

Teaching and Learning through inputs:

In addition to the child-initiated play learning, the children will also learn a variety of skills through whole class teaching and small group work.

The children will have daily phonics sessions to learn how to read and write, number time sessions where they learn specific maths skills and writing sessions to put their phonic skills into practice.

The children will also have PE sessions with specialist PE teachers, yoga, rhyme time, PSHE and attend Forest School sessions with trained Forest School Leaders.

Teaching and learning during play:

While the children are playing, the Early Years staff are trained to identify the 'teachable moments' on the spot.

Adults will be aware of each focus child's individual targets and current interests and will adjust their interactions to ensure they are challenging the children through their play.

Focus Children:

4 children from each class will have a focus week each week. Each child will have a focus week 3 times per year.

The class teachers will use previous assessments of the children from observations and their knowledge of them to develop personalised next steps for the children during their focus week.

SEN / EAL / Pupil Premium children may have additional focus weeks.

Early Years at Brambleside



We put the individual child at the heart of everything we do.

Our Early Years staff believe that a play based curriculum creates happy, resilient, successful and confident learners.

The learning environment:

Our learning environment at Brambleside is a child-led, play based environment where the children are encouraged to independently access what they would like to do with some adult encouragement if needed.

Adults will model how to respect, play and look after the resources in our environment.

The environment is planned to ensure that all areas encourage skill development and covers our whole Early Years curriculum.

The Early Years staff use their observations and assessments of the children to continually plan and enhance the learning environment.

Assessment, teaching and learning through play:

Any interactions that staff have with children that are not the focus children will be recorded on our online learning journal 'Tapestry' as WOW moments.

Any interactions that staff have with a focus child will be recorded as 'Focus Week' observations on Tapestry.

These observations will contain what the adult observed, what the adult taught the child and the outcome of that interaction.

None of these interactions are planned before. The adult will observe the play situation and plan the teachable moment on the spot to link in with the child's interests and the EYFS curriculum.

Parental involvement:

Parents and carers will be sent a letter the week prior to their child's focus week. This will ask the parent to let the staff know of any current interests or family events that are occurring in the child's life, as well as upload some pictures to Tapestry. The staff will then use this to ensure the learning is individualised to the focus children that week.

Parents will then receive a detailed report from from the class teacher during the following week to explain what was seen and individualised next steps will be given, including how the parent can help at home.