



Welcome to Cragside Church of England Primary school. This handout is to outline expectations for learning when your child joins our Reception class.

Every child develops at their own pace, but by the time children leave Reception, most are building these skills and knowledge. This helps them feel ready and confident for Year One.

Communication and Language - Your child is learning to:

- Listen carefully and respond to what others say.
- Follow instructions with several parts.
- Use talk to explain their ideas, share stories, and ask questions.
- Use a wide range of vocabulary — including new words from stories and experiences.
- Take turns in conversations and speak clearly in front of others.

This helps them: express themselves confidently and understand what they hear in class.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development -Your child is learning to:

- Understand and talk about their own feelings and respect others' feelings.
- Play cooperatively, taking turns and solving problems with friends.
- Try new activities and keep going, even when things are tricky.
- Follow school routines and simple rules without reminders.
- Look after their own belongings and manage personal needs independently.

This helps them: be confident, resilient, and ready for the routines of Year 1.

Physical development - Your child is learning to:

- Move with control and coordination in games and on equipment.
- Show strength, balance, and good posture when moving.
- Use tools like scissors, paintbrushes, and cutlery safely and correctly.
- Form letters correctly using a comfortable pencil grip.
- Understand how to stay healthy through food, exercise, and rest.

This helps them: take part in PE, handwriting, and everyday classroom tasks with confidence.

Literacy - Your child is learning to:

- Read simple sentences and talk about what they've read.
- Recognise and use letter sounds (phonics) to read and spell words.
- Enjoy a range of books, poems, and stories.
- Write simple sentences to share their ideas.
- Use spaces, capital letters, and full stops when writing.

This helps them: become confident early readers and writers, ready for Key Stage 1 learning.



Mathematics - Your child is learning to:

- Recognise, count, and use numbers to 20 and beyond.
- Add and subtract small numbers using objects, pictures, or in their head.
- Notice and create patterns and talk about shapes and measures.
- Compare length, weight, and capacity using everyday language.
- Spot numbers and maths ideas in the world around them (e.g. time, money, sharing).

This helps them: build a strong understanding of numbers and problem-solving.

Understanding the world - Your child is learning to:

- Talk about their own life, family, and community.
- Notice similarities and differences between places, people, and cultures.
- Observe and discuss changes in the natural world, seasons, and materials.
- Use technology for a purpose — like taking photos or using a computer safely.
- Show curiosity about the past and how things change over time.

This helps them: make sense of the world and how things are connected.

Expressive Arts and Design- Your child is learning to:

- Create artwork using colour, texture, and shape with imagination.
- Act out stories, make up songs, and express ideas through music and movement.
- Build and design using different materials.
- Talk about their creations — what they like and what they might change.
- Use art and play to show their feelings, stories, and experiences.

This helps them: be imaginative, creative, and confident in expressing themselves.

When children leave Reception, we want them to be:

- **Confident** to have a go and try new things,
- **Curious** about the world and how things work,
- **Communicative** and able to share ideas clearly,
- **Caring** towards others, and
- **Ready** for the exciting learning ahead in Year 1.