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Review Date: September 2020	Next Review: September 2021

## **EYFS Curriculum Policy**

### **Rationale**

In line with the School's Mission Statement we aim to help students develop their gifts and talents: spiritual and social; intellectual and emotional; aesthetic and physical through the provision of a broad and balanced curriculum, which is responsive to, and supportive of, their needs and aspirations, fosters intellectual curiosity and academic achievement, and motivates them to grow to their full potential. Our Mission Statement is distilled into our Vision Statement, and our aim is to develop our children, pupils and students so that they have "Strength of Mind, Strength of Values, Strength of Purpose".

### **Introduction**

In the Nursery, we provide a broad and balanced and differentiated curriculum that is outlined in the statutory framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage, April 2017. The framework aims at laying a secure foundation for future learning and development that is planned around the individual needs and interests of young children.

It helps the Nursery staff to plan challenging and enjoyable experiences, across all the areas of learning and development.

The seven areas of learning are:

#### Prime areas

- Communication and language
- Physical development
- Personal, social and emotional development

#### Specific areas

- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the world
- Expressive arts and design

In the Nursery, we recognise that none of these areas of learning can be delivered in isolation. They are equally important, and depend on each other to support a rounded approach to child development. The areas are delivered through planned, purposeful play, with a balance of adult-led and child initiated activities.

The Nursery staff plan together so ensuring continuity and progression. The children are assessed in the seven areas of learning and their progress is recorded in their learning journeys and their developmental tracking sheets. The Swans Class, prior to their transition to the Preparatory school, are assessed in the seven areas of learning. This forms the EYFSP and the following grading's for each area are given accordingly:

1. Emerging, working below the expected level

2. Expected, working at the expected level
3. Exceeding, working above the expected level

We follow the Early Years themes and commitments:

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

We engage in providing opportunities for all Characteristics of Effective Learning to take place. These include:

- Playing and Exploring
- Active learning
- Creating and Thinking critically

The Nursery community including staff, children and parents are made aware of these.

To support our teaching of the curriculum we get support from planning, resources and advice from the following schemes: Letters and Sounds, Jolly Phonics, Phonics Play, Abacus, Hamilton Trust, Twinkl and Cornerstones.

Specialist teachers are utilised to teach specialist subjects. In the Cygnets this includes PE and Music and in the Swans class this includes PE, including Swimming (1 half term per year), Music and French.

### **Review**

This policy is reviewed annually by the Head of EYFS.