



# Welcome to St Bede's Early Years Foundation Stage



## Parent Partnerships

At St Bede's, we believe that parents are a child's first educators and we recognise how important parent influence is throughout a child's time in the Early Years Foundation Stage. We aim to work closely with parents and carers, to ensure that every child has the best possible start in school and in life!

EYFS staff regularly update the Nursery and Reception **school web pages**, the **school Facebook page** and **See-Saw**, in order to keep parents updated on what their children have been getting up to. Staff also encourage parents to share significant things that have been happening at home and share what their children have achieved outside of school. This is done through **Home / School Diaries** and **WOW! Cards** - all of which contribute towards the on-going assessments of the children. Nursery children may also receive a special **postcard** home to celebrate a particular achievement. Children take home **reading books** and fun **home challenges** every week in both Nursery and Reception, in order to encourage learning at home. **Termly reports** are sent home to parents in order to inform them of their child's progress, attainment and effort and Reception class run termly **Parents' Evenings**. **Intervention Support Plans** are shared with parents, for any children who may need additional support, with advice on how parents could help their child at home. Parents are also well informed about what the children are currently learning, through the termly distribution of **Curriculum Information**.

## 'Family Phonics' Workshop

Nursery and Reception grown-ups are invited to take part in our yearly 'Family Phonics' workshop. Parents, grandparents and other relatives learn how phonics is taught in the early years and find out how they can promote phonics at home. They are then given the chance to take part in some fun, phonics activities with their children.



### 'Count Us In' Workshop

Nursery and Reception grown-ups are also invited to take part in our yearly 'Count Us In' Maths Workshop. Parents, grandparents and other relatives learn how Mathematics is taught in the early years and find out how they can promote Mathematics at home. They are then given the chance to take part in some fun, Maths activities with their children.



### Stay and Play Sessions

Parents and carers are invited to Nursery 'Stay and Play' sessions on a termly basis and a Reception 'Open Afternoon' in the summer term. Adults are given the chance to take part in some activities with their children and see them in action. Staff are available to chat about the children's progress and the children's learning journals and class floor books are available for grown-ups to look at.





### Little Rescuers

Children in Nursery and Reception take part in training to become 'Little Rescuers'. 'Little Rescuers' is a course designed to teach first aid and life-saving skills to Nursery and primary aged children through fun, play, music and teamwork. Parents and carers are invited to join in with the final 'Little Rescuers' session.



### Family Reading

Parents and carers are often invited to come and join us in the school library to share stories with their children.



## Beach / Forest School

Reception children and parents attend either "Forest School" or "Beach School" throughout the year with West Boldon Lodge. Weekly Forest School sessions are now offered on the school site to our Nursery children by Mrs McQuillin who has trained as a Forest School Leader.



## Creative Home Challenges

Nursery and Reception children are often encouraged to carry out creative challenges at home with their grown-ups, which usually include a fun, competitive aspect. This creates opportunities for interactions among our families and helps parents and pupils to realise that learning happens outside of school too.





# Visits and Visitors

## Visitors

We invite many professionals and interesting people (including parents, carers and grandparents) into our Nursery and Reception classrooms, in order to enhance the children's learning. Examples include: scientists, nurses, paramedics, police officers, fire fighters, oral health nurses, story-tellers, sports coaches, French chefs and people from a range of diverse backgrounds.



## Visits

Our children's experiences are further enhanced through opportunities to explore the wider community of which we are a part.



# British Values

## Mutual Respect and Tolerance of Different Faiths and Beliefs

We learn about other faiths, cultures, traditions, families, communities and ways of life (i.e. Diwali, Chinese New Year, Ramadan, Christmas, Easter).

We make links with the wider community (i.e. outings to local places and inviting family members or speakers in to visit).

We learn about the world around us (i.e. France, Poland, China).

## Democracy

We follow interests for topics and activities.

We vote for activity choices (i.e. stone voting at story time).

We use group times to take turns, listen to each other and value and respect the contributions made by others.

We learn that it is ok to make mistakes.

## The Rule of Law

We work together to create class rules.

We try hard to follow the class rules.

We learn how to distinguish right from wrong.

## Individual Liberty

We have opportunities to take on our own responsibilities (i.e. 'Special Helper' in Nursery, tidy up time, making our own playdough).

We share individual achievements and successes (i.e. home / school diaries, rainbow chart, sharing news, SuperStar of the Week).

We reflect upon our similarities and differences.

