



# Spring Vale Primary School Foundation Stage Starting in Nursery Class



**T**ogether  
**E**veryone  
**A**chieving  
**M**ore

Spring Vale Primary School,  
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**Headteacher:**  
Mr C Blunt



**Deputy Headteacher:**  
Miss K Manning



**Assistant Headteacher:**  
Mr T Kelly

**Chair of Governors :**  
Mr M West

**Foundation Stage Governor:**  
Mr I Crennan

Welcome to Spring Vale Primary School, where you will find a happy and committed staff team who work very hard to help all children achieve their full potential. We value the role parents play in their child's education and work very much in partnership with them in order to equip our children with the skills they need for life. If you have any concerns, then please come and talk to us about them. By working together we achieve more.



## Welcome to our School and our Foundation Stage Unit

Our Nursery is part of our Foundation Unit where the children's ages range between 3 – 5 years.

### Staff in Foundation Stage Teaching Staff



**Miss White**  
Nursery Teacher



**Miss Brown**  
Reception Teacher



**Mrs Vawer**  
Foundation Stage Manager



**Mrs Smith**  
Reception Teacher

### Support Staff



**Miss Harper**  
Higher Level  
Teaching Assistant



**Mrs Dobson**  
Teaching Assistant



**Mrs Mallhi**



**Mrs Jakhu**

Bi-Lingual Teaching Assistants

**Nursery sessions:** Morning: 8.30 am – 11.30 am  
Afternoon: 12.15 pm – 3.15 pm

Our Nursery class is part of our Foundation Unit where the children's ages range between 3 – 5 years. The nursery group home base is in Acorn Room and our older (full-time reception) children are based in Buttercups and Daisies rooms. The children will have opportunity to work together and activities are carefully structured to enable each child to access them at an appropriate level. Each group is staffed by a teacher and a teaching assistant.

Mrs Jakhu and Mrs Mallhi are available for parents who require translation.

### Our Aims:

To provide a happy, stimulating and secure environment for children where an interest in learning can be fostered and developed in the belief that children learn through exploration and discovery.

Supported by caring and interested adults, we aim to develop an enquiring mind and a desire to know, which will lay the foundation for the rest of the child's life.

The children are encouraged to share, take turns and play with their friends. They are also expected to speak to adults and their friends appropriately and take care of resources. It is an important part of your child's education and will help them to make a good start in school.

Focussing on the whole child – learning and development – our aims are to encourage children to be:

-  Confident
-  Independent
-  Busy
-  Co-operative
-  Communicative
-  Happy
-  Contented

## Play

Play is very important in the foundation years – play is “work”! Children are learning as they play:-

- 🌀 In the shop they learn to recognise and use money
- 🌀 Completing a puzzle, they match and fit colours and shapes and learn to think logically
- 🌀 When cooking and preparing food they learn about co-operating, measuring, counting and time

Play is structured to develop learning and activities are planned to provide children with first hand experiences.

Free play is also important to enable children to express themselves at their own level. Opportunities are provided for children to make their own choices where to play and access resources and equipment themselves.



## Talking

Talking and listening are very important skills. We encourage children to talk to adults and with each other and it is important for them to feel able to talk freely. Children are encouraged to talk about what they are doing in small and large groups, to ask questions and express their own opinions.

Listening is given equal importance. Children are encouraged to listen when someone is talking and to take turns in conversation.

Children like to bring things in from home to tell us about or we often ask them to bring in items of a specific colour or sound for our display table. Each week there a notice in our notice board telling parents and carers what the focus for the week is.



