

Colney Heath School Foundation Stage

Inspire, Encourage, Enthuse, Enable



At Colney Heath we develop a curriculum framework around the seasons of the year. Alongside this, staff identify children's experiences and interests then plan activities that will engage and challenge them. We have high expectations of all learners and support all children to make the best possible progress.

The timetable is a mixture of adult directed and child-initiated sessions. During adult directed sessions identified focused skills are explicitly taught such as phonics and numeracy. During child-initiated sessions children choose the direction of their own play alongside adults who act as play partners to support and extend children's learning.

Play underpins the Foundation Stage and takes place indoors and outside. Through these different environments children explore and discover the world around them. Through play they develop language and social skills and their imagination. Through play children learn to take risks and persevere. At Colney Heath we plan the environment to be open ended, hands on and engaging. It is organised and accessible to enable children to be independent in managing their own play.

Four key curriculum ambitions for our children

To understand how to be a successful member of a community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To show kindness and care for others • To form positive relationships • To share and take turns • To use social pleasantries such as please and thank you • To listen to others • To know right from wrong • To resolve conflict in appropriate ways
To be excited about books and have a secure knowledge of stories and rhymes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To choose to engage with stories • To recite some familiar rhymes/songs • To retell some familiar stories • To sequence a story • To adapt or invent their own storytelling during play
To travel over, under and through apparatus with confidence and control	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To hold own body weight • To have strong core balance • To have good spatial awareness • To understand about safety of self and others
To use tools and equipment with good coordination and dexterity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To mix and pour between containers • To thread and use tweezers effectively • To cut using a continuous motion • To make purposeful marks with a range of materials • To write using a tripod pen grip