



## Early Years at Whittaker Moss Primary School

The EYFS has four themes that underpin all the guiding principles that are followed at Whittaker Moss to support each child's early development.

- A Unique Child
- Positive Relationships
- Enabling Environments
- Learning and Development

We use a range of evidence from observations on Tapestry, Otrack and Parent/Carers to inform the direction of learning for individual pupils.

At Whittaker Moss we support the development of 'A Unique Child' by:

- Providing a safe and secure environment for all children.
- Forming positive relationships with children, parents and carers from the offset.
- Working closely with children (and their families) to observe their interests and supporting these within the classroom provision and including these in teaching sessions where appropriate. This encourages greater engagement which impacts greatly on a child's progress.
- Assessing children's individual ability across all Areas of Learning and planning carefully for their next steps.
- Developing each child's sense of their own worth and belonging through nurturing the individual.

At Whittaker Moss we support the development of 'Positive Relationships' by:

- Establishing clear boundaries and high expectations with all children in terms of behaviour and attitudes to learning.
- Celebrating children's individual achievements and successes on a daily basis.
- Forming strong relationships with parents and carers so they know that they can approach staff with any concerns or worries that they may have.
- Developing the role of the Key Adults (Teacher and TA) within the Early Years classroom, through timetabled key worker sessions and activities.
- Ensuring that all adults in Early Years having a responsibility for supporting the children's next steps and developing the whole child through prime and specific areas of the curriculum.

At Whittaker Moss we support the development of 'Enabling Environments' by:

- Providing engaging and language rich learning environments to support communication and language development for all children.
- Supporting all Areas of Learning through an engaging indoor and outdoor classroom provision.
- Valuing and supporting children's interests and lines of enquiry to support the development of Characteristics of Effective Learning.
- Delivering high quality indoor and outdoor provision daily linked directly to the taught learning intention.
- Ensuring Learning Intentions are tightly linked to challenges available for children to access independently within provision. These challenges will support the development of Characteristics of Effective Learning within all children.

At Whittaker Moss we support the development of 'Learning and Development' by:

- Supporting children's learning styles through adult directed activities as well as the use of carefully planned resources to be available for child initiated learning within provision.
- Following children's interests and supporting the children to follow their own lines of enquiry.
- Developing the Characteristics of Effective Learning through classroom provision and quality adult interaction and observation.
- Using observations and information from Parents and Carers to support children's learning and next steps by following individual interests.
- Providing detailed daily planning to ensure that all children have targeted next steps catered for within Literacy and Maths to ensure progress is made.
- Following a weekly Maths objective, developing skills independently and applying in different contexts throughout the week to allow for consolidation.
- Using adults effectively to work with groups of children across the Early Years unit to support next steps within Prime and Specific areas of learning both in core lessons and through daily interventions. This ensures progress and allows children to achieve their potential.
- Providing 'layered' learning week to week ensuring that children have a broad and secure knowledge base before moving into KS1.

## Our EYFS environment

At Whittaker Moss it is important to us that we create a child-centred environment that celebrates and values all achievements.

Each Early Years classroom will have a

- Learning Journey wall – documenting the children’s learning over the term.
- Wow wall – a celebration of the children’s achievements.
- Curriculum book – displaying significant learning across the term, both child initiated and adult directed.
- Characteristics of Effective Learning display – highlighting how the children learn. This focusses on the process of learning, not just the outcome.
- Parent’s Notice board – key information for all Parents and Carers such as a curriculum overview and key dates in the term.

## Home/School links

At Whittaker Moss we truly value the partnership between home and school. **The use of ‘Tapestry’:** The Early Years Online Learning Journal’ supports us to strengthen this connection by sharing observations directly with parents and giving them the opportunity to comment directly on the observations. Tapestry also has a feature which allows Parents to upload their own observations and share news from learning and experiences within the home environment.

Prime Areas of Learning	Specific Areas of Learning
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Personal, Social and Emotional Development</li><li>• Communication and Language</li><li>• Physical Development</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Literacy</li><li>• Mathematics</li><li>• Understanding the World</li><li>• Expressive Arts and Design.</li></ul>
<u>Characteristics of Effective Learning</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Playing and Exploring</li><li>• Active Learning</li><li>• Creating and Thinking Critically</li></ul>	