

This Policy should be read in conjunction with St Faith's [Special Educational Needs and Disability Policy](#).

All children applying to join Foundation are informally assessed by the Head of Pre Prep, EYFS Coordinator and EYFS team. In small groups with children of a similar age, they will spend some time in the school environment so we can assess their approach to learning and readiness to benefit from the education we offer at St Faith's.

During a play session, much like a day at nursery, there will be a range of activities on offer and staff will engage with the children as they play. We are looking for natural potential and demonstration of curiosity, creativity and collaboration.

Based on the [Early years foundation stage \(EYFS\) statutory framework](#), and the observation checkpoints from [Development Matters](#), our observations and assessments focus on the three prime areas of learning, alongside the three characteristics of effective teaching and learning:

- **Playing and exploring** - children investigate and experience things, and 'have a go'
- **Active learning** - children concentrate and keep on trying if they encounter difficulties, and enjoy achievements
- **Creating and thinking critically** - children have and develop their own ideas, make links between ideas, and develop strategies for doing things

Three prime areas of learning:

<b>Communication and language</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Listening, Attention and Understanding</li> <li>• Speaking</li> </ul>
The development of children's spoken language underpins all seven areas of learning and development.
<b>Personal, Social and Emotional Development</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Self-Regulation</li> <li>• Managing Self</li> <li>• Building Relationships</li> </ul>
Children's personal, social and emotional development (PSED) is crucial for children to lead healthy and happy lives, and is fundamental to their cognitive development.
<b>Physical Development</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gross Motor Skills</li> <li>• Fine Motor Skills</li> </ul>
Physical activity is vital in children's all-round development, enabling them to pursue happy, healthy and active lives.

To ensure compliance with the Equality Act, where necessary, Reasonable Adjustments will be applied to processes, procedures and decision-making.

Where we are not able to make an offer for a place in Foundation, the next natural entry point will be Year 3. We warmly invite families to make an application for Year 3 entry, attend an Open Morning, and attend a 7+ assessment morning.