



# Welcome to Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)



Hermitage Primary School  
Focused on Excellence; Surrounded by Care

We focus on academics, with a strong pastoral focus.

This includes exploring:

- Behaviour
- Self regulation
- Feelings and emotions
- Working as a team
- Being a life long learner



At Hermitage, we realise that our children need more than just an excellent academic education to succeed and prosper.

Hence, our values are developed through our bespoke S.M.I.L.E. Programme.

We believe all our children should have / be:

**S**ocially confident

**M**entally wealthy

**I**ntellectually curious

**L**ife long aspiration

**E**motionally regulated



# Our Caring Code



Hermitage Primary School

## Our Caring Code

Always be kind  
and helpful



Treat everyone  
and everything  
with respect



Fulfil  
responsibilities  
with care and  
attention



Be the BEST that  
you can be!



The Reception classes create their own 'Golden Rules' which are linked to Our Caring Code.

These rules are discussed as a class and referred to during Circle Time and PHSE lessons.



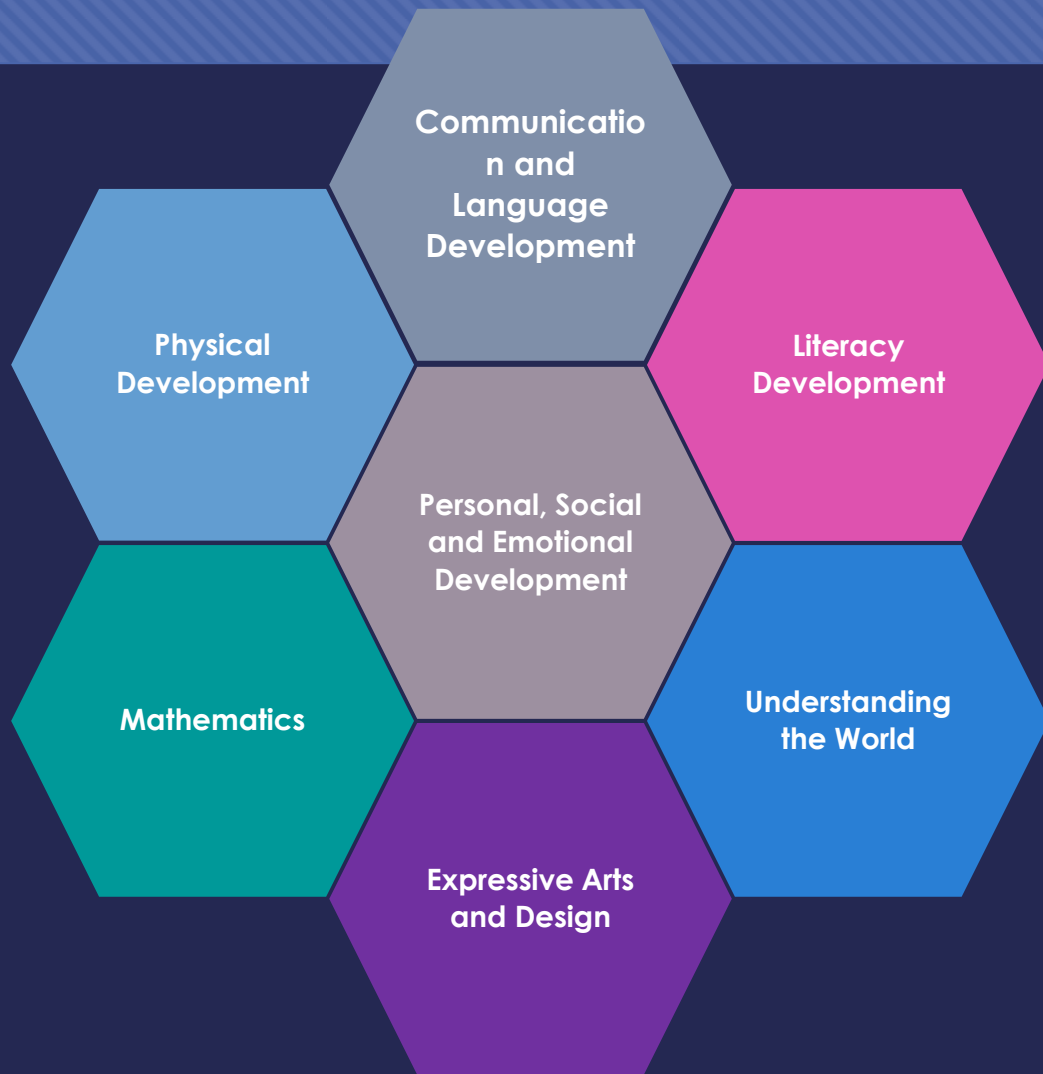
We value the importance of child-led exploring.

