

Quwwat-Ul-Islam Girls' School



www.quwwatulislam.com

Together we can achieve more



EYFS Welcome Pack



School Motto
Together we can achieve more
School Values
Respect . Aspiration . Responsibility
Learning Drivers
Caring for Ourselves, Our World, Our Education, Our Rights

School Vision Statement

To establish a school of excellence both **Islamically** and **Academically** - Provide a **holistic** education which is inspired by: **Taqwa**: God consciousness **morals and values** inspired by the prophet (saw) coupled with **academic excellence**.

At Quwwat-UI-Islam girls' school we adhere to the following:

- **Mutual respect and tolerance** - We respect and care for everybody.
- **Democracy**– We promote the right of every individual to have their opinions and voices heard.
- **The rule of the law** – We understand that laws and rules protect us and at the same time provide us with responsibilities, by breaking them there are consequences.

EYFS Information

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكُمْ وَرَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ وَبَرَكَاتُهُ

Welcome to the Early Years Foundation Stage at Quwwat-ul-Islam Girls School. We hope you and your child enjoy the time you spend with us insha'Allah. Please read this booklet carefully and contact us directly if you have any further questions or queries.

Insha'Allah our aim is to work collectively with parents to ensure that all our new starters have a happy and successful experience during their time in Reception. We know that children make the most progress and learn best when parents, carers and staff work together to encourage and support children's learning.

We very much look forward to getting to know you and your child.



School Day

The school day starts at 8:15am prompt and finishes at 3:15pm.

Morning Procedure

The area around the school becomes very busy in the mornings, we therefore kindly request parents to take note of the following in order to ensure the safety of all our students.

If you drop your child off by car:

All EYFS students must be accompanied into school by a Parent/Guardian.

Please note: The area around the school is heavily restricted for permit holders only, with limited 30 minute bays allocated on nearby roads. Please ensure you park your car responsibly in a bay and walk your child to school.

When driving, please take care to watch the road ahead of you. Remember that Chaucer Road is a residential road and can become busy, with parents and children walking to and from school. Please take particular care to watch for pedestrians crossing the road, especially where Chaucer Road meets Upton Lane.

Pupils must be on-site and ready to start the school day at 8.15am.

Students arriving late must report to the receptionist and explain the reason for their lateness (please refer to the Attendance and Punctuality Policy for further details).

Students will be supervised in the hall/playground from, 8:05am - 8:15am by a member of staff.

It is important to note that any students arriving outside of these times will not be supervised. Please do not leave students unsupervised in the car park as this will be viewed as a safeguarding concern.

Reception

At Quwwat ul Islam Girls' School we are a one form entry, therefore we have only one Reception class.

We understand that starting school can be unsettling for children especially if they are coming to us from a different nursery setting or if they have not had the experience of attending a pre-school setting.

For this reason, children will initially start Reception on a part time basis:

- **Week 1** - Attend morning session - **8.30am-11.30am**
- **Week 2** - Attend morning session and stay for lunch - **8.30am-12.30pm**
- **Week 3** - Attend school on a full time basis - **8.15am-3.15pm**

We appreciate that this schedule may be difficult for some of our working parents. However, experience has shown that transition phases are the most effective way for children to experience a positive introduction to school life.

Lunchtime is often the most difficult time for children when they first begin school life, so do not be surprised if your child comes home very tired after lunch.

If you have any concerns about how your child is settling in or you feel that they may need to attend part time for longer, please speak to the class teacher and we will discuss what will be best for your child to help support their transition into Reception.

The class teacher may feel that a longer transition period is necessary for your child, in which case she will discuss this personally with you.

Children are expected to be in the playground by 8:15am. It is very important that your child arrives at school promptly and is ready and prepared to start the day. If your child is late, you should report this to the main office so that your child can be entered onto the register.

Home time – All parents should wait outside in the car park and your child will be dismissed by the class teacher. For safeguarding purposes your child will not be dismissed to another parent/adult unless previously arranged or authorised by the school.

Important Information

Starting school is a big step in your child's life and we wish for the settling in process to be as smooth as possible Insha'Allah. Please take the time to read this section of the booklet, as it will answer some of the questions you may have. If you have any further questions or queries, please do not hesitate to contact a member of the EYFS team.

