

St Margaret's Academy  
Curriculum Overview Document  
**Early Years**



**St Margaret's  
Academy**

## Welcome

Our curriculum meets the requirements set out in the Statutory Framework for the EYFS. Our curriculum planning focuses on the seven areas of learning and development, as we aim to build on children's skills and experiences.

We support the principle that young children learn through play, and by engaging in well-planned and structured activities.

Our on-going observations and assessment form an important part of our curriculum planning.

### **In Communication and Language all children....**

Should be taught to...

- Listen to stories and respond with their questions or comments
- Listen to others and respond appropriately, taking turns to speak
- Follow instructions and answer 'how' and 'why' questions
- Speak effectively for different purposes and to different audiences

By.....

- Daily opportunities with a focus on speaking and listening, taking turns and valuing the children's thoughts and ideas.
- Listening to a range of stories and information books with opportunities for children to respond through discussions and questions.
- Adults modelling and supporting children with their speaking and listening through play in our continuous provision areas, indoor and out.

### In Physical Development all children....

Should be taught to.....

- Move confidently in different ways and show control and co-ordination in both large and small movements
- Use a pencil and other tools and equipment effectively
- Know what it means to be healthy and safe
- Manage their own basic hygiene and personal needs

By.....

- Taking part in structured physical activities in PE
- Accessing a range of continuous provision activities that develop fine and gross motor control from threading and jigsaws to skittles, bikes and climbing equipment
- Using a range of equipment and tools for mark-making
- Supporting and developing children's independence within the environment
- Talking about healthy living and being safe through topic work and circle time games and discussion

### In Personal, Social & Emotional Development all children....

Should be taught to.....

- Be confident to try new activities and speak in a familiar group
- Talk about how we show our feelings
- Be aware of appropriate behaviours and the consequences of unacceptable behaviour
- Form positive relationships with adults and peers, including taking turns and playing co-operatively

By.....

- Whole class and small group discussions across all areas of the curriculum
- Opportunities for speaking to different audiences eg class assemblies

- Taking part in school trips and having the opportunity to explore new experiences through visitors to school eg fire service, Life Education Visit, Recycling workshop
- Use of different areas of the school building for things such as PE, assembly and sports day.
- Circle time and other PHSCE activities and discussions
- Use of our learning dinosaurs for demonstration of good behaviours for learning
- Adults modelling and supporting children with their speaking, listening and turn taking in our continuous provision areas, indoor and out.

### In Literacy all children....

Should be taught to.....

- Read and understand simple sentences
- Talk about what they have read
- Read and write some common irregular words and use their phonic knowledge decode and write regular words
- Write simple sentences that they can read and understand
- Have an awareness of capital letters and full stops
- Form their letters correctly

By.....

- Learning individual letter sounds and digraphs through stories and actions
- Opportunities for children to read and write in all areas of our classroom
- Having a print-rich environment
- Daily differentiated letters and sounds groups
- Modelled, guided and supported reading and writing activities
- Daily story time where children listen to a range of

books

- Visits to the library
- Adults supporting and reading with children in our reading corner and other areas of continuous provision
- Time given to hearing individual children read
- Opportunities to develop and practise handwriting

### In Mathematics all children....

Should be taught to.....

- Count and order numbers to 20
- Say a number that is one more or one less
- Add and subtract two numbers
- Solve problems involving doubling, halving and sharing
- Use everyday language to talk about size, weight, capacity, position, distance, time and money to compare quantities/objects and solve problems
- Recognise, describe and create patterns
- Use mathematical language to describe objects and shapes

By.....

- Opportunities for children to use maths in different areas of our environment eg recognise numbers, count, add and subtract, measure, use shape or make patterns
- Having focused maths sessions for the whole class, followed by guided and independent activities
- Adults supporting children, modelling mathematical language and developing children's learning in areas of continuous provision eg role-play, sand, water area
- Giving children practical problems to solve eg sharing fruit in the snack area

### In Understanding the World all children....

Should be taught to.....

- Talk about past and present events in their own lives and that of family members
- Be aware of the similarities and differences between people; of themselves and others, families, communities and cultures and be sensitive to these differences
- Identify similarities and differences in the world around them, including places, objects and material things, and talk about changes
- Recognise, select and use a range of technology for particular purposes

By.....

- Discussions through topic work
- Taking the children on school trips
- Talking to our families as well as using books and the internet to research and find the answers to our questions
- Giving the children real life experiences eg planting seeds, watching caterpillars turn into a butterfly, baking
- Using a range of technology in our school such as the interactive whiteboard, computers, learnpads, talking postcards, beebots, microphones, cameras

In Expressive Arts and Design all children....

Should be taught to.....

- Sing songs, make music and dance, and experiment with ways of changing them
- Safely use and explore a variety of materials, tools and techniques, experimenting with colour, design, texture, form and function
- Use media and materials in original ways, thinking

about uses and purposes

- Represent their own ideas, thoughts and feelings through design technology, art, music, dance, role-play and stories

By.....

- Singing songs throughout all areas of the curriculum
- Exploring dance and movement through P.E.
- Through continuous provision and focused activities where there is an opportunity for exploration using a wide variety of resources eg malleable play, creative modelling and painting.
- Having a range of resources to enable children to create/enhance their own role play experience indoors and out