



Early Years Foundation Stage

Intent

At Burford, we provide a high-quality EYFS education giving children a secure and confident start to their school life. We are committed to nurturing a lifelong love of learning alongside the aims of the EYFS statutory framework. We strive for high standards, consider the development of the whole child, and seek to foster resilience and independence.

We aim to provide the essential knowledge that children need to prepare them for their future success and give children the best possible start to their early education.

We provide inviting learning environments both indoors and outdoors to stimulate learners. These spaces are designed to maximise child engagement in developing the three 'Characteristics of Effective Learning' as set out within the EYFS.

Staffing and organisation

At Burford, we have two Reception classes which cater for 60 children. Children come to our school from a range of local pre-school settings and nurseries including our own school nursery.

The EYFS curriculum encompasses our school motto....

Enjoy, Achieve, succeed together

We carefully plan our curriculum to meet the following aims:

- To provide a learning environment where there is a friendly, supportive, and inviting atmosphere in which every child feels secure, valued and confident.
- To develop and establish the building blocks of learning, to create a strong foundation for the development of independent lifelong learning.

- To provide a broad, balanced, and challenging curriculum that is planned around the needs and interests of every child and is informed using ongoing observational assessments.
- To empower our children to be independent, well-rounded individuals who have a love of learning and seek challenge in everything that they do.
- To encourage parental involvement and strive for an open-door approach, recognising the parents are the children's first and most enduring educators.
- To promote good quality partnerships between the school, children, parents/carers, and outside agencies to ensure the development of each child.
- To support each child to develop socially, physically, intellectually and emotionally through high expectations, praise, consistency and positivity.

Implementation

- Quality first teaching across all areas of the curriculum.
- Stimulating learning environments indoors and outdoors.
- Well planned and organised continuous provision which allows the children to learn through play.
- A carefully planned balance of adult-led and child-initiated learning opportunities.
- We promote a love of learning through real life experiences and opportunities to build on prior learning.
- Close links with local nurseries which support a smooth and settled transition into school.

- Strong parental partnerships which empower parents to support their child's learning at home.
- Systematic approaches to teaching reading to ensure all children learn to read. High quality phonics teaching is started as soon as children begin reception.
- Opportunities for children and families to develop a love of reading.
- Planned opportunities for outdoor learning through 'Forest Schools' and in the outdoor classroom.

Impact

Children feel safe and happy and enjoy coming to school.

- High levels of engagement and motivation demonstrated from children which supports them to become lifelong learners.
- Confident and capable readers who demonstrate a love of reading.
- Evidence of strong links with parents.
- Children demonstrate the characteristics of effective learning and are well prepared for their next stage in learning.
- All children access a balanced and challenging curriculum regardless of their background, needs or abilities.
- Children make strong progress from their starting points and are offered a broad curriculum which meets each child's needs.
- Children are supported by adults who are well trained and passionate about providing the best education for each child.