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APLEY WOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL

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30th September 2020

Dear Parents/ Carers,

All children in Reception are part of 'The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS).' The EYFS has its own DFE Statutory Framework that Early Years Providers must follow to ensure quality and consistency in all Early Years settings, allowing all children to make good progress and provide a secure foundation. Recently, changes have been made to the framework, which come into place for all schools in September 2021.

However, on 1st July 2020, the DFE released the 'Early Adopter' Version of the new EYFS Framework. This specific version is aimed at 'Early Adopter' schools as of September 2020 and will remain in place for one year or until further notice. Schools have been given the choice to be Early Adopters and it is our legal obligation to make you aware that Apley Wood Primary School has opted to do so this academic year.

At the end of their Reception year we assess your children and decide if they have met a set of Early Learning Goals in 7 different areas of learning. New guidance to support learning over the Reception year has been released alongside these new Early Learning Goals, called Development Matters. Development Matters is not a checklist of things that your child should do, rather it is guidance for adults who work with children, to help them to support and embed your child's learning journey. Please find attached the Early Learning Goals which our children are working towards and are expected to meet by the end of the Reception year.

Nothing will change for your child. We will continue to offer them the highest quality learning experiences in school and we will continue to develop the whole child, thinking about how they learn and who they are as individuals. We hope that your child is unaware that anything different is going on, it is definitely business as usual for them!

The EYFS team are working hard to implement the recently published changes and guidance closely and are quickly becoming experts in what is expected of your child. For example, the changes to the mathematics curriculum are quite significant, which is why we are focusing children on a 'number of the week.' At the end of the year we will still use our knowledge of your child, your knowledge of your child and evidence we have gathered throughout the year, to make informed judgements about whether they have met their Early Learning Goals.

Thank you for your continued support,

Miss Smith
and the EYFS Team