What happens at lunchtime in the Early Years?



Your child has the option of having a hot school lunch or alternatively they can bring in a healthy packed lunch to school.

If your child chooses to bring in a packed lunch, the lunchbox must be clearly labelled with their name.

Packed lunches should consist of healthy food only. Please note that the following items are not allowed, nuts, fizzy drinks, sweets crisps or chocolates.

All Children eat their meals in the dining hall and are supervised by the Midday Staff. **The cost of a school lunch is £12 per week and must be paid by Wednesday each week by 9.00am.**

What happens if my child is unwell at school?

Children who become ill during the school day are looked after by the Welfare Officer/First Aider and if necessary, Parents/Carers will be contacted and asked to collect the child from school. It is very important that we have a contact telephone number and an emergency contact number so that we can easily contact you during the school day. Please do not bring your child to school if they are feeling unwell.

What should I do if my child is unable to attend school?

Government regulations require Parents/Carers to explain every absence from school. If your child is absent or late, please telephone the school office on, **020 8548 4736** to inform us of your child's absence and the reason why, so that the information can be logged onto our school database.

Please note, Holidays are not authorised during Term Time, for more information please refer to our, Attendance and Punctuality Policy.

Parent Helpers

Your active participation in Reception is welcomed at all times. You can be involved in sharing a skill such as cooking, gardening, carpentry, sewing etc. Playing games or reading stories to the children are other valuable ways of contributing to the daily routine at school. All helpers will be required to attend an induction session with the Deputy Head Teacher. If you would like to come and help in school, please speak to your child's teacher.

Parent Workshops

At Quwwat ul Islam Girls' School we strongly believe in working together with Parents/Carers to help support learning.

We run regular sessions for parents to attend; this is an effective way for us to share what we are teaching and how we teach certain topics so that Parents/Carers are able to support their child at home. We strongly believe that this is an effective way to enable us to work together to help children make the best progress possible Insha'Allah.

Home/School Reading

At Quwwat ul Islam Girls' School we want children to develop a love for reading and to enjoy reading and listening to stories both at home and at school.

During your child's time in Reception, we will send home a weekly guided reading book, this is a book that your child will have read in class with a member of staff and we expect your child to read it by themselves with encouragement and support from you.

During the Autumn Term we will Insha'Allah run a session for parents on how to support your child as they learn to read. If you have any queries or concerns about how you can support your child's reading please speak to the class teacher.

Children in Reception also have the opportunity to visit the school library once a week. Here they have the opportunity to choose a book to take home for the week. We kindly request that you look after the books; unfortunately if any books are damaged they will need to be paid for.

Are toys allowed at school?

Children are not allowed to bring items such as, toys, stickers, large footballs etc to school, with the exception of a comfort toy, which sometimes children may need to bring with them when they first start school. Please discuss this with the class teacher during the induction period/home visit.

Drinking Water

At Quwwat-ul-Islam we believe it is important that children have free access to water which is readily available. We have a number of water fountains around the school and water is always provided in the classroom.

Fruit and Milk

We provide a piece of fruit, a healthy snack and a carton of milk each day for the children. This helps children to stop feeling hungry throughout the afternoon and is also an important social friendship building time for the children. It also teaches children about the importance of eating healthy snacks.

Will my child have homework?

Each child will need a book bag when they first begin attending school. They will bring home books for you to read with them and a home/school reading diary. The teacher will write comments regarding your child's reading and this is a perfect opportunity for you to reply to the class teacher with comments about your child's reading at home. Reception children will bring home a weekly phonics activity to help reinforce the, 'Sound Of The Week'.

School Uniform

At Quwwat ul Islam Girls' School our Reception children wear school uniform which consists of:

- Grey dress
- White/Grey leggings
- White shirt/Polo shirt
- Black flat school shoes
- Red cardigan
- Grey shalwar kameez

For the Summer Term students have the option of wearing, a red and white checked dress worn with white trousers/leggings.



Alhumdulillah the children in Reception have free access to an outdoor area. It is therefore necessary to ensure that they are dressed appropriately. We ask that your child wears a waterproof coat to school in wet weather and protective clothing from the sun in the summer months.

