



‘Improving the quality of family life’

Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) Policy

Under the EYFS, early years providers must have written policies and procedures which clearly describe how the setting takes ‘necessary steps to keep children safe and well. Providers must ensure that staff understand and are familiar with these, and that they are accessible and self-explanatory to parents.

Snowflake School offers education to pupils aged 4 and above so this Early Years Policy is applicable for the first year of education until the pupil reaches the end of their reception year. Due to the unique nature of our school and the diverse range of special educational need we cater for, we group pupils by stage rather than age, and Reception aged pupils may be educated in a class with pupils between years R-6.

Snowflake School Vision

Improve the quality of life for our children and their families

To be a centre of ABA/VB excellence

To provide high quality, individual and group teaching and learning experiences for all our pupils using evidence based practices

To ensure all our pupils reach their full potential

To provide a safe, secure, motivating and fun teaching and learning environment for all our pupils

To share our practice with others (families, other schools etc.)

Safeguarding- Keeping Children Safe and Well

Safeguarding of all pupils is paramount at Snowflake School and all staff complete statutory training to make sure that they are compliant with the legal requirements. The Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy (September 2021) is understood by all members of staff and relates to all pupils, including Early Years pupils.

The policy covers the following themes:

- Roles and responsibilities;
- Confidentiality;
- Recognising abuse and taking action;
- Notifying parents;
- Mobile phones and cameras;
- Training;
- Monitoring arrangements;
- Safer recruitment.

Version update March 2022
Review due March 2024
Kerry Sternstein

This policy is accessible on the school's website and is self-explanatory to parents. The school's Designated Safeguarding Lead is Jody Tranter.

Transition arrangements

Admission for Early Years pupils is through the normal Snowflake School admissions process. The child goes through a robust and comprehensive assessment process in order for school staff to ascertain suitability and the curriculum pathway that would be most beneficial to meet the pupil's specific special educational needs. This is also an initial opportunity to gather a full picture of the child's home life to ascertain if there are any safeguarding concerns that the school needs to consider.

At Snowflake School, Reception age children are offered a tailor-made transition plan to ensure that they know their Supervisor and Tutor and have had the opportunity to look around the school before they start their full-time placement.

Curriculum Pathways

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) is the statutory framework which sets standards that all early years' providers must meet to ensure that children learn and develop well; and are kept healthy and safe. It promotes teaching and learning to ensure children are ready for school; and stimulates the broad range of knowledge and skills that provide the foundation for good future progress through school and life. Snowflake School have fully adopted this statutory framework and all Snowflake early years pupils access their learning at this level.

The EYFS is based upon four principles:

- A unique child;
- Positive relationships;
- Enabling environments;
- Learning and development.

Each child will access their learning through either the supported or prompted curriculum pathway (see whole school curriculum documents for more detail). The supported pathway is most suitable for pupils who have sensory needs and are at a lower level of cognitive development. The prompted curriculum is for pupils who are able to differentiate between subjects.

Both pathways are influenced by the Development Matters Framework, linked to the EYFS. Our curriculum framework makes reference to the seven areas of the EYFS, most notably;

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

The remaining four areas of the EYFS are incorporated within other areas of our curriculum framework, such as 'healthy bodies', 'writing', 'number' and 'music'.

All policies written for Snowflake School apply for all age-groups including EYFS who attend the school.