



9: Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) is the statutory framework that sets the standards that all Early Years providers must meet to ensure that children learn and develop well and are kept healthy and safe. It promotes teaching and learning to ensure children are ready for school and gives children the broad range of knowledge and skills that provide the right foundation for good future progress through school and life

Children attending Jesters who fall within the EYFS age range will have a key worker appointed to them with specific responsibility to ensure that the main principles of the EYFS are supported whilst they are at Jesters. In general, our playwork principles support all of the EYFS principles through play.

The EYFS principles which guide the work of all practitioners are grouped into four distinct but complementary themes, as set out below:

- A Unique Child
- Positive Relationships
- Enabling Environments
- Learning and Development

These four guiding themes underpin effective practice in the EYFS, put the requirements into context, and describe how practitioners should support the development, learning and care of young children. Each theme is supported by four commitments which describe how the principles can be put into practice, and these are expanded on in the EYFS Principles in the **appendix** to this document.

All children in the EYFS bracket will be given a key person to support them effectively while they are away from their parents/ Carers. Young children need someone who knows them well and who gives them the kind of consistent, continuous care that will foster confidence and positive self- esteem. On top of the above the key person will observe the children against the Early Learning Goals, meet with the children's parents, meet with the Children's teacher and set play targets once a term.

As well as a key person the children will be given a Year 6 child to buddy up with who will have the same attendance pattern as them.

Further details of the key person system are available upon request, and are set out in the staff handbook.