Building Foundations for Life

A Parent & Carer Guide to Securing Success from Early Years to Year 6



Featuring Our Approach to Foundational Knowledge & The QUEST Principles.

Church of England Primary School · St Helens · Parish

LDST
Liverpool Diocesan Schools Trust

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Our ultimate goal is to guarantee your child's success right across the curriculum.

We secure vital foundational knowledge and skills by the end of Key Stage 1. This proactive approach gives every child the absolute best chance of thriving as they progress through to Year 6.



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True foundational knowledge is the bedrock of future learning.

Foundational knowledge provides the essential tools children need to communicate, read, write, and calculate by the end of Key Stage 1, as outlined in the Strong Foundations report.



More than just academics.

We equally prioritize physical, emotional, and social development to help children truly understand the world around them.

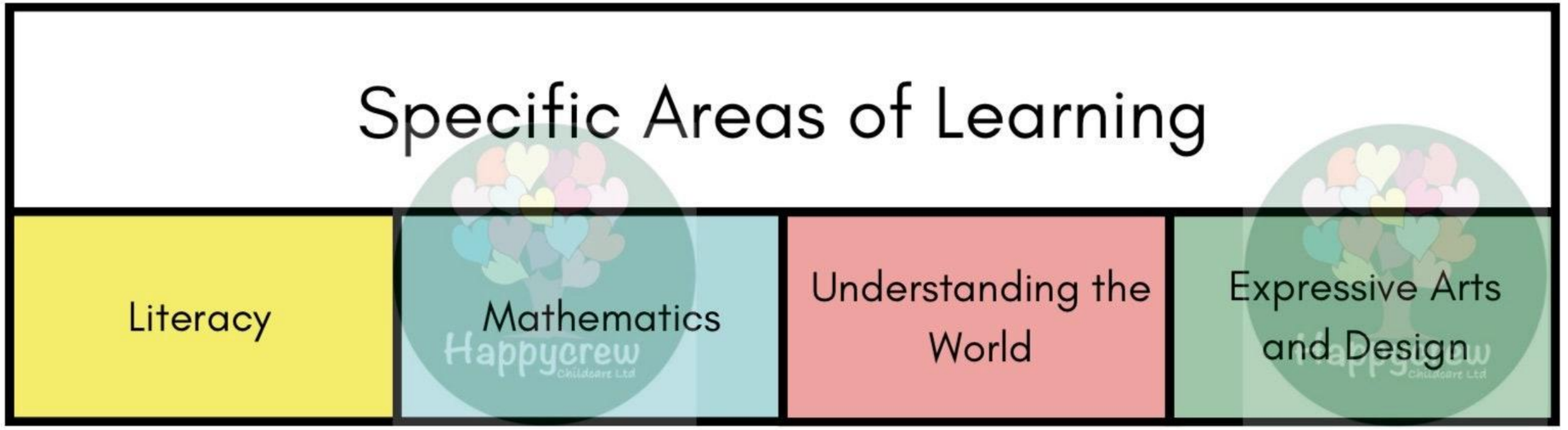
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Every lesson, routine, and play session is reverse-engineered to develop five critical areas.

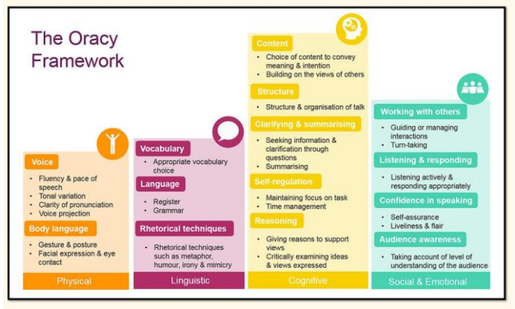


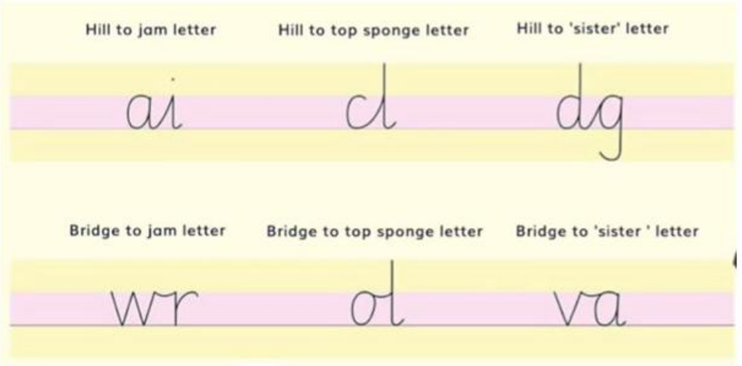
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The Prime Areas of Learning
Communication and Language
Physical Development
Personal, Social and Emotional Development


Specific Areas of Learning
Literacy
Mathematics
Understanding the World
Expressive Arts and Design

MATHSHUBS





Read Write Inc. Phonics

MATHS NO PROBLEM!

