a carefully designed curriculum, we provide opportunities for children to develop essential skills, acquire new knowledge, and grow in confidence. Our approach nurtures creativity, critical thinking, and problem solving, forming a strong foundation for future learning.

The EYFS Framework: Supporting Every Child's Growth

The EYFS Framework is designed to be flexible and inclusive, ensuring that learning experiences reflect each child's unique interests and abilities. There are seven key areas of Learning and Development, categorised into **three Prime Areas** and **four Specific Areas**, each contributing to a well-rounded educational experience.

Prime Areas of Learning (Fundamental for Early Development):

- **Personal, Social & Emotional Development** - Building relationships, fostering self-confidence, and learning to understand and manage emotions.
- **Communication & Language** - Developing attentive listening, comprehension, and expressive communication skills.
- **Physical Development** - Enhancing motor skills, coordination, and overall well-being through movement and self-care practices.

Specific Areas of Learning (Building on the Prime Areas):

- **Literacy** - Encouraging a love of books, storytelling, and early writing skills.
- **Mathematics** - Exploring numbers, patterns, measurement, and spatial awareness.

- **Understanding the World** - Learning about people, communities, technology, and the natural world.
- **Expressive Arts & Design** - Fostering creativity through art, music, dance, and imaginative play.

An Engaging and Nurturing Learning Environment

Our staff thoughtfully plan activities that cater to different learning styles, fostering curiosity and a love for discovery. We consider how children engage with their surroundings, what excites and motivates them, and how they interact with others. By doing so, we create a rich learning experience that supports holistic development.

Characteristics of Effective Learning

Alongside the Prime and Specific Areas, we emphasise the **Characteristics of Effective Learning**, which shape a child's ability to learn and grow:

- **Playing and Exploring** - Encouraging curiosity, discovery, and the confidence to try new things.
- **Active Learning** - Supporting focus, perseverance, and a sense of achievement.
- **Creating and Thinking Critically** - Inspiring children to think independently, make connections, and solve problems.

Thoughtful Planning for Meaningful Learning

At Ashfield Nursery School, our dedicated staff collaborate to plan engaging learning experiences. Half-termly curriculum planning ensures a broad and balanced approach, while weekly plans, displayed in classrooms, provide a more detailed breakdown of activities. Our aim is to create a stimulating, nurturing environment where every child can flourish.