



Parents information:

What is the Early Years Foundation Stage?

All Nurseries, pre-schools, reception classes, childminders and before and after school clubs registered to deliver the EYFS must follow a legal document called the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework. The EYFS Framework exists to support all professionals working in the EYFS to help your child, and was developed with a number of early years experts and parents.

This framework has a greater emphasis on working in partnership in helping your child develop.

The EYFS Framework explains how and what your child will be learning to support their healthy development.

Your child will be learning skills, acquiring new knowledge and demonstrating their understanding through 7 areas of learning and development.

Children should mostly develop the 3 prime areas first. These are:

- Communication and language;
- Physical development; and
- Personal, social and emotional development.

These prime areas are those most essential for your child's healthy development and future learning.

As children grow, the prime areas will help them to develop skills in 4 specific areas. These are:

- Literacy;
- Mathematics;
- Understanding the world; and
- Expressive arts and design.

These 7 areas are used to plan your child's learning and activities. The playworkers at Funtasia teaching and supporting your child will make sure that the activities are suited to your child's unique needs. This is a little bit like a curriculum in primary schools, but it's suitable for very young children, and it's designed to be really flexible so that staff can follow your child's unique needs and interests.

Children in the EYFS learn by playing and exploring, being active, and through creative and critical thinking which takes place both indoors and outside.

How we deliver the Early years Framework

We deliver stimulating activities that the children enjoy and that encourage children's development.

Each child has their own unique learning journey, which we encourage parents and other professionals to share.

A Learning Journey is an effective way to collect evidence of children's development under the key areas identified by EYFS.



Below are contents that are included in children's files these involve parents, engage children and enable the key person to present tangible evidence of how children are progressing whilst at Funtasia

Speech bubble templates:

Cut out colourful speech bubble templates on card or stickers and use them to record what children say. Not only is this a simple way to support an observation, it also presents an event from a child's perspective and tracks their language development.

"Just Spotted" templates:

In addition to the more formal and routine observations, use post-its or special stickers to record spontaneous observations. These snapshots and bite-sized anecdotes will help add depth to the Learning Journey.

Include photographs:

Digital cameras have made it really easy to include photographic evidence to support your observations and assessments. So keep cameras at hand we take photos of children in action to stick into and personalise the Learning Journey.

Include samples of work:

Whether it's mark making, rule-play, artwork or creative expression, real samples of children's work provides evidence to support your observations. In addition, instead of simply sticking the work in, why not create special templates?

Wow Notes: give out when child start

Create a wow note template and have them readily available for parents and carers. This practice allows parents to record their child's special achievements and make their contribution to their child's Learning Journey.

Diary of significant events:

The Learning Journey is all about tracking development over time and a diary of significant events is an interesting way to do this. You could pick a theme / event for each month (see example below) and collect a piece of related work, a spontaneous observation and a child's quote on a speech bubble. It's a great way for a child to look back over the year and review what they've learned.

Create an "At Home" section:

This is further way to involve parents and carers in the development of their child's Learning Journey. Encourage parents to bring in content from home. This could include photo diaries of family trips, certificates or even artwork and mark making achievements. Parents could also be asked to add their own short observation / explanation and the evidence can be added to the Learning Journey.

How can I find out how my child is getting on?

When your child starts at Funtasia they will be allocated a key person, It is important that you and your child's key person work together. You need to feel comfortable about exchanging information and discussing things that will benefit your child.

What is a "key person"? This is the person who:

- Is your main point of contact within the setting
- Helps your child to become settled, happy and safe
- Is responsible for your child's care, development and learning

- Takes a careful note of your child's progress, sharing this with you and giving you ideas as to how to help your child at home

You will be able to get information about your child's development at any time at Funtasia the individual learning journeys, which will show progress your child is making through play are available daily, we like parents to share these with their children. You will be also given WOW cards; these are for sharing achievements at home with us. The key person will give you written information about how your child is doing.

As a mum or dad, how can I help with my child's learning?

All the fun activities that you do with your child at home are important in supporting their learning and development, and have a really long lasting effect on your child's learning as they progress through school. If you make the time every day to do some of the following things with your child it will make a real difference to your child's confidence as a young learner



Your child's key person can also give you advice about the kinds of books or other activities your child might enjoy at different ages. We hope this information has been useful, and look forward to meeting you.