

If you make time every day to do some of the following things with your child it will make a real difference to your child's confidence as a young learner .



Parents' Guide to the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework

This is a very important stage as it helps your child get ready for school as well as preparing them for their future learning and successes. From when your child is born up until the age of 5, their early years experience should be happy, active, exciting, fun and secure; and support their development, care and learning needs.

What is the EYFS Framework - why do we have one?

Day nurseries, pre-schools, reception classes and childminders registered to deliver the EYFS must follow a legal document called the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework. It helps all professionals working in the EYFS to help your child to learn and develop. In 2012 the framework was made clearer and easier to use, with more focus on the things that matter most.

How your child will be learning

Through the EYFS, your child will be learning new skills and knowledge through **7 areas of learning and development**.

Children should first develop **3 prime areas** which are those essential for your child's healthy development and future learning:

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

As children grow, the prime areas will help them to develop skills in **4 specific areas**. These are:

- Literacy;
- Mathematics;
- Understanding the world; and
- Expressive arts and design.

These 7 areas are used to plan your child's learning and activities. The adults working with your child will make sure that the activities are suited to your child's unique needs.



Children in the EYFS learn **by playing and exploring, being active**, and through creative and critical thinking both indoors and outside.

As a mum or dad, how can I help with my child's learning?

All the fun activities that you do with your child at home are important in supporting their learning and development, and have a really long lasting effect on your child's learning as they progress through school.

Even when your child is very young and is not yet able to talk, **talking to them helps them to learn and understand new words and ideas**.

If you're looking for new ideas for things to do then find out

Try to speak to your child's key person as often as possible about what your child has been doing, what they have enjoyed, what they need to be doing more of and what you can do at home.

what is on offer at your local children's centre. Many offer activities which you and your child can join in with, and many of the activities they provide are free. Staff can also give you advice about the kinds of books or other activities your child might enjoy at different ages.