

# Monksmoor Park CE Primary School

## Early Years Foundation Stage Policy Addendum



**Date ratified by Governors:**  
23rd September 2020

**Dates reviewed by Governors:**

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

**Note:** This document takes account of the most up to date central government information and guidance, at the time of writing (see footer). It is subject to change as guided by government policy.

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## Introduction

This addendum is subject to change, in response to any new or updated guidance the government may publish. We will keep it under review.

This Addendum makes reference to the following documents:

- > 'Guidance for Full Opening of Schools' updated 17 September 2020.  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/guidance-for-full-opening-schools#section-3-curriculum-behaviour-and-pastoral-support>
- > Covid 19 Risk Assessment Plan Monksmoor Park CE Primary School September 2020
- > Implementing Protective Measures at Monksmoor Park 2020

This Addendum contains details of any amendments to our existing EYFS Policy and should also be read alongside our current policies and procedures. All staff and volunteers will be aware of the policy addendum and any revisions.

## 1. Learning and Development

- 1.1. The [EYFS statutory framework](#) specifies requirements for learning and development and for safeguarding children and promoting their welfare. These are set out in the EYFS Policy.
- 1.2. Monksmoor CE Primary School recognises that the current circumstances and the nature of Government guidance may mean that the school needs to adapt elements of the areas of Learning and Development to ensure that they are able to respond in line with needs of children following lengthy absence, accordingly focus will be on Prime areas in Nursery and in Reception the Prime Areas as well as assessment to address gaps in language, early reading and mathematics.
- 1.3. **Particular focus will be given to children's acquisition of phonic knowledge and extending their vocabulary, in line with 'Guidance for full reopening of schools' as aforementioned.**

The safeguarding and welfare requirements cover the steps that providers must take to keep children safe and promote their welfare. The current Safeguarding Policy of Monksmoor Park continues to apply.

## 2. Planning

- 2.1. Whilst continuing to plan for a broad and varied Curriculum across the EYFS as noted in the EYFS Policy, during Autumn 1 2020, practitioners will plan a range of activities designed to support and recognise the need for wellbeing to be prioritised.
- 2.2. In addition, the 'Zones of Regulation' Curriculum designed to foster self-awareness and emotional control will be introduced across whole school (except nursery as not age appropriate) as an important part of the Recovery Curriculum.
- 2.3. Practitioners will focus on the Areas of Learning referred to for Reception and Nursery in '[Guidance for Full Opening of Schools](#)' updated 17 September 2020.

## 3. Outdoor Play and Learning

- 3.1. Where possible learning will take place outside in EYFS. In addition, enhanced cleaning measures will be applied as defined in Monksmoor Primary Covid 19 Risk Assessment.
- 3.2. There may be changes in resourcing the outside area to accommodate enhanced cleaning and to enable staff to prioritise supporting children in learning. Furthermore, following the guidance the outside areas for Nursery and Reception are situated in distinct areas of the setting to ensure separation of cohort 'Bubbles' leading to varied resources used exclusively by each cohort to ensure delivery of the EYFS curriculum in full.
- 3.3. In the event that resources are shared practitioners follow the procedures contained in 'Monksmoor Primary School Covid 19 Risk Assessment' which are regularly reviewed by SLT.

## **4. Forest School**

- 4.1. The Forest School programme enhances the children's outdoor learning across all areas of development whilst providing additional assessed risky freedom. Children in EYFS engage in dedicated Forest school sessions on a weekly basis throughout the year.
- 4.2. Practitioners will take necessary steps to amend resources and planning to provide activities in line with the documentation referred to above whilst recognising the dynamic nature of outdoor eLearning and its value.
- 4.3. Sessions will take account of the Forest School Risk assessment which contains information relevant to COVID-19 and is in line with the school's risk assessment.

## **5. Assessment**

- 5.1. Practitioners in Early Years will take particular care in assessing the wellbeing and emotional needs of children after a lengthy absence from school due to Covid 19, in conjunction with assessment methods detailed in the EYFS policy.
- 5.2. All Practitioners recognise the importance of wellbeing and mental health to learning and development as this is a strong focus in the ethos of the school.

## **6. Safeguarding and welfare**

- 6.1. This section should be read in the context of the School's overall Safeguarding Policy.
- 6.2. Behaviour expectations in EYFS continue to be covered by the School's Behaviour policy, which has a COVID-19 addendum.
- 6.3. Outside areas will be assessed for risk using the documentation referred to in the Introduction to Addendum. A copy of the amended risk assessment is attached highlighting changes in procedures for Autumn 1. We recognise this may change should further guidance and government advice be issued and will accordingly be updated.

## **7. Working with parents**

- 7.1. We recognise there is still a need to maintain a strong partnership between practitioners and parents and/or carers during the challenges of Covid 19. Practitioners will continue to use 2 Simple Evidence Me to keep parents and carers updated of all achievements and observations and we will encourage parental involvement, particularly where children may be absent due to illness or self-isolation.
- 7.2. Remote learning will be provided in accordance with the schools remote Learning Policies and a range of formats in EYFS will be used to facilitate this, including platforms on Evidence Me.

## **8. Transition to Monksmoor Park CE Primary School**

- 8.1. Due to the lockdown measures put in place by the Government and restrictions on gatherings, transition arrangements will only take place in accordance with government guidance and measures, and are subject to change as and when these vary. Where arrangements cannot take place in person such as Home visits, they will be arranged electronically via Zoom and telephone contact made with parents and carers.
- 8.2. Practitioners will contact by telephone previous settings of any new children attending school to ensure transition information received and any concerns are raised. This also applies to children joining the cohort after September 2020 or prior to new entry each term in Nursery. It will not be possible for children to be offered stay and play sessions under current guidance. Once guidance changes this facility will resume.
- 8.3. Parental information sessions such as Parent's Evening and Curriculum Information events will be held on Zoom as advised by Northamptonshire County Council.
- 8.4. Practitioners will also act in accordance with most recent Northampton County Council guidance as appropriate.

## **Policies which directly relate to this policy**

- > Equal Opportunities
- > Safeguarding Children
- > Behaviour
- > Health and Safety
- > Forest School
- > SEND
- > Remote Learning
- > Implementing protective measures
- > Attendance

Unless otherwise stipulated all Policies of Monksmoor park CE Primary School continue to apply.

**This policy was ratified by the Local Governing Body on:**

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**This policy will be reviewed by:**

..... (Date)

**Lead Manager:**

Sian Ellison

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