Securing academic fluency with evidence-based programs.

Early Reading

- Nursery-age children first build a 'listening ear' before formal phonics.
- We use the Read Write Inc (RWI) program to teach the 44 phonemes.
- Guarantee: Regular assessments and Fast Track Tutoring ensure no child falls behind.

Early Writing (Transcription)

- Starts with oral composition and early mark-making.
- Literacy Counts' Ready Steady Write program builds strong structures in Reception and Year 1.
- Discrete focus on handwriting and spelling mechanics.

Early Mathematics

- Hands-on, practical fun to instill positive attitudes.
- Mastering Number program delivered from Reception to Year 2.
- Seamlessly transitions into our Times Table Strategy for Years 1 through 6.

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Building the mind and voice through high-quality interaction.



Executive Function

Teaching children how to learn

- **Focus:** Training the mind to screen out irrelevant distractions.
- **Memory:** Holding information in mind to solve complex problems.
- **Adaptability:** Using play-based challenges to teach persistence and collaboration.



Communication & Language

The bedrock of thinking

- **Voice21:** Explicit oracy strategies used across every subject.
- **SHREC Model:** High-quality back-and-forth interactions between staff and children.
- **Vocabulary:** Explicit teaching of new words during carefully planned play.

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Designing the perfect environment to maximize your child's focus.

Executive Function

Cognitive Science in Action: Daily routines designed specifically to avoid overloading a child's working memory.

Communication

The Perfect Blend: A balanced mix of direct instruction and purposeful, adult-guided play-based learning.



Writing

Literature at the Core: High-quality books placed centrally to inspire imagination across all activities.

Mathematics

Distraction-Free Design: Physical spaces curated to focus attention on what truly matters.

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The QUEST Principles: Our bespoke framework for expert teaching.

A beautifully designed curriculum requires an expert delivery system. QUEST is the unifying set of principles used by every staff member, from EYFS to Year 6, ensuring your child truly acquires foundational knowledge.



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How QUEST shapes your child's daily experience (Part 1)

The Principle	The Teacher's Role	Your Child's Experience
Q - Quality Outcomes	Ensures tasks perfectly match the child's specific reading/writing stage.	Achieves success, accuracy, and fluency without facing unnecessary frustration.
U - Understanding Starting Points	Uses high-quality assessment to adapt lessons to previous learning.	Receives highly personalized support or challenge—ensuring equitable experiences for all.
E - Executive Function	Manages cognitive load by breaking tasks into small, manageable steps.	Develops robust well-being and independence without feeling overwhelmed.

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How QUEST shapes your child's daily experience (Part 2).

The Principle	The Teacher's Role	Your Child's Experience
Q - Quality Outcomes	Models language and dictates sentences to encourage oral composition.	Develops a powerful, confident voice and high-quality communication skills.
S - Speak It	Models language and dictates sentences to encourage oral composition.	Develops a powerful, confident voice and high-quality communication skills.
T - Tasks at the Right Time	Prioritizes long-term success over rushing complex tasks too soon.	Masters the fundamentals completely before moving on, building unshakeable confidence.

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A seamless journey from early play to complex problem-solving.

EYFS (Securing the Bedrock)

Mastering self-regulation, forming numbers, and foundational phonics.

KS1 (The Stepping Stones)

End-of-KS1 assessments are used positively to guide future teaching, never to restrict the curriculum.

KS2 - Years 3 to 6 (Unlocking the Future)

Foundational knowledge unlocks complex subjects. Children shift from learning to read to reading to learn, utilizing advanced oracy and the Y1-Y6 Times Table Strategy.

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Backed by gold-standard research. Delivered by trained experts.



Evidence-Based

- Curriculum built on OFSTED research reviews.
- Informed by the ‘Bold Beginnings’ report.
- Grounded in ‘Strong Foundations in the First Years’.



Staff Expertise (CPD)

- Rigorous Continuous Professional Development (CPD) through spaced retrieval and coaching.
- Full-day inset training on Literacy Counts.
- Ongoing RWI phonics coaching and bespoke transcription training for all staff.

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The resulting promise to you and your child.

No child left behind.

Equitable learning experiences, precise assessments, and Fast Track Tutoring guarantee every student thrives, regardless of their starting point.

Mastery over rushing.

We view education as a marathon, not a sprint. We prioritize long-term confidence and fluency over rushing complex tasks too soon.

Holistic growth.

A child's emotional well-being and ability to communicate (Executive Function & Voice) are valued just as highly as their ability to read and write.

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What can you do at home?





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What can you do at home?

- Small steps & routines: Break tasks into manageable chunks so children aren't overwhelmed by too much information at once.
  - Talk through the day
  - Say it before writing it
  - Regular reading
  - Use of TTRS.
  - Completion of weekly homework.

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TODAY