



# Little Learners

## NURSERY GROUP

4/10/21

### **New EYFS Reforms: Parent and Carer Information Sheet**

Dear Parents and Carers

You may be aware that all early years settings in England are required to follow the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). This statutory framework, produced by the Department for Education sets the standards for the learning, care and development for all children aged under five.

The framework has recently been reviewed and the reforms came into effect from September this year. At Little Learners Nursery Group we have been training our practitioners on these changes for some time so that everyone feels confident to implement the revised framework.

#### **Why has the framework changed?**

The changes have been designed to:

- Improve outcomes for children, especially in the areas of language and literacy
- Reduce workload such as unnecessary paperwork for practitioners, so they can spend more time with the children, supporting their learning.

#### **What are the changes?**

- The areas of learning remain the same, however these now have more depth.
- Providers have been required to review their observation, planning and assessment cycle and see what changes can be made to remove unnecessary paperwork. This means practitioners can spend more time supporting your child's learning in the moment.
- Children will no longer be assessed against statements from an age band category. Instead, practitioners will use their experience and knowledge to monitor if a child's learning and development is on track for their age.
- There is an emphasis on improving children's language and vocabulary through increasing opportunities for conversations, reading of a wide range of books and holding discussions around activities in other areas of learning.
- Safeguarding and welfare of children is still a priority, with the added mention of teaching children about the importance of good oral health and how to keep teeth clean and healthy

#### **What does this mean for my child?**

At Little Learners Nursery group we have taken a carefully measured approach to these reforms. We are confident that our new way of working will mean the best start for your child and support them to have a head start ready for school.



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### **Assessments**

We've removed the requirement for practitioners to complete Development Summaries (parent reports) each year for all age groups. Instead, they will assess children on an ongoing basis (formative assessment) to inform how they are supporting their learning. Your child's key person will always be able to chat to you about how your child is progressing and will of course let you know straight away if they are ever concerned about your child's development. We will also organise parents evenings 3 x yearly where you can discuss your child's learning and progress in more detail.

Preschool aged children will still receive a report at the end of the year before they move on to Reception. Toddler aged children will still also have a written two-year check between the ages of 2 and 3 years.

We have reduced the number of observations practitioners need to take of each child, however, you will continue to get regular photo updates via Tapestry.

### **Planning**

Your child will still be planned for weekly by their Key Person. The reduction of other paperwork allows practitioners to focus more precisely on supporting your child's development. Staff focus on your children's interests to help inform their planning; which is why it is really important that you keep us posted about what they are interested in at home too. We will regularly send out parent planning forms for you to complete so you can share this information with us.

We have updated our nursery curriculum to reflect the new Educational Programs from the EYFS framework and to increase opportunities to develop children's language and vocabulary.

### **Tooth brushing**

We will be introducing daily tooth brushing for our preschool age group. Room leaders will send out more detailed information about how this will work.

### **How can I find out more?**

If you would like more information about how the changes are being implemented, please talk to a senior member of staff at your site. We've also added some useful information about the new EYFS framework to our websites.

We have attached additional information sheets to this letter. The first is an overview of the EYFS framework. The second is a document showing the Development Matters statements for each age group within the EYFS. The Development Matters guidance is written to help practitioners meet the new requirements of the 'Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage'. It is used as a basis to plan activities and support practitioners to monitor children's development. It comprises a list of learning statements for each of the age groups 'birth to 3', '3-4 year olds' and 'Reception'.



If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me,

Yours sincerely,

Nursery Team