

Marcham CE Primary School

Our Aims are summed up in our vision “for all children to achieve beyond their expectations and to become confident, independent learners, able to contribute positively in a fast-changing, vibrant society”. Our ethos, as a small, friendly Church of England School, reflects our daily mission intent “to achieve excellence in education in a safe, caring, collaborative community where Christian values are integral and learning is fun”.

Marcham CE Primary Early Years Intent

We offer a broad and balanced curriculum which guides each child through their learning. It is underpinned by our four overriding principles as set out in the EYFS which we intend to uphold in everything we do:

Unique Child

Positive Relationships

Enabling Environment

Learning and Development

Our curriculum is designed to nurture learning behaviours to help children to succeed, with a passion and desire to learn through the concepts of Characteristics of Effective Teaching and Learning:

Creating and thinking critically – children have and develop their own ideas, make links between ideas, and develop strategies for doing things.

Active learning – children keep on trying if they encounter difficulties and enjoy their achievement.

Playing and exploring – children investigate and experience things, and ‘have a go’.

Furthermore, our intent is to:

- ❖ To create a happy, safe and nurturing environment where children develop their independence as learners.
- ❖ To provide a curriculum which is exciting and motivates children to love learning.
- ❖ To create an environment where children develop resilience, friendships and positive relationships.
- ❖ To ensure that learning is accessible for all and that children’s individual progress is valued.
- ❖ To provide a stimulating indoor and outdoor environment where children safely explore risks and challenge their own learning.
- ❖ To work closely and collaboratively with parents in order to ensure we value home experiences and develop a true reflection of the whole child.
- ❖ To effectively prepare children for the next stage in their school life.

We will assess children on entry in order to build on the skills, knowledge and understanding that they have. This information is used to develop the children holistically and will ensure that all aspects of early childhood development are catered for.

Marcham CE Primary Early Years Implementation

Our Reception Curriculum is based on our on-going knowledge about the community we serve. It is rooted in the key elements of learning that are essential for our children to be confident speakers; be able to read, write and understand mathematical concepts thus ensuring they are ready for the National curriculum in Year One. Developing good Speaking and Listening skills are a priority within our Early Years Curriculum which includes the early identification of concerns in this area.

Our curriculum is mapped out over a year with a separate progression of skills document which builds on children's knowledge, skills and understanding term on term. Our curriculum uses a combination of 'in the moment' planning based on child's interests', knowledge-rich themes and enrichment opportunities. The emphasis being on progress by knowing and remembering more. The curriculum is as rich outdoors as it is indoors, ensuring that children have a wide range of indoor and outdoor experiences no matter the weather, utilising a large outdoor area to explore and learn in. The curriculum is underpinned using fiction and non-fiction texts. When teaching phonics, we use the **Rocket Phonics** scheme of learning, which broadly follows the letters and sounds.

Children at Marcham Primary are active participants in their learning, and teaching is adapted, to take into account children's prior knowledge, skills, understanding and interests. Class teachers ensure all children make progress through identifying gaps in an individual's learning and putting next steps in place to close these. Parents are actively involved in their children's learning through regular parent's meetings, reading afternoons and Tapestry observations of their child's learning.

Marcham CE Primary Early Years Impact

The impact of our curriculum can be seen in the individual successes of each child. We aim that the pupils will leave the Early Years Foundation Stage as independent learners, with transferrable skills needed to start Key Stage One.

We will see:

- ❖ Formative assessments which inform in the moment or future planning and ensure all children build upon their current skills and knowledge.
- ❖ Children demonstrate independence, resilience, curiosity and other characteristics of effective learning.
- ❖ Children display positive attitudes towards learning. Taking pride in all they do and are fully engaged in both child and adult initiated learning.