# Little Forest Friends

FUN, CARE AND EXCELLENCE FOR ALL!

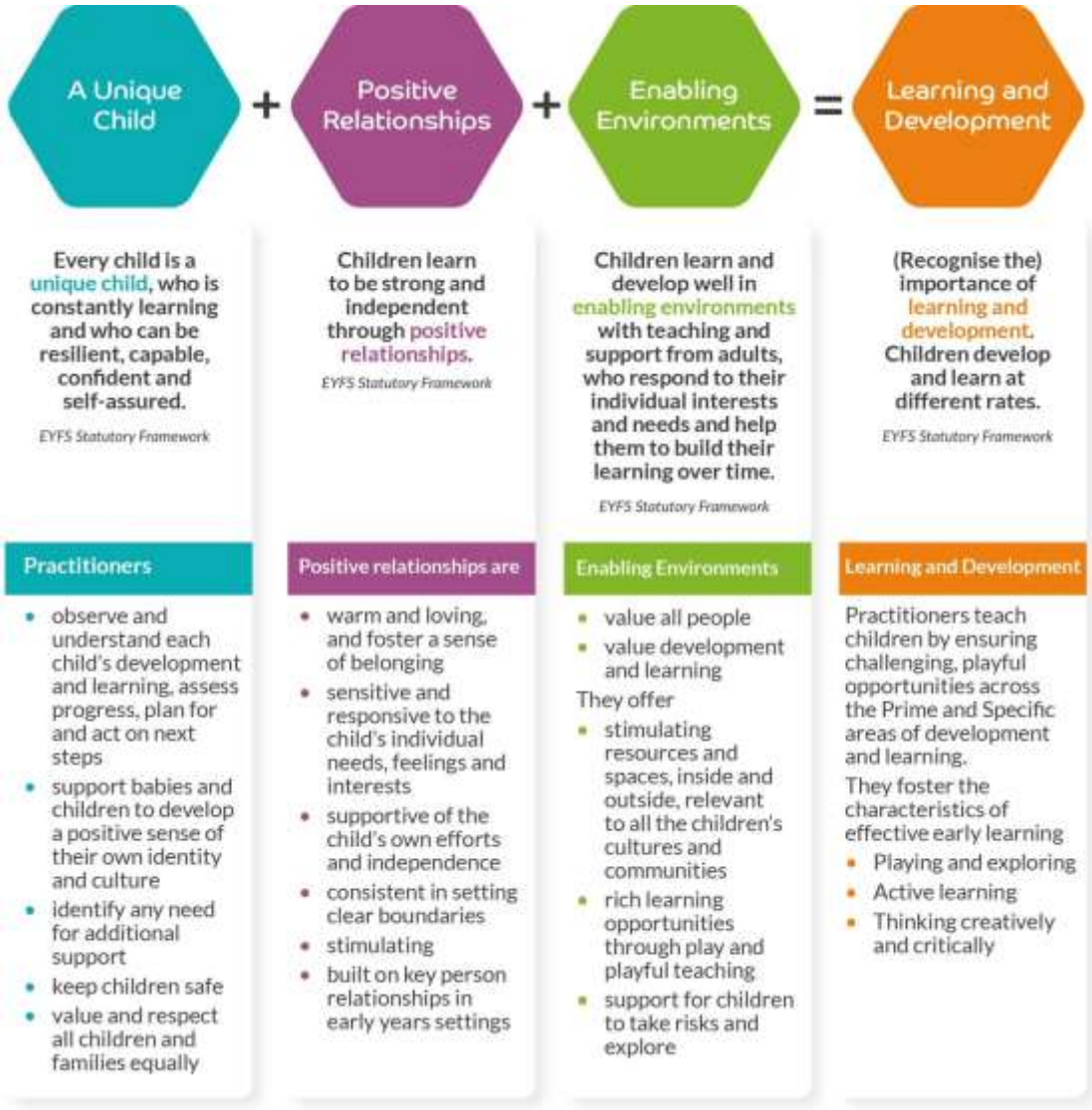


# Understanding children

- Play is how they learn best
- Relationships come first
- Learning through doing
- Repeat repeat repeat!
- Follow their interests
- They like to move it move it!
- Every develops at their own pace