Physical Education

PE Kit consists of:

- P.E. bag
- Red jogging bottoms
- White t-shirt
- Black plimsols

P.E. kits should be brought into school at the beginning of each Term. PE kits remain at school and will be sent home for washing at the end of each half term. Please ensure that all items of P.E. kit and school uniform are clearly labelled with your child's name.



Aims and Objectives

At Quwwat-ul-Islam we believe that every child's Tarbeeyah must be nurtured, valued and empowered to have the highest aspirations for their future and to reach their full potential through the provision of a stimulating, innovative and creative curriculum.

We strive for our learning community to achieve the highest possible standards by equipping them with the skills to succeed and inspiring a lifelong love of learning.

We are working together to:

- Continue to raise standards across the school, striving towards excellence
- Have high expectations of all our learners
- Develop our children's sense of purpose, understanding, motivation and ability to ask and answer questions objectively
- Maintain a team of staff who are valued and work well together
- Continue to develop a school ethos of Islamic values
- Develop the physical environment in which we all work and play
- Encourage strong school/home links
- Inspire our community to value education and its benefits
- Acknowledge our Islamic and British values whilst embracing our differences

Curriculum

The Reception curriculum is based on the Early Years Foundation Stage framework (EYFS). The EYFS is a set of statutory guidelines set out by the government which clearly outline what children should be able to achieve by the end of Reception.

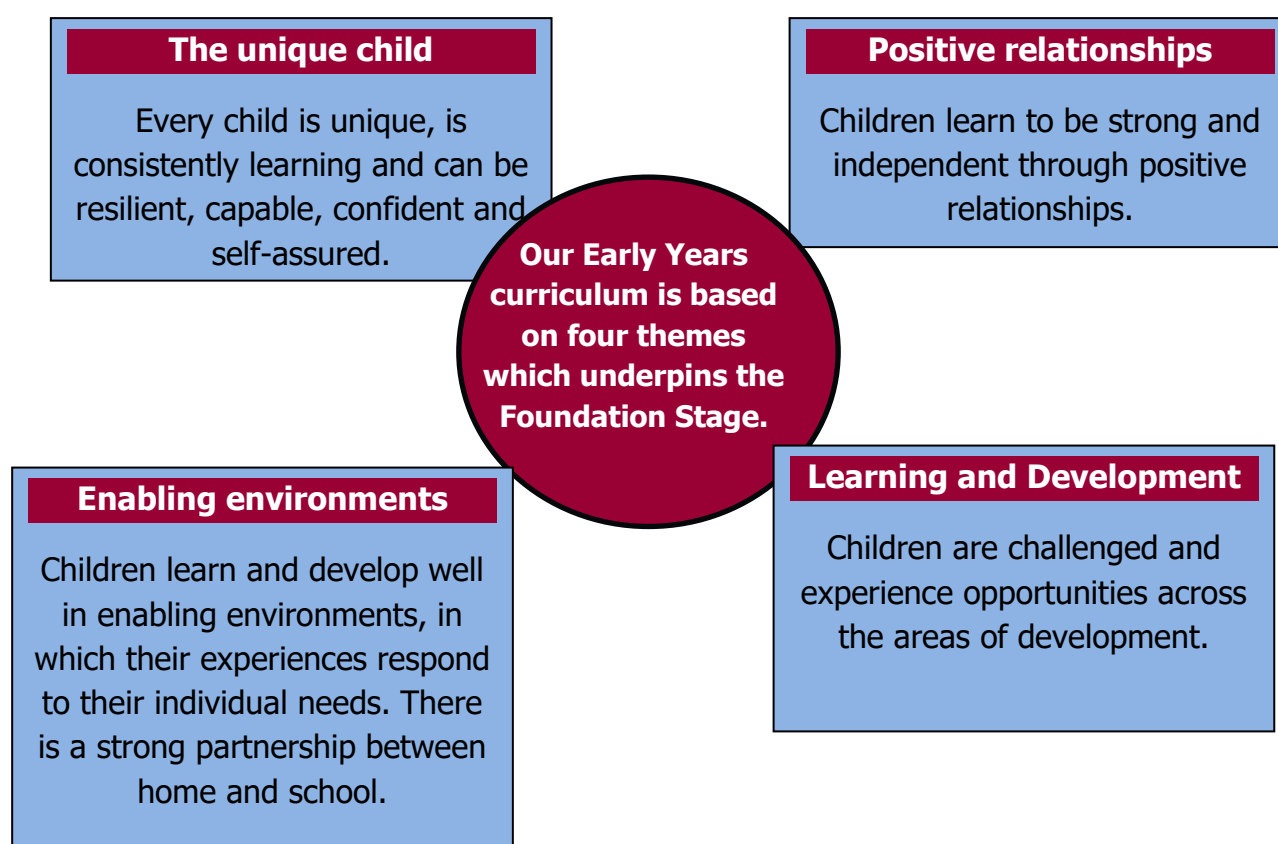
The EYFS framework:

