

New early years foundation stage September 2021 Parent/Carer Information

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) is being reformed and there is a new EYFS framework that all schools and settings will have to follow from September 2021. These national changes have been made to better support all young children's learning and development. It is also the aim that the new framework will better prepare children for the transition into key stage 1.

There are some elements of the EYFS that have not significantly changed and some that have. Below are some of the key points from the new EYFS reforms that include relevant changes which parents, carers and children may notice or experience

- Staff will be spending less time on large amounts of written observations and assessments for evidence collection. This means they can spend more time supporting and engaging with the children and their learning and development needs.
- Children will no longer be assessed against statements from an age band category. Instead, staff will use their experience and knowledge to monitor if a child's learning and development is on track for their age.
- There is an emphasis on improving children's language and vocabulary through increasing opportunities for conversations, reading of a wide range of books and holding discussions around activities in other areas of learning.
- Literacy and numeracy skills focused on in the EYFS have been adapted to better match up with the national curriculum that starts in year 1.
- Safeguarding and welfare of children is still a priority, with the added mention of teaching children about the importance of good oral health and how to keep teeth clean and healthy.

What this means for you and your child at Tiddlers:

We will still be using Eylog as a way of documenting and communicating with you about your child's learning journey. However, you should now receive an observation once every two weeks about your child's time here. This will no longer be assessed against age brackets but a more generalised observation celebrating their achievements and what they have enjoyed over that time.

We would like to welcome you to use Eylog more! Please do send us photos and observations, comments and videos as much as you can about what you get up to.

We will continue to do your child's two year progress check. We hope to complete this with you or have a discussion about it together at a time convenient to you. This will be done between your child's second and third birthday.

We will continue to complete the transition documents for when your child goes off to school. We will also continue our professional discussions with your school of choice.

We have adapted our 'all about me' forms and combined this with an entry observation/assessment so we can see where your child is at when they start Tiddlers which helps us to move forward. We will continue ongoing communication about your child throughout their time at nursery. For new starters we hope to complete the 'all about me' with you and have discussions around your child.

Each practitioner/ key worker will have their own ways of documenting your child's progress and together with their professional knowledge will keep you informed about your child's development. We will continue our strong key worker approach which allows practitioners to create a strong positive bond with your child to support their wellbeing and help them grow in confidence. This will enable your child to leave your side feeling excited for their day ahead.

There is a lot of emphasis on your child's interests in the new curriculum and therefore it is more important than ever to have continuous communication between parents and practitioners about your child. Now that restrictions have eased, we encourage you to bring in items, photos, stories anything of interest to help us plan exciting and stimulating activities based on this.

As ever your child is here to have fun, explore and grow. Your child's safety and quality of care is paramount to us all. If you have any questions about these changes then please feel free to speak to a member of the team.

Kind regards,

Tiddlers Day Nursery and Pre-school