



FIRST STEPS
Crossacres
Primary
Academy



WELCOME TO OUR OUTSTANDING SCHOOL!

We are a large school with a big personality and we strive to give all of our pupils the skills and confidence they need to make the most of their time with us. We want children to feel safe, happy and secure, and ready to continue their school journey.



Children can join us from the age of three, where they begin their school life in our new, purpose built Early Years setting with its own entrance. Children can explore their surroundings in our well planned and spacious classrooms, and have access to an enviable outdoor space with plenty to keep little minds and bodies active and engaged. From climbing frames and bicycle tracks to a story time area and quiet nooks, imaginations are sparked throughout the day.


Our experienced Early Years staff and their teaching have been judged as outstanding in our most recent OFSTED report, and children make **“outstanding progress by the end of Reception”**.

Our curriculum is rich and imaginative and all children are well catered for, whatever their learning styles, and a rigorous monitoring and reporting system ensures that children meet their learning targets.

Developing relationships with parents and carers is important to us, and we welcome opportunities to discuss your child’s progress.

Starting school is a big step for a little person, and it can be a scary time for parents too! We take care to ensure that our youngest members are happy and thriving in their new environment, and are ready for their seamless move to Key Stage 1.

Suzanne Blay, Headteacher



"Children are happy and settled in the bright, stimulating environment which encourages them to be active, creative and confident learners."

Latest OFSTED report





FIRST STEPS IN LEARNING

Literacy and numeracy are taught from Nursery and our youngest children learn through carefully planned and adult led activities. They have access to a great range of resources that promote learning in a structured way, and our teaching methods adapt to fit with individual children's needs.

Our experienced staff deliver the curriculum through exciting and interesting topics to appeal to all children. Each half term the children focus on a different topic, which is carefully planned to ensure they have a meaningful and enjoyable experience that they can relate to, and gain more knowledge and skills.

Nursery is staffed by two teachers and three teaching assistants, and each

NURSERY

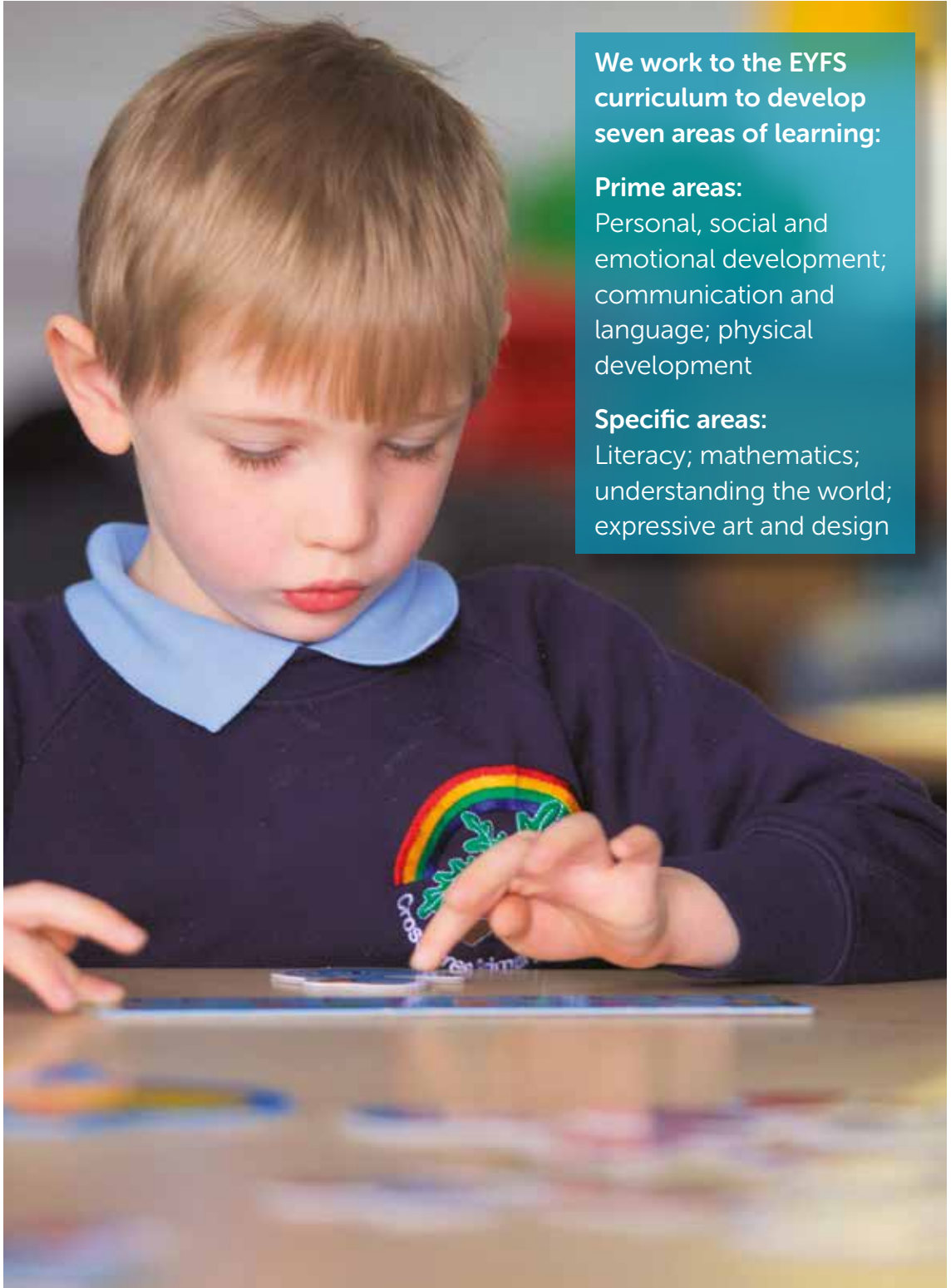
Children learn through interaction with the different curriculum areas in their classrooms. They develop their literacy skills through learning to love books, sharing stories, learning letter sounds and learning how to use a pencil to write their names and other words. They develop their numeracy skill through counting, recognising numbers, looking for shapes and measuring.

