

EYFS and The Primary Knowledge Curriculum

Every child deserves the best start in life. We are all aware that children do not begin school on a level playing field, and we have all seen the gap in our classrooms between those who have lots of prior life experience and those with little. The Primary Knowledge Curriculum for Early Years has been written with the intention of closing that gap, so that every child believes that they have the power to determine their own lives and to make a positive change in the world. The PKC Early Years teaching resources will take children beyond the limits of their personal experiences and the classroom to ensure that no child is left behind.

Our aim is to provide our youngest pupils with the tools that they need to establish a strong sense of identity and to feel empowered by the knowledge they have of the world around them. The PKC EYFS teaching materials have been carefully written to spark pupils' curiosity and to develop their oral language, communication and comprehension through engaging, high-quality teaching resources. We want to enrich and widen their vocabulary, so that they can confidently and effectively think, reason, argue, and participate in the important conversations in life.

The PKC Early Years resources fit into the whole-school approach to curriculum design and provide children with both the substantive and disciplinary knowledge that they need to become confident, powerful and inquisitive learners. Our materials support staff in building a strong foundation of learning for our youngest pupils and to encourage a seamless transition to Key Stage 1 and to Key Stage 2.

The EYFS Framework

In Early Years, learning and development is split into seven inter-connected areas:

- Communication and Language
- Physical Development
- Personal, Social and Emotional Development
- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the World
- Expressive Arts and Design

The PKC Early Years materials have a strong focus on the specific area of Understanding the World (UtW), as this Early Learning Goal lends itself for greater transition into Key Stage 1. History (Past and Present), Geography (People, Culture and Communities) and Science (The Natural World) are interwoven within UtW as children are encouraged to observe and explore the physical world, communities and life both past and present. Pupils are encouraged to think about scientists, historians and geographers and consider what they do, what they think about and how they find out what they know. This foundational knowledge helps children to develop disciplinary understanding over time.

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Primary Knowledge Curriculum for Early Years

Our PKC EYFS materials will take children on a journey from their local area to outer space, from the fascinating world of dinosaurs to the ancient stories of Greek Gods. Children will encounter interesting people such as George Stephenson, known for his steam train 'The Rocket', and Valentina Tereshkova, the first woman in space. They will explore captivating places such as The North Pole and Mount Everest. They will grow plants, study maps, look closely at fallen leaves, observe ice melting, design floating boats and much more. Importantly, they will be learning and using new vocabulary in a wide range of contexts.

Children will learn more and remember more as they progress through their early years, enriching their play and their conversations with the powerful knowledge in our curriculum. Important conceptual understanding begins to develop in the Early Years, such as spatial sense and chronological understanding.

EYFS Curriculum Links with KS1/KS2

Below are examples of how the PKC EYFS curriculum links with KS1 and KS2 units.