We let children learn through their play, explore the activities around them and apply their learning from structures carpet sessions.

Every half term, the children are introduced to a new 'I wonder' question, which they explore. For example, I wonder what is underground? The children share what they know and the planning links to the children's interest, ideas and what they want to find out.



# The EYFS Curriculum



We also value the importance of Cultural Capital – what children can learn outside the classroom.

We go on trips, have speakers and visitors come to the classroom and offer clubs for the children to take part in.

## Playing and Exploring – Engagement –

- Finding out and exploring
- Playing with what they know
- Being willing to 'have a go'

## Active Learning – Engagement –

- Being involved and concentrating
- Keeping trying
- Enjoying achieving what they set out to do

## Creating & Thinking Critically – Thinking –

- Having their own ideas
- Making Links
- Choosing ways to do things

# Early Reading in EYFS

In EYFS we encourage Early Reading from the very early stages from Nursery through to Reception. Through continuous provision the children have access to a wide range of books.

We follow the Read Write Inc. phonics scheme from Reception-Year 2, this involves *Read Write Inc. Phonics* includes reading books written using only the letters they have learnt at each level (and a small number of separately taught tricky words).

We also follow the Oxford Owl reading scheme which allows parents and pupils to access the reading books weekly that your child has read during their phonics sessions that week.



What's important  
to us...?





# Routines

## Morning

Registration – 8.35-8.45am  
Early Work – 8.45-9.00am  
Phonics – 9.00-9.30am  
Carpet Session – New Learning  
Independent Learning Time  
Story Time  
Lunch – 11.30-12.30pm

## Afternoon

Registration and Mindfulness  
Carpet Session (New Learning)  
Independent Learning  
Daily Circle Time  
Home Time – 3.15pm



We would love all our Reception children to try the hot lunches that we provide.

We understand that some children have allergies, so if this is the case, then this should be discussed with the class teacher.

We ask that all children are provided with a packed lunch in the first week of term, this will allow the school time to add your child to our school systems so that you may order your child's hot meal in advance.



# Communication

**Website** – Our website is regularly updated with news and events for parents to access

**Email** – We will send all official school communication home by email. If parents wish to contact the school, they should email **[office@hermitageprimary.org.uk](mailto:office@hermitageprimary.org.uk)**

**Class DoJo** – Is a mobile app that allows Teachers to communicate news from the classroom. This is also a quick and easy way for parents to get a message to the class teacher during the day.

**At the Door** – Members of our Senior Leadership Team (SLT) are visible in the morning and afternoons as you drop your child to and from school.

# Parent Partnerships

**Look and Learn Sessions** – Parents are invited to stay at school to learn alongside their children in the classroom

**Performances** – Parents are invited in to school to see their child's assemblies and performances.

**Parent Information Sessions** – Parents are invited in to school for informal information sessions, where they can ask questions and get to know other parents with children in Early Years.

**Parent Speakers** – We encourage parents to come in to school on cultural days, so that they can speak about their family, culture and traditions.

**Sports Day** – Parents are invited every summer to watch their children participate in sports day.



# How you can help your Child



# How you can help your Child

**It is very important that you encourage your child to be independent and to praise them for their achievements.**

Before your child starts, you should ensure they are able to use the toilet by themselves.

## **Mornings**

Set our a good morning routine, which includes a healthy breakfast.

Make sure your child uses the toilet before school, washes, cleans their teeth, brushes their hair and gets dressed ready for school. Encourage them to do these things by themselves so that they learn their routine and can learn to do it independently.

# FIVE ESSENTIAL THINGS YOU DO EVERY DAY THAT HELP YOUR CHILD'S GROWING BRAIN

## FIVE TO THRIVE

Respond • Cuddle • Relax • Play • Talk

Do these five things each time you interact with your child from the time they are born and you will help to grow a healthy, strong and confident child.



