

## There are seven areas of learning and development that form the Early Years Curriculum at St George's:

**Communication and Language** involves giving children opportunities to experience a rich language environment; to develop their confidence and skills in expressing themselves; and to speak and listen in a range of situations.

**Physical Development** involves providing opportunities for young children to be active and interactive; and to develop their co-ordination, control, and movement. Children must also be helped to understand the importance of physical activity, and to make healthy choices in relation to food.

**Personal, Social and Emotional Development** involves helping children to develop a positive sense of themselves, and others; to form positive relationships and develop respect for others; to develop social skills and learn how to manage their feelings; to understand appropriate behaviour in groups; and to have confidence in their own abilities.

**Literacy** involves encouraging children to link sounds and letters and to begin to read and write. Children are given access to a wide range of books and stories to enthuse and motivate. Opportunities for reading and writing are built into activities indoors and outdoors.

**Mathematics** involves providing children with opportunities to develop and improve their skills in counting, understanding and using numbers, calculating simple addition and subtraction problems; and to describe shapes, spaces, and measures.

**Understanding the World** involves guiding children to make sense of their physical world and their community through opportunities to explore, observe and find out about people, places, technology and the environment.

**Expressive Arts and Design** involves enabling children to explore and play with a wide range of media and materials, as well as providing opportunities and encouragement for sharing their thoughts, ideas and feelings through a variety of activities in art, music, movement, dance, role-play, and design and technology.

These 7 areas are used to plan the children's learning and activities. The staff at St George's plan activities and opportunities based on the children's interests and current needs, ensuring their next steps in learning are planned for to help each children progress at the rate that is suitable for them. Children in the EYFS learn by playing and exploring, being active, and through creative and critical thinking which takes place both indoors and outside. Indoors and outdoors have a carefully planned mix of adult-led and child-initiated learning opportunities to ensure children are excited, motivated, enthusiastic and engrossed by their learning, but also learning and developing the skills that are needed.

