

Understanding the World

<p>EYFS</p> <p>Understanding the World (UTW) is one of the Specific areas of the Early Years Foundation Stage</p> <p>There are Early Learning Goals (ELG) within each area, we follow smaller steps for each pupil to support them onto their individual goals.</p> <p>Past and Present Talk about the lives of the people around them and their roles in society.</p> <p>Know some similarities and differences between things in the past and now, drawing on their experiences and what has been read in class.</p> <p>Understand the past through settings, characters and events encountered in books read in class and storytelling.</p> <p>People, Culture and Communities Describe their immediate environment using knowledge from observation, discussion, stories, non-fiction texts and maps.</p> <p>Know some similarities and differences between different religious and cultural communities in this country, drawing on their experiences and what has been read in class.</p> <p>Explain some similarities and differences between life in this country and life in other countries, drawing on knowledge from stories, non-fiction texts and (when appropriate) maps.</p> <p>The Natural World Explore the natural world around them, making observations and drawing pictures of animals and plants.</p> <p>Know some similarities and differences between the natural world around them and contrasting environments, drawing on their experiences and what has been read in class.</p> <p>Understand some important processes and changes in the natural world around them, including the seasons and changing states of matter.</p>	<p>Environment</p> <p>Within our indoor and outdoor environment, we have a range of resources available to help us develop our skills within understanding the world..</p> <p>We have; A range of people representing different cultures and abilities within our construction area Books to show a range of people, countries, cultures and celebrations Images of our children from home to help build a sense of family and similarities and differences between others A range of animals to explore in small world activities Natural and found objects collected by the children on nature walks, developing awareness of change and contrasting environments Time to celebrate birthdays and family events, sharing our home photos and weekend news</p> <p>Within our outside area we experience the elements of the weather, learning to dress appropriately for the conditions. We learn how the seasons change and notice our trees in our environment changing throughout the year.</p> <p>We experience other areas of our community through trips into the environment such as the park, the shop, churches etc this gives our children opportunities they may not have experienced before, helping them to develop their awareness of others and their environment.</p>	<p>Role of Support staff</p> <p>Our support staff encourage each pupil to engage in their surroundings and observe their interactions.</p> <p>Support staff encourage pupils to look at objects in detail, draw, write down or verbalise their findings. They read stories to the children and ask appropriate questions, encouraging them to notice similarities and differences between their environments, lives and the lives of others.</p>
<p>Assessment</p> <p>To guide our planning and identify where each child is at in their developmental journey, we use the new Development matters. For smaller steps of progress within the three prime areas we use an EYFS Developmental Journal.</p> <p>Each student has their individual 'next steps' within the seven areas of learning. We use one next step, for Literacy reading, writing and Maths along with next steps for their support and development of life skills. These targets create their bespoke 'My Plan' which is reviewed termly in collaboration with families.</p> <p>Following our assessment, we analyse the data to show us the gaps and strengths of our cohort of children. From this we redevelop and enhance our learning environments in order to support and challenge our students based on where their gaps and strengths lie.</p> <p>Upon entry as an EYFS student, we baseline their starting points according to the new Statutory Reception Baseline Assessment.</p>	<p>Observations</p> <p>We observe child led play throughout the day as well as assessing our adult led activities, enabling us to reflect on the learning and develop next steps.</p> <p>All observations are recorded on our Evidence for Learning assessment tool, providing a learning journey for each pupil within this area. This is also shared with our families, giving them an important insight into their child's learning and progress.</p>	<p>Awareness Days</p> <p>Through our celebrations and marking of awareness days, we promote understanding the world opportunities according to the event. Eg; festive celebrations, memorials, religious events, celebration of birthdays and family events</p>