

St Philip's Marsh Nursery/Cashmore Early Years Centre welcomes all children to our happy, inclusive and innovative schools



Every child can expect:

- A high quality broad and balanced curriculum.
- A safe environment to learn and play both inside and outside.
- A balance between adult-initiated experiences and child-initiated experiences.
- Adults to plan from the child's interests and strengths.
- Lots of exciting learning opportunities supported by qualified and experienced staff.
- Active learning and practical 'hands on' experiences.
- Opportunities to plan activities, make choices, organise resources and discuss and review what they have done.
- To talk, listen and be listened to.

Our Curriculum (all the things that we want children to know and experience):

- We plan using the DfE recommended guidance which we have adapted for our children and community. A link can be found [here](#) if you wish to explore this further.
- There are seven areas of learning and development:

*The **three prime areas** are crucial for igniting children's curiosity and enthusiasm for learning.*



Communication and Language



Personal, Social and Emotional Development



Physical Development

*The three prime areas are strengthened and applied through the **four specific areas**.*



Literacy



Mathematics



Understanding the World



Expressive Arts and Design

- We help children learn through three **Characteristics of Effective Teaching and Learning**:
 - **playing and exploring** - I investigate and experience things, and 'have a go'.
 - **active learning** – I concentrate and keep on trying even when I encounter difficulties. I enjoy achieving.
 - **creating and thinking critically** – I am learning to develop my own ideas, make links between ideas, and develop strategies for doing things.

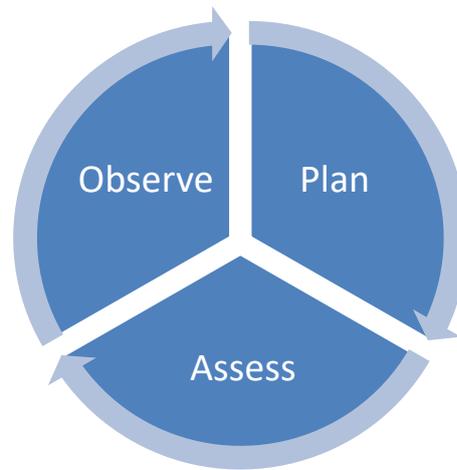
What can you expect?

- You will be able to see plans for your children's experiences, the activities they will engage in, the resources they will use and how adults support them.
- Your child will have significant choice and independence as they play to support their developing confidence, independence, collaboration, persistence and self-regulation (emotional wellbeing).
- Adults will engage in high quality interactions with your child and provide suggestions and resources over time which makes learning more challenging.

If you have any questions or ideas about how to support your child's learning, talk to staff teams – they will be happy to help.

Our Assessment (noticing what children can do and what they know to inform planning and support next steps):

- We use the Observation of Play and Learning (OPAL) assessment tool to assess your child's learning and development.
- This involves observing, reflecting and deciding how best to support your child.
- OPAL aims to reduce paperwork, support practitioners to observe children without fixed agendas and build in time for quality reflection about children's learning.
- It is a meaningful assessment that does not take adults away from interacting with your child.



What can you expect?

- Key people to spend quality time getting to know you and your child.
- Adults will engage in high quality play interactions with your child, observe their development and plan to extend their learning.
- Regular discussions about your child as a team and with you.
- Six-monthly **child developmental milestone** checks to let you know if your child has met/not met age-related expectations.
- Two consultations each year to discuss developmental milestones, to celebrate your child's achievements and think about next steps.

Inclusion (practices which ensure that everyone belongs):

- We have an inclusive curriculum that every child can access, with extra help when needed.
- If we notice that a child is having difficulties with their development, we will act quickly.

What can you expect?

- Additional observations carried out by Inclusion leads.
- Build and develop a strong relationship with you.
- A graduated response which is explained in our [‘Core Offer’](#).
- Support to give your child the extra help they need.
- Signposting to services. See [‘Local Offer’](#) for more information.
- Regular meetings to discuss and plan.
- Liaising with other agencies if needed.

We aim for St Philip’s Marsh Nursery/Cashmore Early Years Centre to be places of possibilities where children will be nurtured and where their individual interests and talents will be valued and developed.

