



Bawdeswell Primary School **Early Years Policy**

In the Early Years at Bawdeswell Primary School we have the highest aspirations for our children and aim to support and develop creative, enthusiastic, resilient and independent learners, equipped with the skills and knowledge for the next stage in their educational journey and as life-long learners. We have chosen to adopt a child-centred, 'Planning in the Moment' approach in Reception as the best way to do this, because research and our own experience over many years has shown us that this leads to the highest level of involvement, where the deepest learning takes place (Ferre Laevers Involvement Scale).

We know that our 'Planning in the Moment' approach needs to be carefully planned for and executed. We do this in many different ways. Firstly, to compliment the time children spend in continuous provision, we deliver high-quality taught sessions for Phonics, Maths and more, using high quality programmes (including Read, Write Inc., White Rose Maths, Cornerstones, Real PE, SCARF etc). Usually, within their continuous provision, children choose to explore and develop this learning further in their own way. With this carefully considered balance of adult-led, adult-supported and child-led learning we create a broad and balanced curriculum for our children in the early years.

In addition to this, we ensure that we have the following key elements in place:

- 1) A superb and enabling environment, inside and out
- 2) A timetable that allows for long periods of uninterrupted time
- 3) Positive relationships with children, parents, staff and senior leaders
- 4) The well-being of all children
- 5) Highly trained staff with the knowledge and expertise to have the highest quality interactions with the children and the time to reflect on their practice
- 6) Rigorous assessment and monitoring to ensure no child falls behind
- 7) Smooth transitions

See our '**Early Years Education in Practice**' document for full details of exactly how we achieve the above.

Statutory Requirements

We follow and comply fully with the Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage, September 2025.

Other Key Information

Safeguarding, Safety and Welfare

Our schools' safeguarding policy sets out clearly the responsibilities and procedures around safeguarding, and applies to Early Years as well as the rest of the school. Our schools' attendance policy also applies to Early Years and sets out what to do in the case of a pupil absence.

An Early Years risk assessment is carried out once a year and the outcomes shared with staff. Every term, the Early Years teacher and Site Manager carry out a setting inspection and any remedial action is taken. The school's Health and Safety policies set out the roles and responsibilities of staff with regard to health and safety.

Bawdeswell Primary School complies fully with the safeguarding and welfare requirements of the Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage. Staff are also required to abide by Safer Working Practice Guidance. As staff working with children in Early Years will have to help children with their Intimate care, our Intimate Care Policy sets out the safe working practices and procedures around this.

Special Educational, Disability and Medical Needs

We are committed to providing the best possible provision for children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities and different medical conditions. See our SEND policy for full information.