

An Inclusive Early Years Curriculum and Routine: Information for Parents/Carers

In Reception, your child will be following the 'Early Years Foundation Stage' (EYFS) statutory framework. This recognises that:

- Every child is a unique child, who is constantly learning.
- Children learn to be strong and independent through positive relationships.
- Children learn well in enabling environments with teaching and support from adults, who respond to their individual interests and needs.
- Children benefit from a strong partnership between practitioners and parents/carers.
- Children develop and learn at different rates.

All, some or a few of the children may benefit from some additional or different activities or approaches that better support their engagement and learning. You may notice or hear about:



Lots of pictures or symbols.

These really help children with their communication and independence. Timelines and communication boards include symbols to represent everyday activities alongside text.

If you would like a copy of any of these to use at home, please ask the teacher.



[Early Years Speech & Language Therapy resources](#)



Use of Makaton

Just like Mr Tumble, adults using Makaton support children to engage and understand. It is always used alongside speech, and helps children make connection between words and actions – please don't worry that they will sign instead of speaking.



[Home](#)



Attention Autism/Bucket Time

Not just for autistic children! 'People learn best when they are filled with enthusiasm, motivation and creativity'. Attention Autism supports:

- Shared enjoyment in group activities
- Increased communication
- Learning through visual teaching

Children may talk about 'Bucket Time' or something similar. One of the ways that the children learn is by watching first and then taking a turn at later stages. So, if they talk about not be allowed to touch the things in the bucket, this is why. Most children love this activity.



[Home - Attention Autism Ltd | UK & Ireland](#)



Sensory Circuits:

A Sensory Circuit is a short plan of physical activities that supports children to achieve an optimal level of alertness. It consists of three stages:

1. Alerting Activity
2. Organising Activity
3. Calming Activity

Some children are more sensitive to sensory input and will benefit from different activities throughout the day. Most children really enjoy the circuits and find they help them to calm and focus on the next bit of their day.

A few children may also find it really helpful to have their own 'chewelry' so that they can independently have some sensory input that helps them to calm and focus when they need to.



[Sensory – Children and Young People’s Services](#)



'Table-top'/'Workstation' Activities

Classrooms can be busy! Many children like to take a break by doing something at a table without distraction. Some children will be encouraged to spend time at these to practice something that they have learnt or to have a go at something before everyone does it in the group. It can help children feel calmer and provides structure for those that find it helpful and comforting. Usually, they will do these activities on their own or with an adult; sometimes they might do them with a friend.

If you have any questions, please ask your teacher.

Dingley's Promise Training

Are you a parent or carer of children with SEND?
Do you want to drive early years inclusive practice in your area?

Dingley's Promise Training is currently supporting over 22,000 educators to improve their skills and confidence to work with children in the early years with SEND.

Parents are also benefiting from the strategies and information our training offers.

Scan below to find out about the available training courses

We are also looking for parent carers of Children with SEND, to support our work by encouraging settings in their area to take up and benefit from the inclusion training
Email info@dingley.org.uk for more information
Together we can build a more inclusive early years!

Bristol SEND News for families
June 2025
www.bristolparentcarers.org.uk

Young person approaching adulthood?
Find co-produced resources and funding grants to support your young person...

Annual SEND Survey
Tell Bristol what you think of their local SEND services

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