MY BRAIN GROWS  
BETTER WHEN YOU  
**RESPOND** TO ME

I feel safe when I hear your voice, you look at me and you are close to me.

I learn from watching and interacting with you, other children and adults.



MY BRAIN GROWS  
BETTER WHEN  
YOU **CUDDLE** ME

I feel most safe when I get the contact I need with an adult who loves me.

I learn when you spend time singing songs and rhymes with me.



MY BRAIN GROWS  
BETTER WHEN YOU  
**RELAX** WITH ME

When you are calm, I am calm.

I learn from you sharing stories and books with me.



MY BRAIN GROWS  
BETTER WHEN YOU  
**PLAY** WITH ME

Toys are great but the best toy in the world for me is you.

I learn when you give me opportunities to play and become independent, so let me have a go.



MY BRAIN GROWS  
BETTER WHEN  
YOU **TALK** TO ME

I learn from the sound of your voice. The more you talk to me, the more I copy you.

I need you to listen to me and take notice of what I am trying to say.

# How you can help your Child

## Evenings

When you collect your child from school, talk to them about their day and their experiences at school. You can use the class DoJo app to share pictures with them that their teacher has posted during the day.

Sometimes, children are too tired to talk about their day - and that is fine. Be positive by saying something like 'you must have had a busy day of playing and learning today'. This shows your child you are interested and proud that they are doing well at school.

When your child has rested and had their evening meal, read with them, not only will this support their love of reading but it will be part of their going to bed routine.

Make sure your child has a good night's sleep. Sleep is important for your child's health, growth and development. When children get enough good-quality sleep, they're more settled and happy during the day. Getting the right amount of sleep also strengthens your child's immune system and reduces the risk of infection and illness. It is recommended that children in Early Years have at least 10 hours sleep per night.

Please let us know if your child has had a bad night or something has happened at home so that we are aware.



# School Rules

## School Uniform

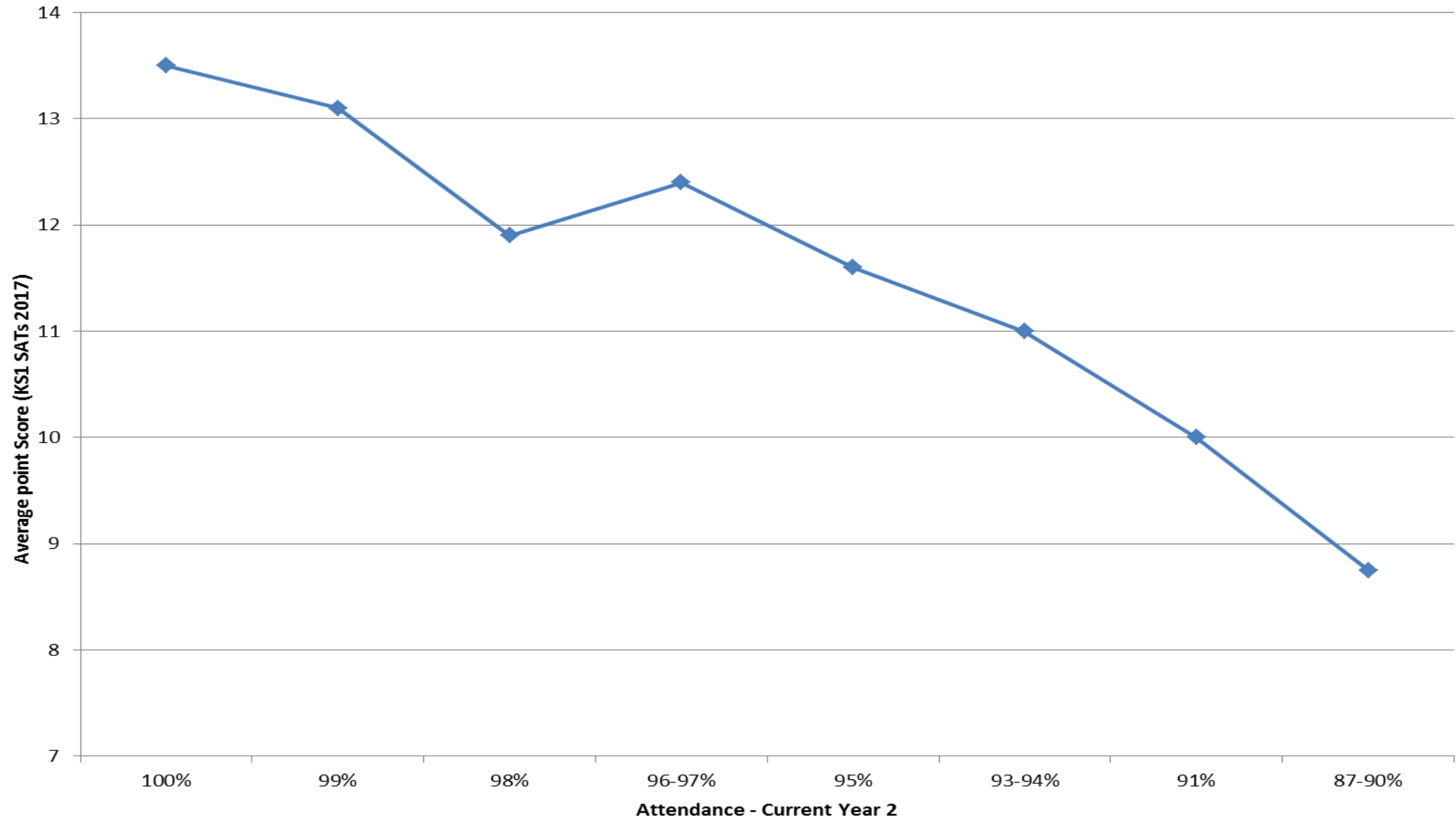
School uniform is compulsory at Hermitage Primary School and can be ordered through a link in the 'Parent Information section, under the 'Uniform' tab.

