



Northwick Park Academy Trust
Literacy in the Early Years



We plan, teach and assess the EYFS Development Matters statements and throughout Daycare, Pre-School, Nursery and Reception with the aim that children will develop a secure base of knowledge and vocabulary from which fluency and comprehension in reading is built. This is alongside fostering a love of reading in all ages. We are committed to ensuring the confident development of writing composition and skill and put a strong emphasis on the mastery of early key concepts.

Nursery

The EYFS development matters statements for Literacy are taught through a topic-based approach, alongside targeted teaching of key skills. Nursery plan focused activities to teach and assess the key concepts from the curriculum especially those related to the 5 key concepts of print and developing their budding phonological awareness. A high-quality story book, of the child's choice, is also sent home weekly to be shared with adults at home to support the love of reading in our youngest children.

Literacy is also integrated into the daily routines in EYFS. In Nursery this includes:

- Daily story sharing as a whole group or on an individual basis.
- Name recognition on pegs and daily special helpers.
- Daily opportunities for singing rhymes and songs
- Exposure to a greater range of more complex vocabulary related to the stories they are hearing.
- Access to a language rich environment in which adults model appropriate language, pronunciation and structure with the children to develop their vocabulary.
- Free opportunities for early mark making and writing.



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In Reception, we plan, teach, and assess using the Development Matters statements for Reception which lead into the Early Learning goals at the end of the Reception Year.

Reception

In Reception, we are committed to ensuring the confident development of Early reading through the direct teaching of phonics through Read, Write Inc. and how to use this to read words and sentences. There is a daily literacy input and then a carousel of activities including a teacher-led focused activity and an activity reinforcing previous learning in relation to phonics and the wider skills of comprehension and sentence construction.

Literacy is also integrated into the daily routines in EYFS. In Reception this includes:

- Opportunities for speaking aloud on various topics with modelled support from adults.
- Daily story shared as a class to foster a love of reading.
- Stories shared and discussed to model comprehension and foster skills such as anticipation of text.
- Daily Phonics session for direct instruction on letter sounds, blending and segmenting.
- Daily opportunities to learn wider reading skills such as reading and discussing pictures, reading forward for support and rereading for comprehension.
- Daily song and rhymes
- Daily word recognition for non-phonetically plausible words
- Daily name/word/sentence writing practise.
- Daily handwriting sessions to support letter formation and recognition.
- Access to a language rich environment in which adults' model appropriate language, pronunciation and structure with the children to develop their vocabulary.
- Free opportunities for early writing within play.

We also try to give pupils opportunity to explore through play, putting of their taught skills into practise, gaining independence and confidence in their own skills. All classes also have a role play area to encourage language development and social speaking and a reading area to foster the love of reading.