

## *Planning in the EYFS at St Patrick's*

*Planning in the Early Years Foundation Stage is somewhat different to planning in Key Stages One and Two.*

*The Foundation Stage curriculum is made up of seven "areas of learning". These are:*

- Personal, Social and Emotional Development (Making relationships, Self-confidence and self-awareness, and Managing feelings and behaviour)*
- Communication and language (Listening and attention, Understanding, and Speaking)*
- Physical development (Moving and Handling, and Health and self-care)*
- Literacy (reading and writing)*
- Maths (Numbers, and Shape, space and measure)*
- Understanding the world (People and communities, The world, and Technology)*
- Expressive arts and design (Exploring and using media and materials, and Being imaginative)*

*Religious Education is also a core element of the curriculum, as it is throughout the school.*

*We plan flexibly for teaching and learning by linking these different areas through a wide variety of attractive and engaging activities and themes, taking ideas from the children's interests as well as events happening around the time.*

*We base our planning around books, carefully choosing a special text to use over several weeks. As we move through the book we find ways to involve the children in meaningful activities linked to the text to help them make progress in all areas of learning. Each week we discuss next steps for the children and take these into account as we plan as a team for the following week.*

*The skills and stages of children's development around which we base our planning and assessment are outlined and explained in detail in the document "Development Matters" (see <https://www.early-education.org.uk/development-matters> ) and summarised in "Early Years Outcomes" (see [http://www.foundationyears.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2012/03/Early\\_Years\\_Outcomes.pdf](http://www.foundationyears.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2012/03/Early_Years_Outcomes.pdf) ).*

*We also always consider the way children learn, which can be described as the "Characteristics of effective learning." These are:*

### *Playing and exploring – relating to children's engagement*

*Finding out and exploring*

*Playing with what they know*

*Being willing to 'have a go'*

### *Active learning – relating to children's motivation*

*Being involved and concentrating*

*Keeping trying*

*Enjoying achieving what they set out to do*

### *Creating and thinking critically – relating to children's thinking*

*Having their own ideas*

*Making links*

*Choosing ways to do things*

*Above is only a summary, so please speak to any of the EYFS staff for further information.*