



## Introducing the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)

Children develop quickly in the early years, and at Green Hedges we use the EYFS to monitor and report on your child's progress. We will do all we can to help your child have the best possible start to life. We talk to you informally on a day to day basis and welcome you sharing what your child has been doing at home with us as well.

Each child is unique and their development will differ from each other. As part of our ongoing formative assessments of your child's learning, staff will provide a stimulating environment to help develop their personalities, talents and abilities. The EYFS has four themes which underpin and influence the way we work so that

**A Unique Child + Positive Relationships + Enabling Environments  
= Learning and Development**

The EYFS is divided into areas of learning and development together with a series of additional overall characteristics of learning. The tables below show this in more detail. The key focus for under threes are the prime areas and these gradually expand with your child's learning and development.

Area of Learning and Development	Aspect
<b>Prime Areas</b>	
Personal, Social and Emotional Development	Making relationships
	Self-confidence and self-awareness
	Managing feelings and behaviour
Physical Development	Moving and handling
	Health and self-care
Communication and Language	Listening and attention
	Understanding
	Speaking
<b>Specific areas</b>	
Literacy	Reading
	Writing
Mathematics	Numbers
	Shape, space and measure
Understanding the World	People and communities
	The world
	Technology
Expressive Arts and Design	Exploring and using media and materials
	Being imaginative

<b>Characteristics of Effective Learning</b>
<p><b>Playing and exploring - engagement</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Finding out and exploring</li> <li>Playing with what they know</li> <li>Being willing to 'have a go'</li> </ul>
<p><b>Active learning - motivation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Being involved and concentrating</li> <li>Keeping trying</li> <li>Enjoying achieving what they set out to do</li> </ul>
<p><b>Creating and thinking critically - thinking</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Having their own ideas</li> <li>Making links</li> <li>Choosing ways to do things</li> </ul>

Within Green Hedges we track and monitor children's learning and development through the areas and characteristics of the EYFS and this is recorded digitally. You will be sent an activation email from **Green Hedges 2 build a profile**. Once this is accepted parents will then be on the mailing list to receive their children's observations. Observations will be emailed out three times a year i.e. autumn term observations will be sent out the 1<sup>st</sup> week in January. Parents can comment on their child's learning through replying to the 2 build a profile email. If you wish to view their child's observations all they have to do is speak to your child's key-person who will be happy to help.

Each term we take the opportunity to meet together formally and discuss your child's development at a 'Parents evening' you will be able to book an appointment with your child's key person and discuss your child's learning at home and nursery. This will be at a mutually agreed time for you and your key person.