



*Federation of Beckwithshaw, Kettlesing Felliscliffe and Ripley Endowed CE Primary Schools*

**Growing Together, Guided by Love**

## **Curriculum Overview Statement: EYFS**

### **Intent**

Within the federation of Ripley, Beckwithshaw and Kettlesing Felliscliffe, we aim for our youngest learners to feel safe, valued and inspired every day. We encourage our educational, spiritual and moral drive throughout the school, beginning in Early Years: Growing together, guided by love.

At the heart of our Early Years, we hold a simple belief: every child can **DREAM BIG**.

At our federation, we believe that strong communication and language skills are the foundation for future learning. Our EYFS provision is intentionally language-rich, prioritising oracy so that children can confidently express themselves, listen actively, and engage with others.

In our mixed-age classroom, children benefit from a unique dynamic: younger children are immersed in a wide range of vocabulary and sentence structures, which supports them in developing more complex language skills. They learn from the rich talk and advanced vocabulary modelled by older peers, as well as from adults. We help children to find their voice, build friendships, and grow in confidence.

Our curriculum is thematic, engaging, and play-based, ensuring that children explore a broad range of experiences in meaningful contexts. It is carefully planned to be progressive, enabling every child to build on prior learning, make connections, and develop the knowledge, skills, and attitudes they need for the next stage of their education. We balance intrinsic motivation with academic learning complemented by elective opportunities and enhancements that enrich children's experiences and broaden their horizons.

Our provision is underpinned by the federations three C's

- **Community** - fostering a strong sense of belonging where every child feels included and valued. We encourages students to engage with one another and collaborate on projects that foster connections within our school and the wider community.
- **Compassion** - listen actively, respond thoughtfully, and engage empathetically with their peers whilst expressing their feelings and supporting one another, fostering a sense of belonging and community spirit.
- **Courage** - embrace challenges and voice their opinions, even in difficult situations, taking risks in their communication and standing firm in their beliefs.

In the Early Years, we are committed to enabling every child to **DREAM BIG**, find their voice, build friendships and grow in confidence - ready to thrive as lifelong learners. Above all we, at the federation of Ripley, Beckwithshaw and Kettlesing Felliscliffe are all : Growing together, guided by love.



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## Implementation

Our vision of **DREAM BIG** is woven through all that we do in the federation of Ripley, Beckwithshaw and Kettlesing Felliscliffe:

**D - Develop language:** Prioritising oracy in every interaction, modelling rich vocabulary, and creating purposeful opportunities for talk.

**R - Relationships matter:** Building strong, secure bonds so children feel safe, valued, and ready to learn.

**E - Explore through play:** Balancing child-initiated and adult-led experiences to spark curiosity and imagination. Play is at the heart of learning - we give children space and encouragement to wonder, discover and try things out.

**A - Aspire together:** Using the strength of our mixed-age class so children learn collaboratively, support each other, and inspire one another.

**M - Make meaningful links:** Designing a thematic, connected curriculum that helps children build knowledge progressively as well as helping them to understand the world around them.

**B - Be brave:** Encouraging resilience, risk-taking, and confidence in sharing ideas.

**I - Imagine and create:** Providing open-ended resources and experiences that promote creativity and problem solving. Children's creativity and curiosity are celebrated every day.

**G - Grow for the future:** We prepare children for their next steps with strong foundations in language, literacy, maths and personal development.



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## Impact

By the end of EYFS, children are:

- Confident communicators who can share their ideas, listen attentively, and use a rich vocabulary across contexts.
- Resilient, curious, and collaborative learners who thrive in a mixed-age environment.
- Equipped with secure foundations in early reading, writing, and mathematics, underpinned by strong oracy and communication skills.
- Ready for Year 1, having experienced a broad, balanced, and progressive curriculum that has nurtured both their academic potential and personal development.

Throughout their time in EYFS, children grow in confidence, curiosity, and empathy, guided by the federation's three C's: Community, Compassion and Courage.

Our approach ensures that every child leaves EYFS as an enthusiastic learner, prepared for the challenges and opportunities ahead. Our children are ready for the next step in their lives, carrying the confidence to **DREAM BIG** about who they are and who they can become.