**Remember:** The most important ingredients for healthy brain development are **love, play, conversation, and responsive relationships.**

# Understanding EYFS



# Our Philosophy

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **EXCELLENCE:**<br>We strive for the highest standards in teaching, learning, and personal development. Our curriculum challenges our children to think critically, act with purpose, and pursue their goals with determination. Excellence means always aiming to do our best—academically, socially, and personally. | **CARE:**<br>We foster a culture of empathy, respect, and wellbeing. Every learner is known, valued, and supported through a curriculum that prioritises emotional growth, inclusive practices, and meaningful connections. Care is the foundation for a safe and supportive environment where everyone thrives. | **FUN FOR ALL:**<br>We believe that learning should be joyful and engaging for every child. Our curriculum includes creative, hands-on experiences that spark curiosity and make school a place of excitement and discovery. "Fun for All" ensures that all children, regardless of background or ability, feel included, inspired, and connected. |
| **Our School Sparkling Rules** |  | |

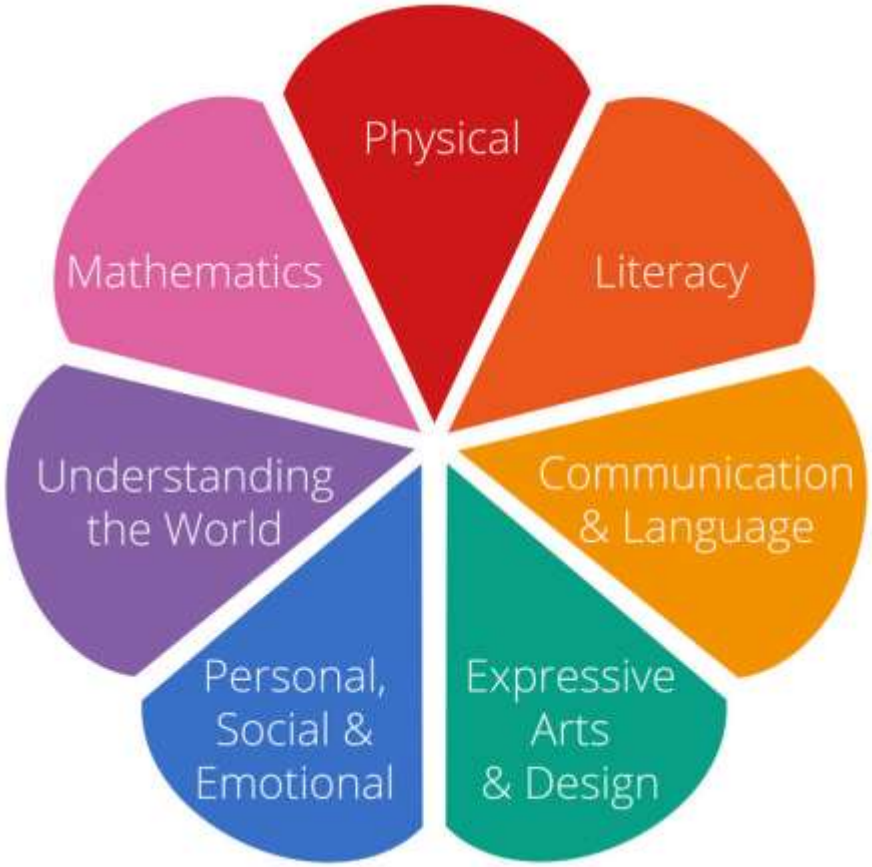
# Our Curriculum

Three **prime** areas of learning

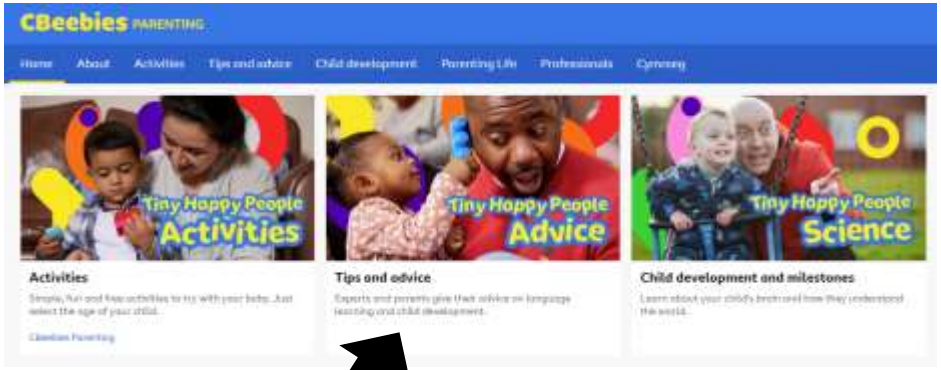
1. Communication & Language
2. Physical Development
3. Personal, Social & Emotional Development

Four **specific** areas of learning:

