

## Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) Policy

At Brook Green Nursery, we recognise that a child's early years lay the foundations for their future learning, wellbeing, and success. The experiences children have during this formative period shape their confidence, curiosity, and attitudes towards themselves, others, and the wider world. We believe that the first five years of life are developmentally unique and profoundly important, with many essential skills and abilities emerging only during this time.

To ensure every child receives the highest quality early education, we follow the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) framework. This statutory framework sets the standards for learning, development, and care for children from birth to five. For more information about the EYFS, please visit [www.foundationyears.org.uk](http://www.foundationyears.org.uk)

### Our Approach to Learning and Development

Children's learning does not happen in isolation. For this reason, we take a holistic, child-centred approach when planning our curriculum and creating individual learning plans. Every child develops at their own pace, with different interests and strengths emerging at different times. We celebrate this individuality and tailor our practice to meet each child's unique needs.

For our youngest children, we ensure the nursery feels like a home-from-home environment. They are not at school yet, so activities are designed to be fun, engaging, and optional, allowing children to explore freely and participate at their own comfort level.

### Learning Through Play

We believe that children learn best through hands-on, meaningful experiences. Our curriculum encourages children to:

- Explore their environment
- Make choices
- Take appropriate risks
- Learn from mistakes
- Develop independence
- Build confidence and resilience

Both our indoor and outdoor spaces are thoughtfully planned to support exploration, creativity, and problem-solving. Children are encouraged to follow

their interests, engage in open-ended play, and develop a lifelong love of learning.

## **The Early Years Foundation Stage Areas of Learning**

The EYFS identifies seven Areas of Learning and Development, which reflect the interconnected nature of children's growth, learning, and the environments in which they are cared for and educated.

### **The Three Prime Areas**

These areas are fundamental to children's development and form the foundation for learning in all other areas. They support children's curiosity, confidence, communication, and ability to form relationships.

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

### **The Four Specific Areas**

As children grow, the Prime Areas help them develop skills in four additional areas. These areas provide important opportunities for children to broaden their knowledge and deepen their understanding of the world around them.

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

### **Our Commitment**

Our aim is to nurture confident, capable, and enthusiastic learners who feel secure, valued, and inspired. By following the EYFS and embracing each child's individuality, we create a rich, meaningful, and joyful early learning experience that supports children's development in every area.