



EYFS and R.E at Hayward's Primary School

The new EYFS Framework became statutory in September 2021. It is structured differently to the National Curriculum and is organised across seven areas of learning rather than subject areas, which all interlink. This document shows how the skills taught across the EYFS feed into the National Curriculum subject of R.E and lend themselves to be the pre-requisite skills children need in this subject. It is also important to remember that underpinning the EYFS Framework are the Characteristics of Effective Teaching and Learning (CoETL) which detail the ways in which children should be learning from their environment, experiences and activities. These also need to be considered when thinking about how the EYFS Framework links to a certain National Curriculum subject. The table below outlines the relevant **statutory Educational Programmes** linked to **R.E**, which involves activities and experiences for children, as set out under each of the areas of learning, information on the **non-statutory Development Matters** document and the **Characteristics of Effective Teaching and Learning**.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development Educational Programme

Children's personal, social and emotional development (PSED) is crucial for children to lead healthy and happy lives, and is fundamental to their cognitive development. Underpinning their personal development are the important attachments that shape their social world. Strong, warm and supportive relationships with adults enable children to learn how to understand their own feelings and those of others. Children should be supported to manage emotions, develop a positive sense of self, set themselves simple goals, have confidence in their own abilities, to persist and wait for what they want and direct attention as necessary. Through adult modelling and guidance, they will learn how to look after their bodies, including healthy eating, and manage personal needs independently. Through supported interaction with other children, they learn how to make good friendships, co-operate and resolve conflicts peaceably. These attributes will provide a secure platform from which children can achieve at school and in later life.

Understanding the World Educational Programme

Understanding the world involves guiding children to make sense of their physical world and their community. The frequency and range of children's personal experiences increases their knowledge and sense of the world around them – from visiting parks, libraries and museums to meeting important members of society such as police officers, nurses and firefighters. In addition, listening to a broad selection of stories, non-fiction, rhymes and poems will foster their understanding of our culturally, socially, technologically and ecologically diverse world. As well as building important knowledge, this extends their familiarity with words that support understanding across domains. Enriching and widening children's vocabulary will support later reading comprehension.

Communication and Language Educational Programme

The development of children's spoken language underpins all seven areas of learning and development. Children's back-and-forth interactions from an early age form the foundations for language and cognitive development. The number and quality of the conversations they have with adults and peers throughout the day in a language-rich environment is crucial. By commenting on what children are interested in or doing, and echoing back what they say with new vocabulary added, practitioners will build children's language effectively. Reading frequently to children, and engaging them actively in stories, non-fiction, rhymes and poems, and then



providing them with extensive opportunities to use and embed new words in a range of contexts, will give children the opportunity to thrive. Through conversation, story-telling and role play, where children share their ideas with support and modelling from their teacher, and sensitive questioning that invites them to elaborate, children become comfortable using a rich range of vocabulary and language structures.

Development Matters

"The EYFS is about how children learn, as well as what they learn. Children need opportunities to develop their own play and independent exploration."

The Development Matters is a **non-statutory** document for EYFS which has been created to support practitioner's understanding of child development and their delivery of teaching. This is a document to guide practitioners to design an effective Early Years curriculum and overall support professional judgement enabling children's individual needs to be supported and build upon their strengths. Other areas of learning will also feed into the skills of **R.E**, for example, the area of Communication and Language plays a significant role in children being able to ask questions. Please refer to this document for an in depth view of progress within the above areas.

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1007446/6.7534 DfE Development Matters Report and illustrations web 2 .pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1007446/6.7534_DfE_Development_Matters_Report_and_illustrations_web_2.pdf)

Characteristics of Effective Teaching and Learning

- **Playing and Exploring** – children investigate and experience things, and 'have a go'
- **Active Learning** – children concentrate and keep on trying if they encounter difficulties, and enjoy achievements
- **Creating and Thinking Critically** – children have and develop their own ideas, make links between ideas, and develop strategies for doing things