## Attendance

All children of statutory school age are expected to be at school every day, unless there are exceptional circumstances. If your child is not going to be at school, then email **[absence@hermitageprimary.org.uk](mailto:absence@hermitageprimary.org.uk)** with your child's name and the reason for the absence should be sent by 9.30am latest.

School's are required, by law, to record any school absences. Those that are not explained are recorded as 'unauthorised'. If a child is persistently absent, the Local Authority will make contact with the parents.

## How attendance affects attainment 2017



# School Rules (continued)

## **Punctuality**

Children are expected to be to school on time each day.

Being on time, set a good routine for the day. Your child has time to put their bag and coat away and to settle on the carpet for registration before receiving instruction on what the morning's learning will be.

As an adult, Imagine turning up to a room full of people at a meeting who are all prepared and prepped for the day and you arrive late?! How would it make you feel when the door opens and everyone looks at you? How would it make you feel if you didn't know what you were doing, as you had missed the first part of the meeting? How disruptive would this be to you and your colleagues?

This is what your child experiences when they are late for school!

# School Rules (continued)

## Parent Code of Conduct

The Head of School, Staff and Governing Body take their responsibility for positive parental relationships very seriously.

At Hermitage, we are extremely fortunate to have supportive and friendly parents, as our parents recognise that educating our children involves an effective partnership that will equip our children with the necessary skills for adulthood.

For these reasons, we continue to welcome and encourage parents to participate fully in the life of our school and their child's education. The purpose of our Parental Code of Conduct is to provide a reminder to all parents and visitors to our school of the expected conduct. This is so we can all continue to develop and achieve in an atmosphere of mutual understanding and respect.

To see out complete Parental Code of Conduct Policy, please go to the Parent Section of our website.



# We understand your child

We understand all children begin their Reception journey at different points and we are here to support and challenge our children.

Please do not compare your child's journey, as we know every child has their own special route.



# Starting Reception in September

Our Reception staff will send home an information pack, containing all the information you need, an application form and an appointment for a home visit. These visits normally take place in the first week of the new academic year.

Home visits are 15 minutes long and are designed to ensure a smooth transition for families and children. They help to build a positive and caring relationship between our staff, you and your child.

Children feel safe, settled and comfortable at home, so this is an excellent opportunity for us to ask questions and share information about your child. This will include your child's likes and dislikes, health issues and managing the transition from Nursery to Reception.

# Learning in Early Years is all about...

- Being happy
- Having fun
- Making friends
- Learning rules
- Independent learning
- Helping each other
- Being kind.
- Resilience – never giving up
- Willingness to try – taking a risk
- Rising to the challenge
- Being the best you can be



The early years  
are an unending  
wave of sensory  
experiences that  
children eagerly  
engage with their  
whole selves—  
we call this

# PLAY