

Early Years Curriculum

Prime Areas:

Communication and Language

- Listening, Attention and Understanding
- Speaking

The development of children's spoken language is key and children are given opportunities to communicate in a variety of situations for example role-play, storytelling, conversations etc. Children are also encouraged to read and are read to frequently engaging them actively with stories, non-fiction, rhymes, tongue twisters, poems etc.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

- Self-Regulation
- Managing Self
- Building Relationships

This area needs to be secure for maximum learning to take place in all other seven areas and is crucial for children to lead healthy, happy lives. Children are encouraged to build their own independence, self-confidence and play and work together in groups. Children also learn how to look after their bodies, including healthy eating and manage personal needs independently.

Physical Development

- Gross Motor Skills
- Fine Motor Skills

This area is vital in children's all-round development, enabling them to pursue an active life. Through games and providing opportunities to play inside and outside children can develop their gross motor skills, for example: core strength, balance, spatial awareness, coordination, agility etc. Developing children's fine motor skills through different activities like threading, scooping, cutting etc. helps develop precision and hand-eye coordination.

Specific Areas:

Literacy

- Comprehension
- Word Reading
- Writing

At ONIS we place a strong focus on reading and developing children's life-long love of reading. We follow the Jolly Phonics program, which encourages children to become competent and confident with phonics to progress to being able to read fluently. When the children start to read, they work systematically through our reading scheme; which is a combination of ORT, Songbirds, Fireflies and Jolly Readers to ensure the children experience a range of books. Language pronunciation and comprehension skills are also integrated within the

Early Years program. We focus on children starting with developing their pre-writing skills to be able to write their letters using accurate formation.

Mathematics

- Number
- Numerical Patterns

Children are encouraged to develop a positive attitude and interest in mathematics, to always 'have a go', look for patterns and connections. Children are also stimulated to develop a strong knowledge of numbers and spatial reasoning through games, songs, practical activities and relating to real life experiences.

Understanding the World

- Past and Present
- People, Culture and Communities
- The Natural World

We focus on different topics throughout the academic year encouraging the children to relate to their own personal experiences. Activities are planned to let the children explore and find out about people, culture, communities and the natural world.

Expressive Arts and Design

- Creating with Materials
- Being Imaginative and Expressive

The children are involved in a range of creative activities for example art, cooking, performing, music, movement etc. The children enjoy being creative using different tools, materials, exploring resources and using their imagination.