

Assessment in the Early Years

Prior to joining Mayflower:

Teachers take note of information gathered from visits to feeder nurseries and home visits with children and parents. Our 'stay and play' sessions and 'coffee mornings' also allow us an opportunity to gain further information on our children and help us to prepare for when they join us. This information is used to inform the enabling environment we create for our children on-entry.

When children begin with us:

During the first 6 weeks of joining the school, children will be assessed on the Reception Baseline Assessment (RBA). This is with the class teacher with a series of games. This provides a starting point to where the children are when they arrive and will help to measure the progress they make between Reception and the end of primary school.

At Mayflower, staff will observe the development of pupils and track their progress, using 'Birth to 5 Matters' as guidance. They then plan next steps for pupils and/or make adjustments to the provision on offer, in order for pupils to progress on their learning journey with us.

In the final term of the Reception year, children will be assessed on whether they have achieved the Early Learning Goals (ELG's) for the different areas of learning. This profile data is then used to inform parents about their child's development against the Early Learning Goals and Characteristics of Learning. It will also assist Year 1 colleagues to plan for the children's transition into Key Stage 1 and inform their provision, so that it meets the needs of the children joining at the beginning of their Key Stage 1.

Characteristics of Effective Learning (CoEL):

Teachers will observe children and the way they approach, interact and explore, based on the Characteristics of Effective Learning. These are:

1. Playing and exploring
2. Active Learning
3. Creating and thinking critically

The information from observations of Characteristics of Effective Learning are vital in understanding how individual children learn and develop.