1. Literacy
2. Mathematics
3. Understanding the World
4. Expressive Arts & Design

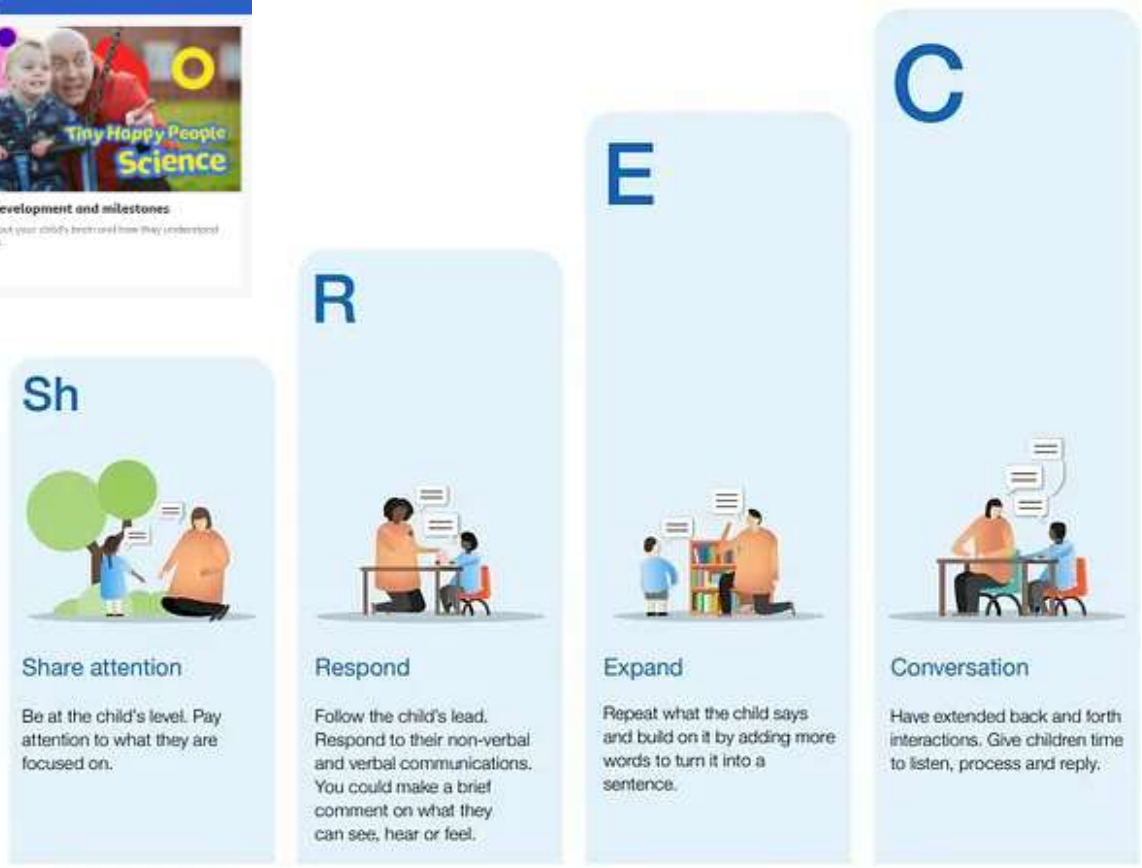


# Communication and Language




**How can you help at home?**

CBeebies Tiny happy People



# Physical Development

**Strong fingers come from a strong core!**




**How can you help at home?**

Use everyday items:
Gross motor – balance on tape, Simon says
Fine motor – tear paper, playdough

# Personal, Social and Emotional Development

1. **Learning to identify and regulate emotions**
2. **Learning to cultivate independence with personal health**
3. **Learning to build positive relationships**

**How can you help at home?**

1. Maintain routines
2. Validate feelings –
   "I can see…"
   "It sounds like…"
3. Praise the process
   "I love how hard you're trying…"

# Literacy










**How can you help at home?**

Share as many stories as possible – picture books, audiobooks, Tonie boxes, YouTube, poetry, flip/pop-out

# Maths






**How can you help at home?**

Make Maths fun! Count the stairs, match sock pairs, sort the washing into colours, bake and cook with recipes

# Understanding the World

Science

Geography

History

| Birth to Three |
| --- |
| • Repeat actions that have an effect.<br>• Explore materials with different properties.<br>• Explore natural materials, indoors and outside. |
| • Explore and respond to different natural phenomena in their setting and on trips. |
| • Make connections between the features of their family and other families. |
| • Notice differences between people. |

| Three and Four-Year-Olds |
| --- |
| • Use all their senses in hands-on exploration of natural materials.<br>• Explore collections of materials with similar and/or different properties.<br>• Talk about what they see, using a wide vocabulary. |
