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### Early Years Foundation Stage

Testlands is committed to meeting the statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). EYFS applies to all children from birth through to the end of their reception year. More information about EYFS is available from the Department for Education's website.

The designated EYFS coordinator at the Club is responsible for:

- Identifying EYFS children when they join the Club, and informing the other colleagues
- Determining the primary EYFS provider (typically, the school) for each child
- Assigning a key person for each EYFS child
- Ensuring that colleagues receive relevant EYFS training
- Implementing a system, so that the parents, Club and the primary EYFS provider can easily exchange information. This is typically by conversations and meetings.
- Agreeing information sharing policies with the primary EYFS provider and gaining parental consent for this where necessary

The club provides a mix of adult-led and child-initiated activities. The club always follows play principles, allowing children to choose how they occupy their time, and never forces them to participate in a given activity.

We recognise the four overarching principles of EYFS:

**A Unique Child:** Every child is constantly learning and can be resilient, capable, confident and self-assured. We use positive encouragement and praise to motivate the children in our care.

**Positive Relationships:** Children learn to be strong and independent through positive relationships. We aim to develop caring, respectful, professional relationships with the children and their families.

**Enabling Environments:** Children learn and develop well in environments in which their experiences respond to their individual needs and where there is a strong partnership between practitioners and parents/carers. We observe children in order to understand their current interests and development before planning appropriate play-based activities for them.

**Children develop and learn in different ways and at different rates.** The EYFS framework covers the education and care of all children in Early Years provision, including children with special educational needs and disabilities. We tailor the experiences we offer the children in our care according to their individual needs and abilities.

Examples of ways in which we support the areas of learning are as follows:

## **Communication and Language**

- Conversations between children and adults
- Non-verbal communication i.e. facial expressions, hand gestures, eye contact
- Children and adults listen to each other and share information
- Adults clarify and ask appropriate questions encouraging children to develop their own ideas

## **Physical Development**

- Outdoor games and climbing equipment
- Crafts, construction equipment
- Providing healthy food and water and helping children understand the importance of being healthy

## **Personal, social and Emotional Development**

- Encouraging children to build positive relationships and have respect for their peers and adults
- Supporting children to recognise and manage their own feelings and those of others
- Consulting with children so they develop a sense of belonging
- Having clear boundaries to encourage appropriate behaviour
- Build resilience by giving children opportunities to persevere

## **Literacy**

- Singing songs and rhymes
- Providing books, magazines, word puzzles reflecting a wide range of interests
- Providing mark making materials, paper, pens, paint, messy play

## **Mathematics**

- Using mathematical language when appropriate
- Giving opportunities for counting, sorting, shape recognition
- Providing maths puzzles, dot to dots, colour by number

## **Understanding the World**

- Working with the local community
- Using technology
- Encouraging parents and families to share their cultural traditions
- Discussing relevant events i.e. the weather, sports occasions, celebrations

## **Expressive Arts and Design**

- Giving children access to a wide range of arts and crafts media
- Music and dance
- Role play
- Technology

**Last reviewed:** September 2022  
**Date of next review:** September 2023

Signed by: B. Stanley