- sets the standards that all early years providers must meet to ensure that children learn and develop well
- ensures children are kept healthy and safe
- ensures that children have the knowledge and skills they need to start school

At QUIGS we use the framework to help us plan high quality learning experiences. All of the learning experiences we offer the Foundation Stage are through play. It is through play that young children learn to make sense of the world around them, to formulate ideas and to build relationships with others.

Children are encouraged to choose their activities, both indoors and outdoors, they are encouraged to 'have a go' at all activities and areas of play and most importantly, to have fun!

Staff plan focus activities for your children each day, which are supported by an adult. We make regular observations of the children and use these to plan activities to develop their skills, based on what the children can and most importantly, what they like to do.

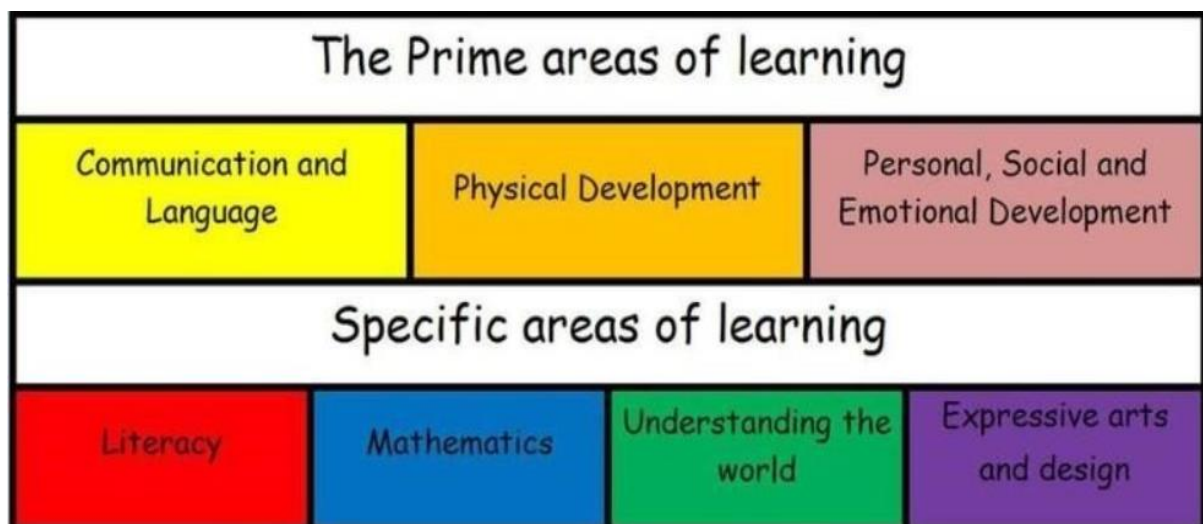


Seven Key Areas of Learning and Development

At Quwwat ul Islam Girls' School children are introduced to new ideas and further thinking through the seven Areas of Learning and Development.

The first three are known as the **Prime Areas** (Personal, Social and Emotional Development, Communication and Language and Physical Development) and develop quickly in response to relationships and experiences. This supports and scaffold the four **Specific Areas** (Literacy, Mathematics, Understanding the World and Expressive Arts and Design) which include essential skills and knowledge to ensure that children have the best possible start to their learning journey.

These skills, experiences and learning opportunities are presented to the children through meaningful play contexts and adult led activities which ensure that each child can play and explore in an active and engaging environment that allows them to be creative, think critically and take risks to achieve more.



