

EYFS Prime Areas

The Early Years Framework builds a strong foundation to ignite children's curiosity and enthusiasm for learning and forming relationships, enabling them to thrive emotionally and physically. Our curriculum focuses on the three prime areas for learning:

- Communication and Language
- Personal Social and Emotional Development
- Physical Development

Learning in these areas helps us to prepare children for future learning in Key Stage 1 and beyond. The firm foundations built around developing social and learning behaviours and communication are key skills to support them in their learning journeys through life.

Communication and Language

This area of the curriculum is broken down into the following sub areas:

- Listening and Attention
- Understanding
- Speaking

We believe that a child's communication skills are essential building blocks on their learning journey and an essential life skill. We work with the local authority Speech and Language Team to ensure every child is maximising their communication potential. Our pupils use tools that match their communication needs at each stage. Objects of reference, songs of reference, Makaton, communication books and the Picture Exchange Communication system (PECS) is used to support non-verbal children. Once a preferred communication method is identified, the staff ensure that this provision is accessible for pupils both inside and outside of the classroom.



Personal Social and Emotional Development

This area of the curriculum is broken down into the following sub areas:

- Self-Regulation
- Managing Self
- Building Relationships

Self-Regulation: Starting school is a significant milestone for all children. We help children to learn the personal skills, such as understanding their own feelings, developing focus and attention skills, waiting for what they want, and making decisions about what they want to do.

Managing Self: We work on developing children's confidence, independence, resilience, perseverance and beginning to manage their behaviour. We also help children become more independent around dressing, eating and toileting.

Building Relationships: Supporting children to learn to work and play together is at the heart of the early years provision at Ravenswood School and happens throughout the day, including during specific interventions such as TAC PAC and Intensive Interaction.



Physical Development

Fine Motor skills

We develop our pupils' fine motor skills throughout the day through play and self-help activities. We also encourage mark-making using a variety of different medium, e.g. shaving foam, cornflour and sand.



Gross Motor Skills

Our gross motor skills programme includes: swimming, sensory, outside play, dance, ball skills, games, local park visits and apparatus. Children can attend a variety of after-school clubs as curriculum enrichment activities, including sports club and sensory club.