Investigating together

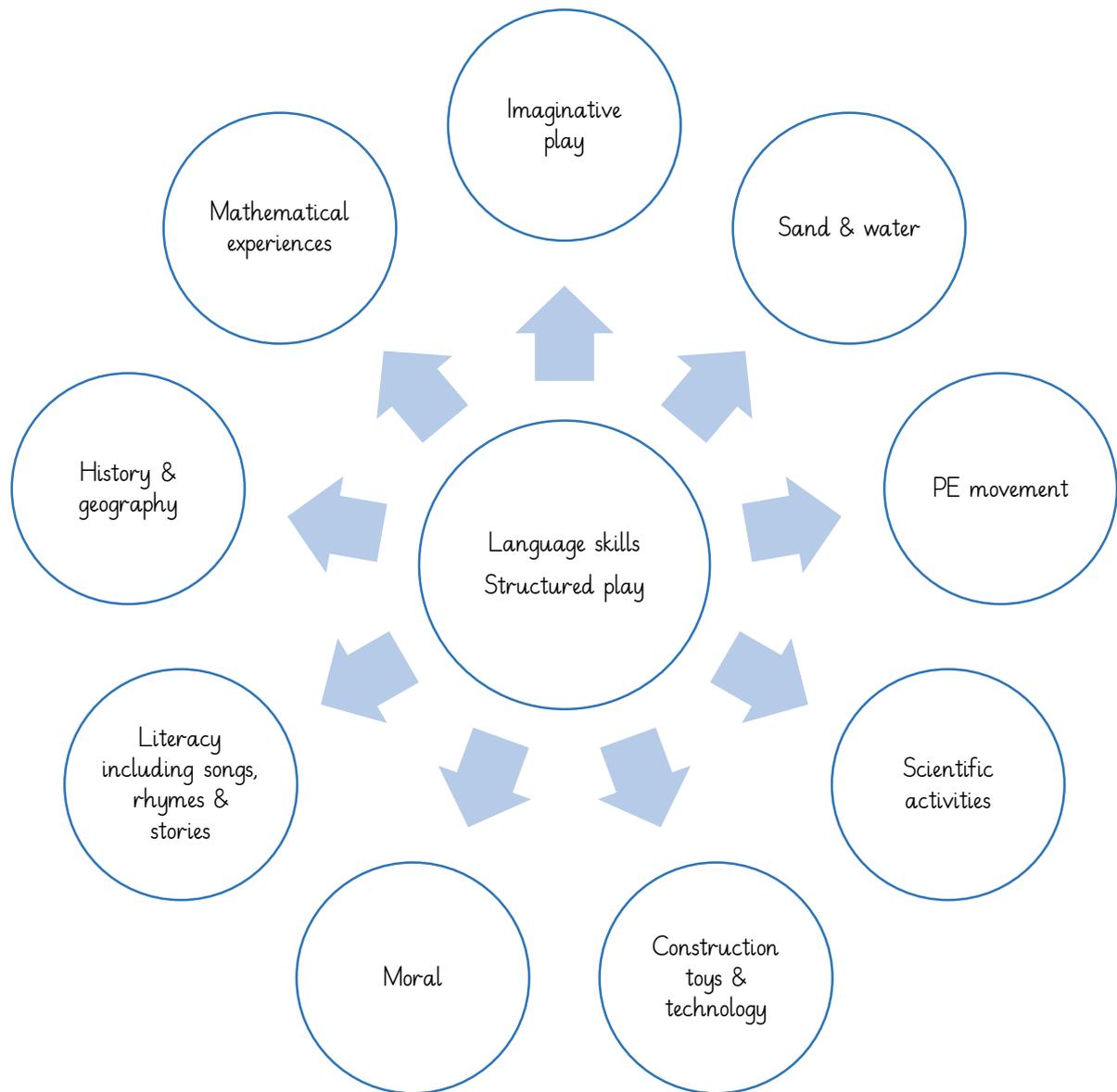
### What will your child be doing?

There will be a balance between adult directed activities and activities that your child can choose to do for themselves. Adults will support their play and investigation while encouraging your child's independence. All the activities are structured to ensure that all children are able to access them and progress at their own rate.



Working co-operatively with each other

## Activities



## **PE**

Children go into the hall for PE once a week to use the large apparatus and experience working in a larger space.

They will change into their shorts, t-shirt and pumps.



## Outdoor Play

The outdoor curriculum is an important part of Foundation Stage and so activities are planned to include the outdoor area and the Forest School. Please don't get upset if your child comes home dirty!