Communication and Language

This area of learning includes non-verbal communication, speaking and listening and children expressing themselves effectively. Our classroom structure provides many opportunities for development in this area. We use areas such as, the role-play area and our book corner plus a wide range of other purposeful planned activities to enable children to practice and develop their skills.

Children will:

- Develop the use of appropriate language in many different activities and in every part of the curriculum
- Retell and talk about texts with confidence
- Listen to a range of stories and make relevant comments or ask questions
- Answer questions about their play
- Express themselves and develop their ideas

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

For children to be successful in all areas of learning, they need to feel secure and to develop a positive sense of themselves. Much of our provision is based on the need to provide opportunities for personal, social and emotional development.

Children will:

- Respect themselves and others and develop a positive self-image
- Take turns and share
- Feel confident to take risks and cope with mistakes
- Make friends and co-operate in a group
- Develop a positive attitude to learning
- Understand and embrace differences in gender, special needs, ethnicity, religion and cultures

Physical Development

In the Foundation Stage, Physical Development is vital in helping children to develop a positive sense of well-being. Children learn to improve their coordination, control, manipulation and movement. Children learn through being active and also enhance their physical development through other key strands.

Children will:

- Experiment with actions using small and large apparatus
- Use different resources in different situations
- Practice large and small movements both inside and outside, such as climbing and jumping and writing
- Develop their skills using small apparatus and playing games
- Discuss the importance of good health and how we can be healthy at home and school
- Respond with movement to different stimuli, such as music, stories and rhymes

Literacy

Children will have opportunities to listen to, retell and read a wide range of texts. They will write for many different purposes across many different areas. Children will link sounds to letters and use their phonic knowledge to write, giving meaning to their mark making.

Children will:

- Share and read a range of high quality books with adults and each other and learn how text works
- Retell and talk about texts with confidence
- Learn that words have meaning and develop knowledge of letter sounds
- Know there are different scripts
- Communicate their ideas confidently through drawing, mark making and writing

Mathematics

This area of learning involves counting, sorting, matching, recognising patterns, working with money, identifying shapes and measuring.

We develop children's mathematical understanding through play, stories and rhymes as well as investigative and problem solving activities.

At Quwwat-ul-Islam we are committed to a practical approach to the learning and teaching of mathematics. We believe that children will develop a firmer understanding of mathematical concepts if they are provided with a range of practical experiences which allow them to practise and develop their skills.

Children will:

- Use and recognise numbers
- Count and order numbers
- Develop an understanding of more and less
- Make simple calculations
- Become aware of, recognise and name simple shapes
- Understand and compare measures and learn about time

Understanding the World

In this area we help children to develop the knowledge skills and understanding to help them make sense of the world. At Quwwat-ul-Islam Girls' School we strongly believe that it is the foundation for later work in subjects such as, Science, Design & Technology, History, Information Technology, Geography, Islamic Studies and Religious Education.

We provide children with opportunities to find out about the world around them and to ask questions.

They design and make different objects using a wide range of tools and materials. We enable children to find out about the past and learn about the school and where they live.

They become aware of differences in gender, ethnicity, culture, language and religion. Children select and use technology for different purposes.

Children will:

- Develop their skills to use and explore a variety of tools and materials
- Investigate how things work
- Learn about living and non-living things
- Measure, join, cut, select and combine materials
- Have opportunities for exploration, observation, problem-solving, prediction, critical thinking, decision making and discussion
- Use technology for a variety of different purposes

Expressive Arts and Design

This area of learning includes art, role-play and imaginative play. Throughout the Foundation Stage, children need many and varied opportunities to develop creatively. It is an important area of the curriculum, as being creative enables children to make connections between one area of learning to another.

Children will:

- Express their creativity and originality through art and imaginative play
- Develop an appreciation of art from different cultures
- Experiment and work with a range of different techniques and materials to express their ideas
- Talk about their work and develop confidence to express their ideas

We hope that Insha'Allah the information contained in this booklet is useful in helping you to understand the EYFS provision we provide at Quwwat ul Islam Girls' School. If you have any further questions or enquiries please feel free to contact us directly:

Telephone: 020 8548 4736
Email Address: info @quwwatulislam.com