| • Begin to make sense of their own life-story and family's history. |
| • Show interest in different occupations. |
| • Explore how things work. |
| • Plant seeds and care for growing plants.<br>• Understand the key features of the life cycle of a plant and an animal.<br>• Begin to understand the need to respect and care for the natural environment and all living things. |
| • Explore and talk about different forces they can feel. |
| • Talk about the differences between materials and changes they notice. |
| • Continue developing positive attitudes about the differences between people. |
| • Know that there are different countries in the world and talk about the differences they have experienced or seen in photos. |

**How can you help at home?**

Hands on discovery – look at family photos, create maps, nature walks, science play (bug hotels), cooking

# Expressive Art and Design



**How can you help at home?**

Focus on the creative process over the finished product!

# Curriculum Overview

Little FOREST FRIENDS Pre-School @ Haddenham St Marys

## LFF Nursery Curriculum 2026-2027

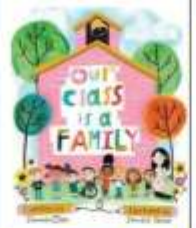
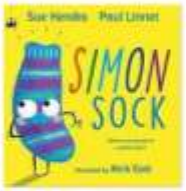
### Excellence, care and fun for all!



In **Little Forest Friends** we encourage our children to become **confident and ambitious, lifelong learners**. We aim to develop our children's skills and knowledge as well as **encouraging curiosity, aspiration and a love of learning** that will continue into adulthood. Whilst this document clearly identifies a progressive and ambitious curriculum in the early years phase, the **needs of individual children will always be considered**, and the curriculum will be adapted to meet these needs.

