

## **Areas of Learning**

The Early Years Foundation Stage encompasses seven areas of learning.

The '**Prime areas**' are fundamental, work together, and move through and support development in all other areas. These are:

**Communication and language**

**Physical development**

**Personal, social and emotional development**

These areas are strengthened and applied within the '**Specific areas**'. These areas include essential skills and knowledge for children to participate successfully in society and are:

**Literacy**

**Mathematics**

**Understanding the world**

**Expressive arts and design**

At St John's Primary School, we recognise that children learn and develop in different ways and at different rates. Through on-going observation of child-initiated play practitioners will build a picture of a child as an independent learner. Practitioners reflect on the different ways that children play and learn and reflect this in their practice and provision.

Through a range of child-initiated, adult led and focused activities in The Early Years Foundation Stage we aim to develop the areas of learning outlined below:

**Communication and Language:** (Listening and attention; Understanding; Speaking.) We provide opportunities for children to experience an environment rich in language; to develop skills in expressing themselves; and to speak and listen in a range of situations.

**Physical Development:** (Moving and handling; Health and self-care) We provide opportunities for children to be active; to develop their coordination and control in movement. Children are helped to understand the importance of making healthy choices in relation to food and lifestyles

**Personal, Social and Emotional Development:** (Self-confidence and self-awareness; Managing feelings and behaviour; Making relationships) Children are supported in developing self confidence and forming positive relationships with others; to develop respect for others to develop social skills; and to learn to manage their feelings.

**Literacy:** (Reading and writing) Children are supported in linking sounds and letters; developing oral blending and segmenting skills; developing early reading and writing. They are given access to a wide range of reading materials to inspire and interest them.

**Mathematics:** (Numbers; Shape, space and measure) Children have opportunities to develop their understanding of number through counting; simple calculations; problem solving; and to describe shape, space and measures through real life situations.

**Understanding the World:** (People and communities; The world; Technology) Children are supported as they begin to make sense of the world around them. They have opportunities to explore, observe and find out about people and places, technology and the environment.

**Expressive Arts and Design:** (Exploring and using media and materials; Being imaginative) Children explore and access a wide range of media and materials and are encouraged to develop and share their own thoughts, feelings and ideas through a range of activities such as art, role-play, dance, music, movement and DT.