

# OUR CURRICULUM

How we meet the needs of all the children in our care

## Our Ethos/Intent

We have high expectations, hopes and dreams for all children at Severn Beach Preschool. We aim to give all children in our care a firm foundation in the skills and knowledge they need for their future.

We are all different and we all have different needs but by working together and coming together and celebrating what we can do and what we are learning to do we will have the confidence to challenge ourselves and embrace life and the opportunities that lie ahead...

## Development Matters

Our continuous provision and our planned and enhanced provision are carefully thought out with the children at the heart of our plans. We use OPAL milestones and Development Matters 2021 as our assessment tools to ensure we are recognising that all children are making progress.

*Where there are areas of additional support needed, we work with parents and other professionals ensure we provide the most useful interventions.*



## Implementation

The implementation of our curriculum is based on a varied pedagogy which recognises that we all have different learning and teaching styles and that this variety helps to maintain interest and inspire the curiosity and the imaginations of children...

The 7 key features of effective practice influence the way we work and are interwoven into all the things we do.

As teachers we are always: Communicating and modelling language, supporting independence, setting challenges, supporting resilience, building confidence, exploring problems, hatching plans, recognising opportunities, providing resources, exploring ideas, demonstrating, facilitating, speculating, having a go, persevering and being great role models!! We have great characteristics of learning (and teaching) and we encourage each other and the children to have them too!





## Impact

When the children leave us to move on to Reception, they are confident, proud and ready for their next challenge.

- They are splendid communicators
- They are problem solving, plan makers!!
- They are intrepid explorers!
- They are mini mathematicians.
- They are enthusiastic singers.  
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- They love stories.
- They have great ideas and they are happy to share them.
- They are able to self regulate to the best of their ability.
- We recognise where some things are too tricky for some children and we ensure they have strategies in place or support to help them as they leave us for the next stage in their education.
- They are all brilliant and we are always sad but proud to see them skip happily on to pastures new.

## How we cover the 7 areas of learning:

**Communication and Language:** Children are encouraged to share their thoughts and ideas in a range of situations. Staff listen, model and extend vocabulary through playful interactions, stories, conversations, to name a few opportunities. We have a language rich environment and language interventions ensure that all children have their voices heard and their communication skills developed.

**Personal, Social and Emotional Development:** We encourage children to develop a positive sense of themselves and of others. We welcome them and their families into our setting and our setting is an integral part of our local community. Positive behaviour is praised and promoted and children learn to manage their feelings in a safe environment. We help them to develop their social skills and to have the confidence to be themselves. Their resilience is nurtured and their independence encouraged in a safe place with adults they grow to trust.

**Physical Development:** We have a great and well resourced outside space which extends into the school grounds and out into the community and to the beach. The children are free to run, climb, balance and develop their co-ordination and control. We use programs such as Funky Feet and have a local dance teacher teach dance weekly. Fine motor skills are developed through an abundance of opportunities including funky fingers, finger gym and dough discos. Children are encouraged to make healthy choices and to be independent in their self care.

**Literacy:** We encourage a love of books and stories and mark making. We love singing and rhyming and have a set of songs that we become super familiar with to really help with speech and sound formation. When the children are ready we introduce the idea of phonics through letters and sounds activities and Jolly Phonics songs.

**Maths:** Maths is all around us. Numbers and shapes are a big part of our environment and are woven into our play. We encourage confident counting, beyond rote counting, and a deeper understanding of what numbers actually mean and represent.

**Understanding the world and expressive arts and design:** We wonder about the world we live in, we have dance school, we role play, we explore science in our potion station and construction inside and out. We have beach school, the slippy woods, nature walks and visitors to talk about their jobs. We have pet hamsters to care for too.



