

# Welcome to Heathfield Nursery and Infant School



Our approach to learning at Heathfield Nursery and Infant School places the children at the heart of what we do. Through our understanding of child development, our high expectations of all children, our belief in children's innate ability to learn and grow, and the positive relationships we build with children and families, we are able to offer an education which recognises children's individual starting points and supports them to become exceptional. Consistency is a strong feature of the school. An agreed pedagogical approach, which promotes oral language, planned vocabulary choices, and the use of concrete resources and first-hand experiences, is followed by teaching and non-teaching staff and has real impact on the depth and breadth of pupils' learning.

Our curriculum is broad and balanced and promotes children's personal, social, emotional, intellectual and physical development. We continually reflect on our curriculum to ensure it best fits the children within our school. Our curriculum design ensures that the children make links in their learning, recap and build upon what they have already learnt, are able to articulate what they know and are well prepared for the future. Strong links with our Junior School, through a shared ethos and one learning journey, ensure that children are well prepared for the next stage in their education.

We value exciting, first-hand experiences which engage the children and promote a language-rich curriculum which enables even our youngest children to express themselves, be curious and ask questions. We teach the crucial vocabulary that children need to demonstrate what they know across the curriculum and we place high value on children's oral responses, as a stepping stone towards being able to write fluently. We ensure that children have access to texts, music, resources, activities and opportunities that they might not otherwise encounter.

We actively seek ways of making learning meaningful and memorable for the children. We recognise that children need a sound grasp of the basics in reading, writing and maths, as well as an understanding of the world around them, of how things work and of themselves. We promote music, the arts and high quality children's literature from the start.

We recognise the importance of learning through play, developing independence and ensuring that all children learn within and beyond the classroom. We encourage creativity, curiosity and exploration and allow children to develop as individuals. All

children learn with concrete, practical resources across the curriculum. We have plentiful, well-used outdoor areas which are accessible to all children throughout the school and we strive to ensure that children learn as effectively outside as inside. We aim to make good use of our local area and inspire children's interest in the world beyond the classroom.

We are very proud to be recognised as an inclusive school with high expectations of all children. We are skilled in adapting the curriculum and thinking flexibly to ensure that all children can achieve. We take our safeguarding responsibilities extremely seriously and are committed to ensuring that all children are safe.

We look forward to welcoming you to our school as a visitor, prospective parent or carer, volunteer or future member of staff.