



EARLY YEARS / FOUNDATION STAGE

At St Hugh of Lincoln, each area of learning and development is implemented through planned, purposeful play and through a mix of adult-led and child-initiated activity. Play is used as an essential part of children's development, building their confidence as they learn to explore, to think about problems, and relate to others. Children learn by leading their own play, and by taking part in play which is guided by adults. There is an on-going judgement to be made by practitioners about the balance between activities led by children, and activities led or guided by adults. Practitioners must respond to each child's emerging needs and interests, guiding their development through warm, positive interaction. As children grow older, and as their development allows, it is expected that the balance will gradually shift towards more activities led by adults, to help children prepare for more formal learning, ready for Year 1. (Derived from Statutory Framework for EYFS 2012)

Planning and guided children's activities will reflect on the different ways that children learn and reflect these in their practice. At St Hugh's we support children in using the three characteristics of effective teaching and learning. These are:

- playing and exploring - children investigate and experience things, and 'have a go';
- active learning - children concentrate and keep on trying if they encounter difficulties, and enjoy achievements; and
- creating and thinking critically - children have and develop their own ideas, make links between ideas, and develop strategies for doing things.

(from statutory framework for the EYFS 2012)

Religious Education is also taught in reception class in accordance with the guidelines set by the diocese for Arundel and Brighton.

Where we all strive to **LOVE**: *Live like Jesus, One family learning together, Valuing everyone, Each and every day*