RECEPTION

Our older children begin more formal learning whilst still experiencing their time with us as fun. Reception is their transition to 'big school' and they begin to learn more about phonics and how to read and write. Through exciting activities the children learn how numbers can be used to solve problems and calculations. They also learn about shapes and measuring objects.

Reception class has a teacher and a teaching assistant. All children are assigned a member of staff who is their key worker, and who is responsible for their individual development and progress. This is an important point of contact for parents, and key workers are able to offer valuable and insightful feedback about a child. This is due to the close bond they have with individual children, and their ability to tune in to the specific needs of each child. They know the children's personalities and emotional needs, so are able to offer support and guidance.

If your child needs some additional support from time to time we are able to offer tailored guidance through, for example, speech and language groups.



We work to the EYFS curriculum to develop seven areas of learning:

Prime areas:

Personal, social and emotional development; communication and language; physical development

Specific areas:

Literacy; mathematics; understanding the world; expressive art and design



There is a very strong sense of commitment and energy which is shared by all staff."

Latest OFSTED report



A young boy with light brown hair, wearing a dark blue quilted jacket and dark pants, is riding a green tricycle on a paved path. He is smiling and looking back over his shoulder. The background shows a school playground with a green metal fence and a building with a blue roof. The scene is captured in a cinematic style with soft lighting.

THE GREAT OUTDOORS

Children can use our outdoor facilities every day. We have outdoor lessons with focussed activities, which give them space to practice the skills they are learning in the classroom. Hands on learning promotes physical skills such as running, jumping and climbing and also social skills such as sharing and taking a turn.



“Teaching is always engaging and provides opportunities for pupils to use and apply their basic skills in different subjects and real-life contexts.”

Latest OFSTED report





GETTING READY FOR SCHOOL

We want your child to be independent, sociable, happy and settled. Your child will find it easier to start school if they can:

