



**HILL VIEW**  
PRIMARY ACADEMY

*Reach for the Stars!*



**Learning At Hill View Primary Academy**

# Hill View Learning Values

At Hill View Primary Academy, our curriculum is based on five learning values that we believe are essential life skills and attributes which underpin all learning in school. Your child will develop these skills as they progress through our school.

## What does this mean for your child in Reception?

### Creativity

Share their thoughts, ideas and feelings through art, design and technology, music, dance, drama and role-play. Solve problems, make decisions, experiment, predict, plan, think for themselves and begin to raise lots of questions.



### Thinking

Apply what they have learnt in different contexts and situations. Use precise language to explain and justify their ideas, thoughts and reasons. Pose questions to pursue a line of enquiry. Use their imagination to generate and extend ideas. Take time to review and reflect on experiences and their thoughts.



### Independence

Organise their belongings, putting clothes on independently, using the toilets and taking care of own personal hygiene. Develop concentration, making choices about their play – what to play with/make and where to work.



### Teamwork/collaboration

Learn how to co-operate and communicate with others. Work in pairs, small groups, and as a whole class. Work with children they do not know, mixing with other classes



### Spirituality

Be fulfilled and contented knowing they have achieved their best. Experience awe and wonder when inspired by the natural world. Search for meaning through questioning, understanding that some questions have no answers. Aspire to fulfil their hopes and dreams knowing they are unique with the potential to live a life of endless opportunities.



Hold their own beliefs, justifying these without imposing their views upon others, whilst searching for meaning in the world around them.

**A - aspiration**

**S - success**

**C - community**

**E- excellence**

**N- nurture**

**T- trust**



**Our motto is “Reach for the stars!”**

**These ASCENT values flow through everything we do at school. We talk to the children about how learning can be difficult – like climbing a mountain. We link this in to the school name – Hill View. To see the view we have to climb the mountain!**

## **The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)**

**“Every child deserves the best possible start in life and the support that enables them to fulfil their potential. Children develop quickly in the Early Years and child’s experiences between birth and five have a major impact on their future life chances. A secure, safe and happy childhood is important in its own right. Good parenting and high quality early learning together provide the foundation children need to make the most of their abilities and talents as they grow up.”**

**DoE 2012**

### **Aims of the Reception Year:**

Become a valued member of our school community

Be given a rich environment to explore language, imagination. Investigate how numbers work, patterns, shape, role play, dance, drama, and all the areas of learning from the EYFS

Have an opportunity to practise fine and gross motor skill, increasing their understanding of how their body works and stays healthy

Use a range of ICT confidently

Have lots of fun!

We build on from all the wonderful work YOU and the pre-schools have started. We also work really closely with other EYFS providers that your child might still be attending.

### **The Foundation Stage Curriculum “Prime Areas”**

*Personal, Social and Emotional development*

*Physical development*

*Communication and Language*

These are regarded as the first areas that babies and very young children will develop.

## **“Specific Areas”**

*Literacy*

*Maths*

*Understanding the World*

*Expressive Arts and Design*

These areas develop alongside the Prime areas as children hit the ages of 3-5.

### **The EYFS areas of learning**

#### **Personal, Social and Emotional development**

Learn to be part of a class, work as a group, and learning the class rules

Develop social skills and confidence through play, learning to take the lead, and to follow the lead of others. Discuss their ideas, taking into account one another's views

Explore their feelings and develop empathy

#### **Communication and Language**

Discuss their projects and learn new vocabulary to articulate their thoughts

Develop confidence and skill in expressing themselves as they talk together

Learn to follow instructions

#### **Physical development**

Play outside, climbing, running and using bikes

Weekly PE sessions including gymnastics, dance and games

Handle real tools such as scissors, hammers and saws, as well as beads, play dough, clay and threading

#### **Literacy**

Imitate adults writing words and eventually become confident writers themselves!

Explore and enjoy a wide variety of books and poems. Knowledge of these books will help them to read using phonics, blending phonemes in words. E.g. c-a-t becomes cat!

#### **Maths**

Count, sort, match, objects and numbers

Work with shapes, spaces and measures, *discussing the size or weight of objects*

*Explore comparisons such as: ‘you’ve got more than me’. Begin to estimate and perform simple calculations: ‘We’ll need two more’*

## Understanding the World

Understand the difference between the present, past and long ago

Look at the local environment and start comparing it to other environments

Develop understanding of similarities and differences between themselves and others, among families, and communities

Explore scientific concepts and make predictions based on what they already know

Show their understanding of how technology is used in various environments

## Expressive Arts and Design

Learn to use instruments and hear different rhythms, beats and pitch

Design and make the role play areas as well as make up different scenarios

Use the creative area to paint, draw, collage and make 3D models. Explore colour texture and form

## Play

Our philosophy for all learning is that it should be “playful” as we know this is how children learn best. We have a balance of **adult led learning** (working with an adult) and **child initiated learning** (where we expect the children to design their own projects and learning experiences in the classroom!) the children call this “My Time”

They learn when they enjoy themselves, when there are opportunities to explore the world without fear of failure.

## The Foundation Stage Profile

Your child will be assessed continually over the year so we really know what they can do and what their next steps in learning should be. We refer to the developmental age bands set out in the EYFS framework.

During the first few weeks at school your child will be assessed in an informal way. This information will enable us to plan accordingly for your child, and targets will be shared with you at Parents evening.

We also track your child against the 17 Early Learning Goals and declare at the END OF THE YEAR whether they are:

Emerging – Not quite achieving or partly achieving the goal

(Working below age related expectations)

Expected – Have achieved the goal, and within age related expectations

Exceeding – Working beyond age related expectations

This will be reported to you as an end of year report.

## **Newsletters**

A newsletter will be e-mailed to you at the beginning of each project telling you what we will be learning. Home learning is also included. We will not send paper copies unless you do not have access to e-mail, so please remember to check your e-mails!

## **Home learning**

We believe learning at home should be as playful as it is at school. Therefore we send home a variety of fun activities you can do at home to support each project. We do not send home worksheets as we do not think they offer good learning value, and we do not use them in school! In addition, the children will bring home picture books, library books as well as sounds and words to learn. This is plenty to keep them busy at home!

Once they are ready the children will bring home reading scheme books.

We hope this has been useful – but please ask if you are unsure of anything!