

Curnow School

Early Years Offer



Special
Partnership
Trust



This booklet is intended to help parents and carers understand what we achieve in the Early Years Foundation Stage at our school.

In this booklet you will find information about the following –

- Welcome to our school.
- What do we learn in EYFS?
- The prime areas of the Early Years Curriculum.
- The specific areas of the Early Years Curriculum.
- Integration links.
- Working in partnership with parents.
- Key staff and contact details.

Our School.

Welcome to Curnow School.

We are a special school with a primary site in Illogan and a secondary site in Redruth for pupils aged 2-19.

Our school is a member of the Special Partnership Trust (SPT).

This booklet is an introduction to our Early Years Foundation Stage and will provide you with the information you need in relation to our EYFS offer



If you would like any further information, please visit our school web site www.curnow.cornwall.sch.uk

Families are welcome to come and visit school; please make an appointment by contacting the school and talking to our home- school liaison, Claire Pearne who can be contacted on cpearne@curnowschool.org.uk or by calling the school on 01209 215432

Welcome to our Early Years Foundation Stage. Children who come to us in the Early Years phase of schooling will usually have already attended a nursery setting and/ or a Child Development Centre. The local authority will name our school in your child's Education, Health and Care Plan.



- Once you receive confirmation of your placement from the Local Authority, our Early Years teacher will meet your child in their current education setting to meet them and find out all about their likes, dislikes and needs
- We will arrange with you a home visit which allows us to complete all the necessary admission paperwork finding out as much as possible about your child to ensure we have all the information we need to settle them into school
- We will use your child's EHCP to inform goal setting. Professionals working with your child will hand over to the new team to ensure consistency
- We will be delighted to invite your child to school for some 'stay and play' sessions to see their new classroom and meet their new friends and teachers
- To help your child prepare for their new school placement we will provide a photo book to allow them to learn about their new school.
- We strongly believe that all of this helps us to build a clear picture of your child to provide a smooth transition for them into big school!

We are always happy to answer any questions you may have in regards to your child's placement at Curnow school; please speak to Claire Pearne, Family Liaison Officer.



All EYFS classes within the SPT offer the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum. This allows us to meet the learning needs of our youngest children in developmentally appropriate ways with a curriculum, which can be tailored to meet their learning needs. Our EYFS offer allows children to learn through play and exploration,



Our curriculum focuses upon the 3 prime areas of learning:

Communication & Language,
Personal, Social & Emotional Development
Physical Development

We additionally deliver the four specific areas which provide important contexts for learning:

Literacy
Mathematics
Understanding the World
Expressive Arts and Design

The prime areas of the EYFS curriculum.

The prime areas of the curriculum will be the main focus of your child's time in their Reception year and throughout Year 1. Delivery of these areas helps us to prepare your child for future learning and for their transition into Key Stage 1. The foundations of behaviour, communication and learning behaviours laid in our Early Years phase of schooling are vital in supporting them on their future journey through the school.

Communication and language

This area of the curriculum is broken down into the following sub areas - **Listening and Attention, Understanding** and **Speaking**.



This area will be a major focus area for the majority of children entering the school setting, and will be taught across the whole of the school day.

To ensure our children develop their communication skills our early years class is a total

communication environment with children experiencing specialist methods such as **PECS, Makaton signing, Intensive Interaction** and the use of **objects of reference**.

We use any advice and guidance received from members of multi-agency teams, such as **Speech and Language Therapists**, when they are involved with your child.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

This area of the curriculum is broken down into the following sub areas – **Building Relationships, Self-regulation and Managing Self**



Again, this will be woven throughout the school day and additionally children will be working on specific interventions such as **TACPAC** and **Intensive Interaction** aimed at developing relationships and social interaction skills. Lots of learning will be delivered through play – sharing is a skill that we find ourselves working on all the time!

Physical Development

This area of the curriculum is broken down into the following sub areas – **Moving and Handling** and **Health and Self Care**.

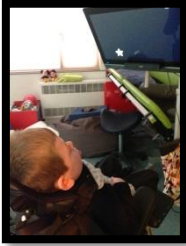


Moving and handling in this area involves PE skills and will also include working on the children's **physiotherapy plans** and any work set out in a child's **occupational therapy plan**. We are keen to develop the children's independence and will set targets that are developmentally appropriate.

The Specific areas of the curriculum will also be part of your child's curriculum during their time in Reception and Year 1. Many of the activities and experiences that your child encounters during their Early Years schooling will cross more than one area and we track delivery to ensure that our curriculum is broad and balanced.

Understanding the World

This area of the curriculum is broken down into the following sub areas – **People and Communities**, **The World** and **Technology**.



Teaching activities in this curriculum area provide children with the opportunity to develop the knowledge, skills and understanding that help them to make sense of the world, to support them to become confident members of their community.

Expressive Art and Design

This area of the curriculum is broken down into the following sub areas **Exploring and Using, Media and Materials** and **Being Imaginative**.



Included in this area of the curriculum is art, design, music, dance and role play. Sensory exploration has vital links to the development of skills in other areas including mark making and food tolerances.

Literacy

This area of the curriculum is broken down into the following sub areas – **Reading** and **Writing**.



Fostering a love of books, stories and rhymes is essential to motivate our youngest children to achieve to the best of their ability. Introducing a sensory element to stories, rhymes and mark making enhances their experiences making them more enjoyable, meaningful and memorable.

This area of the curriculum is broken down into the following sub areas – **Number** and **numerical patterns**



The children learn an awareness of number through rhymes, sorting, counting and organising, measuring, cooking and weighing both inside and outside. We explore early patterns through matching with objects, pictures or numbers using a range of natural and everyday objects and materials, as well as blocks and shapes, for children to play with freely and to make their own patterns with.



Enabling environments
exploit every opportunity to
learn.

Promoting engagement through an interest led curriculum.





Valuing the power of
relationships and their effect
on wellbeing.



Two Schools, One Community.



In September 2014 Curnow Lower School was opened on the existing site of Illogan Primary School. This has given our children the exciting and unique opportunity to be educated on a fully inclusive site alongside their mainstream peers. Integration for our children takes many forms including social and academic links. In addition to this our youngest children have opportunities throughout the year to enjoy joint play sessions with their friends from Illogan Pre-school.



Our opportunities to integrate promote the forming of friendships, engagement in learning and the development of communication and social skills.

Working in partnership with parents.

Our partnership with you and your family is vital in allowing us to secure the very best outcomes for your child while they are in our school. We will send home a daily diary to ensure that you know what your child has learned each day and we will respect your wishes to provide any other information that is important to you, for example information about what your child has eaten in school.



Throughout the year, we will **invite you in to school for specific events** such as our very popular nativity! We will also host activity related events such as our **Story Afternoon**.



You will be invited to termly **parent progress meetings** and these meetings will be an opportunity to support us in setting challenging and appropriate **IEP targets**. Your input into the **Education, Health and Care Plan** meeting is vital in ensuring that the plan continues to accurately reflect your child's strengths, areas of needs and to set targets that will guide us in providing the **best quality educational experience**.



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