



Welcome to our School - July 2026





We see each child as an **individual** and we want to deepen their love of learning through play.

Learning takes place in a **meaningful** and **purposeful** context.

Learning in Reception is **active** and **dynamic** and centred around the child.





Ashton Gater Characteristics



Ashton Gater Characteristics



Kind

Resilient

Independent

Respectful

Creative

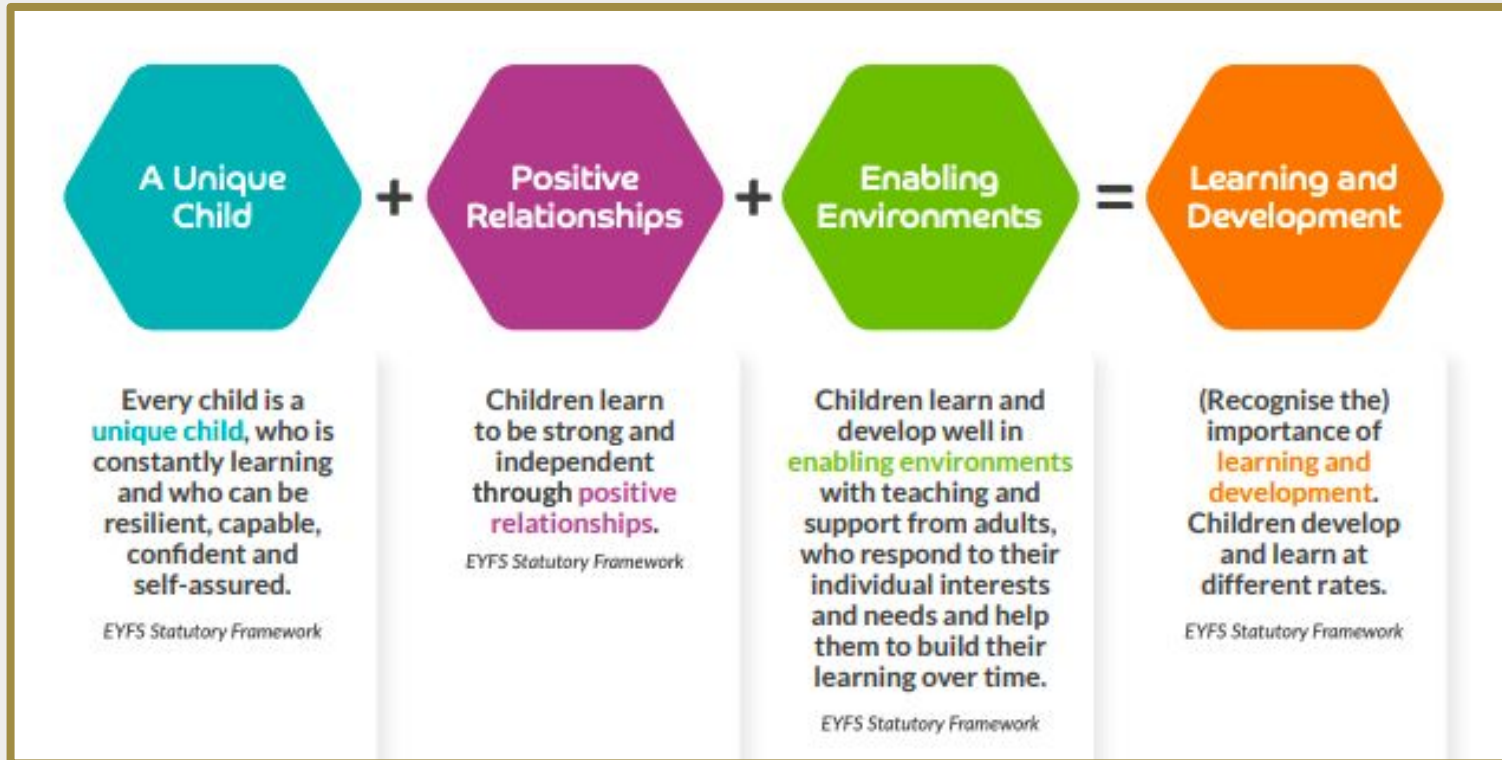
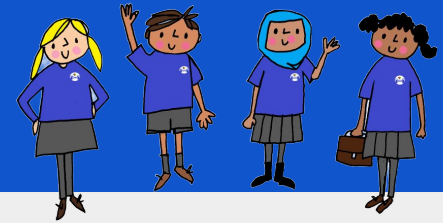
Motivated