## Messy Play

Paint, glue, chinks, play-doh and felt pens are used every day in Foundation Stage! Sometimes with an adult but children are encouraged to use them for themselves.

All of our paint is and felt pens are washable.



## How can you help?

It is helpful to us and encourages greater independence if your child can:

- 🌀 Go to the toilet independently, please encourage them to flush the toilet and wash their hands
- 🌀 Put on their coat
- 🌀 Undress and dress – we go into the hall for PE once a week
- 🌀 Put on their pumps and shoes – **if possible please buy shoes and pumps with Velcro fastening**

## What does your child need to bring?

- 🌀 Pump bag with shorts, tee shirt and pumps. Please name all the items
- 🌀 A spare pair of underwear in case of accidents
- 🌀 **We collect 50p each week** which is used to buy things like tissues and cooking ingredients

## Home Activities

We have a range of books for you to share with your child at home.

Each week your child will bring home a book to read and an activity to do in their Busy Book. Please read and do the activity **together**.

When you read the book help your child to hold the book the right way up and turn the pages carefully. Talk about the pictures and point to the words as you say them.

### Reading in the book corner



## Partnership with Parents:

We aim to foster good relationships with parents/carers, children and staff based on mutual respect and co-operation.

Please see any of the staff if you have any concerns or if there is anything that occurs that you think we need to know about, such as moving house or a change in family circumstances.

We are always available before and after the sessions and we are happy to answer any questions you may have. Parents/carers are given post-its to write non-urgent messages to the teacher and place in the wallet outside the class.

There is also an opportunity each term for parents to come to school to discuss their child's progress.

We hope that your child will be happy in our school and enjoy their learning.



## Attendance and Punctuality

Please try to ensure that your child is here for the start of the session – late arrivals cause disruption and it is upsetting for your child if they arrive after everyone else. It is also important they are collected on time – again, it causes distress if your child thinks that they have been forgotten. Staff also need to have their lunch and prepare for the next session. Children will only be handed over to a known adult so please let us know if someone different to yourself is picking up your child.

Please inform us of any change of address or telephone number in case we need to contact you.



## Uniform

Children in nursery are asked to wear a sweatshirt and a light blue polo shirt with the school logo on (purchased from Ron Flowers Sports in Wolverhampton) with **joggers** or **pull on trousers**. Children go outside whatever the weather so please make sure that your child comes in suitable outdoor clothes that they are able to put on for themselves.

## Absence:

If your child is absent for any reason please let us know

- ☉ By telephone - 01902 556589
- ☉ By email – [springvaleprimaryschool@wolverhampton.gov.uk](mailto:springvaleprimaryschool@wolverhampton.gov.uk)
- ☉ Note in the Home Links book

## Leave of Absence

The Governing Body of Spring Vale Primary School are keen to maintain the school's very good attendance record. Our policy for leave of absence taken during term time is in line with Local and National guidelines.

## Thinking of taking your child out of school during term time

Legislation introduced in September 2013 states that any application for holiday (this is now called leave of absence) must be in exceptional circumstances and must be approved by the Headteacher in advance of the leave being taken. The Headteacher must be satisfied that the circumstances warrant the granting of leave.

The current law does not allow parents to take their child(ren) out of school during term time. Parents can be fined for taking their child(ren) out of school during term time without consent from the school.

Further information can be obtained from the school office.

To help you at home :

### Letter formation

At school we begin writing by encouraging children to make their own marks – many adults would call it “scribble”!! Please encourage this at home too but if your child wants to write their name it is helpful if the correct letter formation is taught from the beginning.

A a B b C c D d E e F f G g H h I i

J j K k L l M m N n O o P p Q q R r

S s T t U u V v W w X x Y y Z z

### Numerical Formation

All numerals start at the top.

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9



Thank you for taking the time to read through this booklet. Children start their learning journey as soon as they are born. We are just part of this journey which will last the rest of their lives. We believe that by working together as partners in learning we can achieve so much more.

