

In our Early Years we believe that all our children can be successful mathematicians. Our environment ensures children are given time and spaces to explore mathematical ideas in ways that make personal sense to them and opportunities to develop mathematical concepts and understanding. Our effective teaching of mathematics takes place through whole-class adult-directed sessions, supportive consolidation activities in smaller groups and a range of opportunities for children to have meaningful, physical exploration of concepts that enables them to be embedded. We provide frequent and varied opportunities to build and apply this understanding - such as manipulatives, including small pebbles and tens frames for organising counting – which supports all children to develop a secure base of knowledge and vocabulary from which mastery of mathematics is built.

Practitioners across EYFS take the time to understand children's mathematical thinking through discussion, using the opportunities to reinforce key learning, introduce and scaffold the use of new important vocabulary, challenge and extend thinking and taking time to explore incidental concepts that arise. Our objective for our children throughout our Early Years is to ensure that all children develop firm mathematical foundations in a way that is engaging and talk-rich so they have a solid platform for continuing their mathematical journey into Year 1 and the National Curriculum. We also aim to instil positive attitudes and interest in mathematics, to help children look for patterns and relationships, spot connections, 'have a go', talk to adults and peers about what they notice and not be afraid to make mistakes.