Confident





Early Years Foundation Stage





Effective learning



Characteristics of Effective Learning:

Playing and Exploring

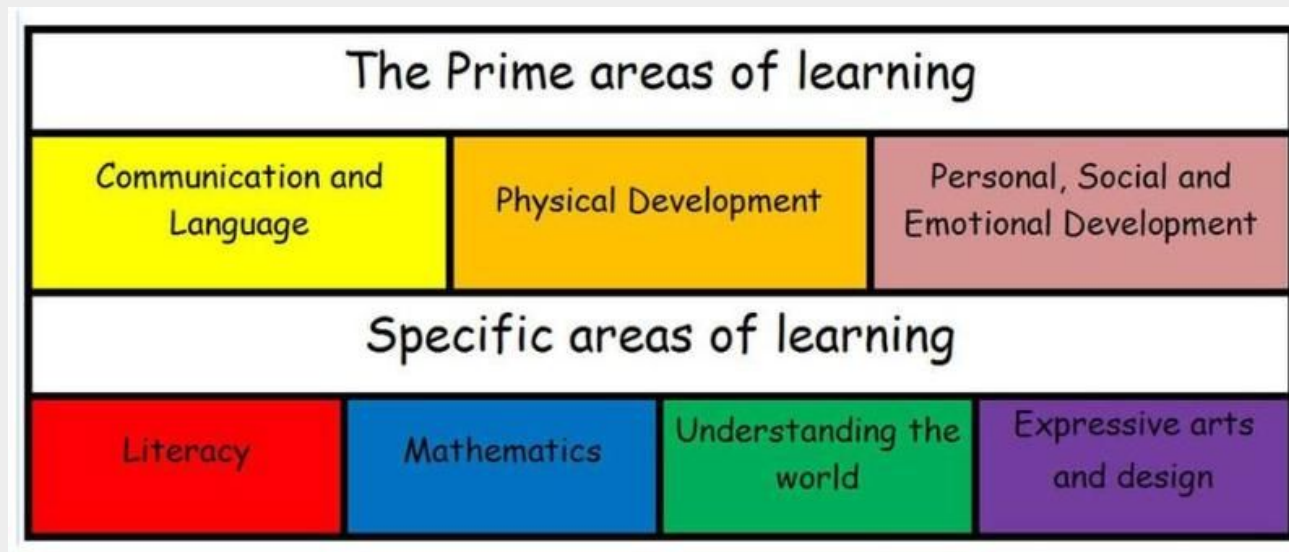
Active Learning

Creating and Thinking Critically

Emotional Wellbeing



Early Years Foundation Stage





What wider experiences are there?



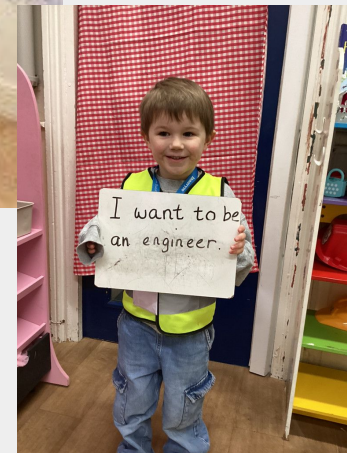
Exciting Trips and local visits
Using our local environment.



Forest
School



Dress Up
days



Performances



How do you use outside?



Outside is an extra class room!

