

22nd September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Early Years – Early Adopter Status

At the end of their Reception year we assess your children and decide if they have met a set of early learning goals in different areas of learning. The government has decided to change the early learning goals that we use to assess your child and has offered schools the chance to adopt the new early learning goals one year early, in September 2020. From September 2021 all schools will be required to follow this curriculum.

Our school has decided to become an early adopter school and from this year we will be using the new early learning goals to assess your children at the end of their Reception year. New guidance to support learning over the Reception year has been released alongside these new early learning goals, this is called Development Matters. Development Matters is not a checklist of things that your child should do, rather it is guidance for adults who work with children, to help them to support and embed your child's learning journey.

What does this mean for your child?

Nothing will change for your child. We will continue to offer them the highest quality learning experiences in school and we will continue to develop the whole child, thinking about how they learn and who they are as individuals.

What does this mean for parents / carers?

Nothing will change for parents/carers. We will continue to support you and value your opinions and knowledge of your child. We will use Evidence Me and our own notes and records to track your child's learning journey. If you would like to see the new goals and guidance so please follow this link

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/early-adopter-schools-eyfs-profile-handbook>

What does this mean for Early Years teachers?

This is an exciting opportunity for Early Years teachers as it allows us to focus on children's oracy and mastery of basic skills. It also allows us greater opportunities to support children's social, emotional and behavioural needs at this critical time of development.

At the end of the year we will still use our knowledge of your child, alongside evidence we have gathered throughout the year, to make judgements about whether they have met their early learning goals. This year the Local Authority will not moderate our judgements.

Best wishes,

The EYFS Team