# Texts at home

Here is a selection of the wide range of books and texts that we share with the children to support our curriculum.

| Our Learning Behaviours<br>Supporting Texts & Stories | Collaboration | Pride | Determination | Curiosity | Independence | Creativity |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | <br> | <br> | <br> | <br><br> |  | <br> |

# Our timetable

**LFF Weekly Timetable**

| Day | Time | 8:55-9:10 | 9:10-9:20 | 9:20-10:00 | 10:00 - 10:15 | 10:15 - 11 | 11:15 - 11:25 | 11:40 – 1:10 | 1:15-1:25 | 1:25-1:40 | 1:40-2:30 | 2:30 – 2:45 | 2:45-2:55 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Monday CK, KS, KM, KB** | | Settling in →Register | Phonics / focus story/ focus song | Choosing time Key worker focus task | Maths | Choosing time Key worker focus task | Class collective worship | **L** | Settling in →Register | Music | Choosing time Focused CP tasks | Tidy-up time & nappy change | Story time |
| **Tuesday CK, KS, KM, AP** | | Settling in →Register | Phonics / focus story/ focus song | Choosing time Key worker focus task | Maths | Choosing time Key worker focus task | Class collective worship | **U** | Settling in →Register | PSED/ Spacemakers | Choosing time Focused CP tasks | | Story time |
| **Wednesday CK, KS, KM, KB** | | Settling in →Register | Phonics / focus story/ focus song | Choosing time Key worker focus task | Maths | Choosing time Key worker focus task | Class collective worship | **N** | Settling in →Register | Understanding the World | Choosing time Focused CP tasks | | Story time |
| **Thursday CK, KS, KM, AP** | | Settling in →Register | Phonics / focus story/ focus song | Choosing time Key worker focus task | Maths | Choosing time Key worker focus task | Class collective worship | **C** | Settling in →Register | PE | Choosing time Focused CP tasks | | Story time |
| **Friday CK, KS, KM, AP. GD (Afternoon PPA cover)** | | Settling in →Register | Phonics / focus story/ focus song | Choosing time Key worker focus task | Maths | Choosing time Key worker focus task | Class collective worship | **H** | Settling in →Register | Choosing time/focused CP tasks | Choosing time Focused CP tasks | | Story time |

# Key workers

Key workers will be assigned to the children by Friday 18th!









# Tapestry

- Observations and progress recorded on Tapestry
- Helps track developmental stages clearly
- Parents have access to ongoing updates

# What to bring in

- **Velcro shoes**
- **Named clothes**
- **Waterproofs** – preferably a separate top and bottom (all-in-1s are fine!)
- **Drink bottles** – no milk, squash or juice
- **Spare clothes** (at least 2 of each item of clothing)

# Snack and Lunch Time

- Healthy snacks and milk/milk alternatives will be provided to the children in the morning and afternoon.
- **Hot meal can be ordered and paid for online through School Gateway on a half termly basis**. An email will be sent to all parents two weeks before the end of each half term to view the menus and be able to book the days required.
- **Discussing what hot meals the children are having helps!**
- Any fruit or vegetables in their packed lunch or snack box to be cut into bite sizes pieces, any grapes or cherry tomatoes to be cut into quarters. **Please note we are a nut free pre-school, no Nutella/chocolate spread, nuts in cereal bars and pesto pasta sauce, etc.**

Any queries, please speak to a member of staff ☺

# Wrap around care

Happy Hedgehogs is located within the school.

Opened for breakfast between 8am to 9am and after school 3pm to 4.30pm.

Sessions can be booked online through School Gateway on a half termly basis.

**Little Forest Friends children can attend from 3 years of age**.

Any new children joining Little Forest Friends for the first time can only join from their second day with us as this helps with their settling in transition.



# Absence

If your child is absent you should contact the school by telephone (**01844 291455**) before 8.55am, giving the reason for absence.

Any cases of infectious disease or likely prolonged absence, please notify us as soon as possible.








# Any questions?