

Sir Edmund Hillary Academy – EYFS curriculum Rationale

Intent – why do we do what we do?	Implementation – how do we do it?	Impact – what have we achieved?
		
At Sir Edmund Hillary, we believe that all children deserve memorable learning experiences that enthuse and motivate them to learn. Our curriculum is ambitious and inclusive so all children, regardless of their starting points, achieve well at the start of their learning journey. We provide learning experiences that enable our children to become curious and independent learners who want to know and remember more. We pride ourselves in providing a safe environment where children develop a sense of belonging and become part of the Sir Edmund Hillary community. We prioritise opportunities for children to develop their communication skills in a language-rich environment. From day one, children are taught to read through Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised because we know reading is the key to success across the curriculum. Our children leave the Early Years as caring individuals who have a love of learning and have developed the skills and knowledge needed to be successful in Year 1.	The EYFS curriculum is broken down into the seven areas of learning, including the three prime areas and four specific areas. Each half term, we use engaging themes and high-quality texts to inspire learning. Activities are planned around what we want children to know, understand and do. Children access the curriculum through a balance of adult-led teaching, teacher-guided sessions and high-quality continuous provision. Our indoor and outdoor learning environments are carefully planned and adapted to meet the needs of all children. Opportunities encourage children to develop independence, curiosity and resilience, while adults skillfully support and extend learning.	The progress children make from their exposure to our curriculum is how we judge its impact. Regular assessment takes place through observations, conversations, questioning and reviews of children's work and play. Our aim is that all pupils reach the Early Learning Goals by the end of Reception, regardless of their starting points. Evidence is collected throughout the year and demonstrates children's progress across all areas of learning. Children leave Reception as confident, independent learners who are equipped with the skills, knowledge and attitudes required for a successful transition into Year 1.