



## Thurlstone Primary School Curriculum Intent Statement

At Thurlstone Primary School we aim to provide our children with opportunities to develop through a broad, balanced and rich curriculum which is tailored to meet their needs within the context of the community in which they live.

As a result it is our intention that children will leave Thurlstone:

- With resilience
- With lifelong learning skills essential for adulthood
- With independence
- As empathetic, responsible citizens who care about our planet
- With an appreciation of the wider world and it's cultures
- With a strong moral purpose and respect for others
- Happy and healthy in both mind and body

We believe childhood to be a happy, investigative and enquiring time in our lives, where there are no limits to curiosity and there is a thirst for new experiences and knowledge.



## Early Years Foundation Stage

The following principals are at the heart of practice in the Early Years at Thurlstone Primary School:

- A unique child
- Positive relationships
- Enabling Environments
- Learning and Development

The EYFS Curriculum consists of the seven areas of Learning and Development. The three prime areas of learning are:

- Personal, Social and Emotional Development
- Communication and Language
- Physical Development

The four specific areas of learning are:

- Mathematics
- Literacy
- Understanding of the World
- Expressive Arts and Design

The teaching of these areas of learning combines a mixture of direct, adult led, practical and playful approaches with input from adults in whole class sessions, small groups, individuals and during continuous provision. All of the crucial knowledge, skills and vocabulary within these areas are presented to the children throughout the year through our robust and structured curriculum. Our curriculum has been carefully designed to prepare children ensure that children in Reception have a secure foundation in all areas of learning in preparation for accessing the National curriculum in Year 1. Alongside direct teaching, appropriate time will be set aside for children to access continuous provision both indoors and outdoors. Considering children's natural curiosity and interests and providing time and space to investigate and initiate their own learning, plays a key part of this learning. Skillful adults carefully assess children's development and use their assessments/ observations to quickly inform next steps and ensure that



individual needs are met to secure rapid progress during access to continuous provision.

Throughout all of these areas, and specifically during time provided for children to direct their own learning, we strive to support all children in developing the 'Characteristics of Effective Learning', regardless of their starting points/ability.

Development of language and a love of books are always high on the agenda in EYFS with storytime set as an important part of the day. Social, Moral, Spiritual and Cultural development, including the promotion of British Values are at the heart of our EYFS practice.

Our learning environment is carefully considered to match the needs and interests of all of our little 'Rockets' and as the 'third teacher' helps children to acquire the knowledge and skills planned in our Early years curriculum. We aim to ensure that our environment is both stimulating and challenging, and that it allows children to develop their independence, their resilience and lifelong learning skills, not only ready for Y1, but for their rest of their time at Thurlstone and beyond!



