



# DOLPHINHOLME CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

## EARLY YEARS FOUNDATION STAGE:

### INTENT, IMPLEMENTATION and IMPACT STATEMENT

December 2021

#### Mission Statement:

**With God at the heart of everything we do, we educate by encouraging a sense of wonder, praise and mutual respect. We offer every child opportunities for success, making them confidently equipped for life's journey.**

#### Intent

At Dolphinholme we believe that early childhood education provides the essential foundation for all future learning. As a Church of England Primary School we are above all committed to equipping children with an inner moral compass based on Christian values, empowering them to take the lead and navigate life with honesty, compassion and confidence. The well-being of the child is paramount. Where there are competing priorities, early years' professionals act as advocates for the child based on sound pedagogical principles. We are committed to ensuring that children are safe and healthy, make positive contributions, enjoy and achieve. We adapt our curriculum to take into consideration the interests and needs of the individual child. Both our indoor and outdoor provision allows children to explore, play and interact with our immediate local area. Good practice sees the child as central to the direction, pace and content of their learning. We aim to prepare our children to achieve the Early learning Goals at the end of the foundation stage year. It is our ultimate aim to prepare our children with the knowledge, skills and understanding so that they are prepared and ready for the next stage of their learning journey in Year One.

#### Implementation

Our curriculum follows the Early Years Statutory Framework for the Early years Foundation Stage. This document specifies the requirements for learning and development in the EYFS and provides the prime and specific areas of learning we must cover in our curriculum. Through our knowledge of each child and formative assessments the EYFS team (Little Dolphins and Reception) plan exciting and engaging activities that will move the children's learning forward. This may involve following a class theme where we take advantage of cross curricular links in order to combine transferable skills and develop a wide-ranging



vocabulary which underpins the children's learning. This may also include following individual children's interests and making the most of those focused moments where the teaching and learning can be maximised in a one to one way with teacher and child. Each year creates its own unique blend of whole class, guided, adult directed play and child-initiated play activities depending on the nature and needs of the class of individuals. Children in EYFS learn by playing and exploring, being active and thinking critically and creatively and this takes place both indoors and in our outdoor area. Our outdoor areas are open all year round and in all but the most challenging weather conditions. Children make their own decisions about where they learn best and teachers ensure that there are opportunities for all areas of learning both inside and outside. Throughout the year we take our children into the Dolphinholme community to observe changes through the seasons, visits to church and walks to the park or village hall.

The EYFS team collect evidence of children's learning through observations, photos and videos which are shared with parents daily using the Evidence Me online system. This means that parents can engage with children regularly about their learning and can contribute to the knowledge we have of the child in school. Parents are very active and love to use Evidence Me to record the milestones children make at home during the year.

Staff at Little Dolphins and School have close, positive relationships. We liaise closely to ensure progression across the early years. There are times within the school year where Pre-school children join in a short P.E session and we often collaborate together with visitors or educational visits where appropriate to enhance our children's learning experiences.

### **Impact**

Our children have varied and diverse starting points. Therefore, we have high expectations to ensure that all children make 'strong progress' across all the areas of the EYFS curriculum. The impact of the EYFS curriculum at Dolphinholme is reflected in having well rounded and happy children who transit confidently into Year One. Our children embrace the 'Golden Rules' which link to our Christian Values and demonstrate these by acting them out in daily life.

We measure progress and children's learning across the year through formative and summative assessment which are based on the teacher's knowledge of the child, photographs and videos on Evidence Me. At the end of EYFS our children;

- have strong communication skills, both written and verbal. Our children also listen respectfully and with tolerance to the views of others,
- take pride in all that they do, always striving to do their best,
- demonstrate emotional resilience and the ability to persevere when they encounter challenge,
- develop a sense of self-awareness and become confident in their own abilities, are kind, respectful and honest, demonstrate inclusive attitudes and have a sense of their role in our wider society.