We go out in all weather.





What is Tapestry?

- Online learning diary with photographs, comments and details about what your child has been doing at school.
- Focus is on quality interactions, rather than recording everything.
- You will receive log-in details and we'd love you to comment/contribute.



Block Play

11 May 2026, 20:07 by [Lucy Carkeek](#)  Injournal



What happens with settling in?



- Information sent outlining the settling in procedure.
- In September the children settle in in small groups.
- The first full week is the 21st September 2026.
- Arranged Home Visits
- Please see AGOSC for wraparound care for the settling in period.





What uniform do they wear?



- Charcoal grey/black trousers/skirt
- Blue/white polo shirt
- Summer dresses/shorts
- Blue/white PE t-shirt with blue/black shorts
- Fastenings they can do for themselves – e.g. Velcro on shoes (particularly for PE)
- Everything labelled/named please!





What do we bring?

- Book bag – your child's reading diary and reading books will be in here once they have settled in
- Named water bottle
- Weather appropriate clothing (e.g. raincoats, sunhats, wellies)





What is the school day like?



- 8.40-8.50 Children arrive 'bell time'
- 8.50-9.20 Register, circle/carpet time
- 9.30- 11.00 Developmental playtime free-flow inside and out (including mid-morning snack)
- 11.00-11.30 Circle/carpet time and getting ready for lunch
- 11.30-12.30 Lunch
- 12.30-12.50 Register, Circle/carpet time
- 12.50-2.30 Developmental playtime free-flow inside and out
- 2.30-2.45 Afternoon snack time
- 2.45-3.10 Story/singing time and getting ready for home



Which door do we go in?

Caterpillar
Class
(in and out)





Which door do we go in?

Bumblebee
Class
(in and out)





Which door do we go in?



In

Ladybird Class

Out





What happens with lunch?

- Universal free school meals
- Choice of meat, vegetarian, jacket potato, salad bowl, Halal (or you can bring a packed lunch from home)
- Chosen a week in advance (by 10pm on the Wednesday before) on Parentpay (the menu is available for you to discuss with your child at home).
- Parentpay log-in details will be given to you on Monday 7th September and your first order will need to be in place by 10pm on 9th September.





Do they have a snack?



- Free fruit provided daily
- Water bottles (and jugs of water and cups) available all day
- Afternoon snack time during which children have milk and a cracker/savoury biscuit
- Milk is free until they turn 5 at which point you will have a letter from the dairy and can chose to continue by paying
- We ask for a voluntary contribution of £18 a year (which can be paid to the teacher for the year in advance/termly) for the crackers





How does school communicate?



- Parentpay/Arbor
- Weekly newsletter
- Our website/Facebook
- Come and have a chat
- Come and share your skills!





What about reading?



- Reading diary – to be written in at school and when you read with your child at home
- Little Wandle phonics scheme
- Choose a time that works for you and your child
- Parents meeting to talk about reading and the Reception curriculum in more detail in Autumn term
- Read with your child, share stories, poems, nursery rhymes, comics and have fun!
- Notice print in your environment





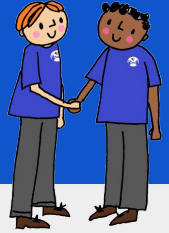
What can we do to get ready for school?

- Independence with getting dressed and going to the toilet
- Encourage their fine motor skills (if they want to write their name, a capital at the beginning, then lower case letters)
- Talk with your child about the world around them
- Share stories with your child
- Notice numbers in their environment and talk about numbers that are important to them.
- Talk with your child about how much fun school will be!





We can't wait to see you all in September!



If you have any questions beforehand, please feel free to get in touch:

Cath Sands (Early Years Lead)
csands@ashtongateprimary.org

Louisa Gerolemou (Head of School, Ashton Site)
lgerolemou@ashtongateprimary.org

Angela Akbayir (Ashton Site Secretary)
aakbayir@ashtongateprimary.org