Go to the toilet by themselves

Put on their own coat

Play nicely with other children and share their toys

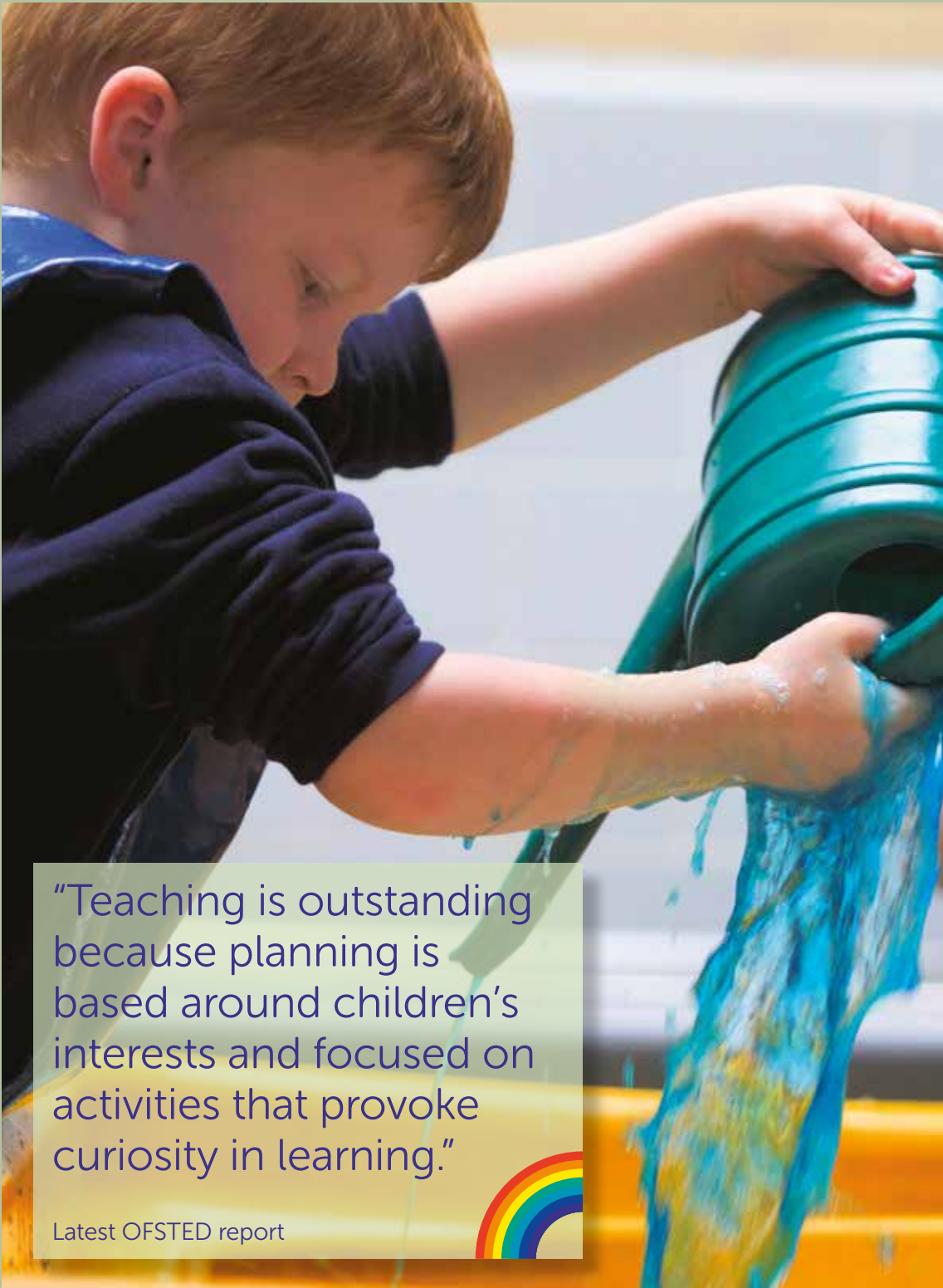
Talk to grown ups and children to ask questions and tell them what they are doing

Listen and follow an instruction

A BIG LEAP TO BIG SCHOOL

Getting ready for Year 1 is a serious business for little people, and we do all we can to make the journey an enjoyable, rewarding and happy one. Nursery and Reception children attend the school's celebration assemblies, which familiarises them with the main school buildings, and gives them experience of being with the bigger children. Reception groups also attend weekly assemblies.

We plan several initiatives specifically designed to help your child move confidently into Year 1, which include visiting their new class and teacher.



“Teaching is outstanding because planning is based around children’s interests and focused on activities that provoke curiosity in learning.”

Latest OFSTED report



EXTENDED DAY

Our commitment to pupils doesn't finish at the end of the school day, and we have many programmes in place to extend their day from 8am to 6pm. Your children will be safely supervised by experienced members of staff when they are transferring from the clubs to the classroom.

Breakfast and after school clubs

We offer a breakfast club every school day from 8am where children receive a nutritious breakfast.

Children can attend our after school club from the end of school until 6pm and take part in activities, as well as having a healthy snack. Places must be booked in advance through the school office.

Holiday club

Everyone is welcome to take part in our holiday club, which runs throughout the school holidays from 8am to 6pm.

We design a programme of activities which changes regularly. Again, places must be booked in advance through the school office.

ADMISSIONS

Please contact the school office if you would like to register for a place in Nursery. Application forms must be completed and returned before the February half term in the year your child is due to begin in Nursery.

To register for a place in Reception you must apply through the local authority. The application process relies on strict deadlines for submission, so please carefully check these dates for the year you wish your child to begin in Reception. You must place Crossacres Primary Academy as your first choice if you would like your child to attend the school.

frog

earwig

ponc

spider

cat

beetle

wasp




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