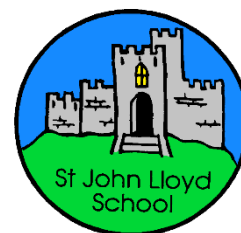


St John Lloyd RC Primary School –Early Years Procedures and Policy Guide
(Reception and Nursery)



Learning environment

Learning at St John Lloyd RC Primary School takes place both indoors and outdoors and allows children to learn through play. The curriculum gives every child the opportunity to be at the centre of their learning at their level.

Our staff will be observing children, working with individuals, small groups, or at times the whole group to extend and develop the learning. This results in a learning experience which is practical, fun and full of hands-on activities which are known to develop positive attitudes to learning

Reading & Writing Skills

St John Lloyd emphasises the importance of good reading and writing skills. However, it is important that children are not pushed into reading and writing too early. Very young children will be encouraged to develop pre-reading and pre-writing skills through language-development activities that help them understand sounds through games, making patterns, singing and stories. Pre-writing skills will be developed through making marks with tools and writing instruments on a variety of surfaces such as chalk on the tarmac or sticks in the mud, drawing, painting, threading, and other activities that develop their muscle control.

The majority of reading and writing skills teaching is carried out in our 'Hive' quiet area.

Grouping of children

Pupils are grouped for their phonics (literacy work) and mathematical development according to the **phase** that they are at across our Early years setting not based on their **age**. This allows all pupils to work at a level they are currently at and be ready for their learning. This creates a tailor-made learning experience for each child.

An example of this may be a child working in group 1 for phonics (literacy work) but in group 3 for mathematical development. All groupings are continuously assessed by staff and are fluid and often change.

*****It is vital to understand that at this early stage in their development pupils will learn at different rates and from different starting points. It is our priority to ensure all pupils make progress against their starting point and attain the expected level by the time they move onto Y1.***

Whole class teaching is not often used in the setting as smaller groups are seen as the most effective way to develop high quality learning.

During playtimes and free choice pupils are encouraged to mix freely and develop their friendship groups and social skills.

All parents have the opportunity to discuss their children's progress and wellbeing with the class teacher at parental consultations. Alternatively, please feel free to make an appointment with your class teacher to discuss any issues.