



Be Strong and Courageous

24th September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Early Years – Early Adopter Status

At the end of your child's Reception year we assess your children and decide if they have met a set of early learning goals in different areas of learning. The government has decided to change the early learning goals that we use to assess your child and has offered schools the chance to adopt the new early learning goals one year early, in September 2020.

Our school has decided to become an early adopter school and from this year we will be using the new early learning goals to track your child's progress in Nursery and Reception and to assess your children at the end of their Reception year.

New guidance to support your child's learning in Nursery and Reception has been released alongside these new early learning goals, this is called Development Matters. Development Matters is not a checklist of things that your child should do, rather it is guidance for adults who work with children, to help them to support and embed your child's learning journey.

What does this mean for the Mini Diggers and Piskies?

Nothing will change for your child. We will continue to offer them the highest quality learning experiences in school and nursery and we will continue to develop the whole child, thinking about how they learn and who they are as individuals. We hope that your child is unaware that anything different is going on, it is definitely business as usual for them!

What does this mean for parents/carers?

Nothing will change for parents/carers. We will continue to support you to the best of our ability and value your opinions and knowledge of your child. We will still use Tapestry to record your child's learning journey.

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What does this mean for early years teachers?

We have studied the changes and new guidance closely and are quickly becoming experts in what is expected of your child.

At the end of the year we will still use our knowledge of your child, alongside some evidence we have gathered throughout the year, to make judgements about whether they have met their expected level of development in nursery and the early learning goals in reception.

This year the Local Authority will not moderate our judgements. We would hope that the government will ask our opinion of the changes they have made and that we can help to inform the future of early years education.

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require any more information.