



Start Point Class 2020-21

Autumn Term Curriculum Overview

Welcome to Start Point Class!

The children have a wonderful term of adventure, activities and learning awaiting them! Keep reading to see what we will be up to this term!

The Achievosaurus - helping us to learn!

Here at Charleton, we refer to the *Characteristics of Effective Learning*. These characteristics detail the ways in which children should be learning from their environment, experiences and activities. Children will display these characteristics everyday during their time in Start Point, and beyond. The characteristics of effective learning are split into three main areas. These are:

- **Playing and Exploring:** this shows how the child *is engaging*.
- **Actively Learning:** shows the *motivation* behind the child's learning
- **Creating and Thinking Critically:** this shows the *thought* processes behind learning and new achievements

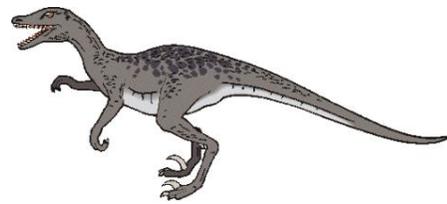
In Start Point, we talk about these Characteristics as if they were dinosaurs! The dinosaurs provide a child-friendly way of talking about their learning and the choices they have made, as well as helping them to learn life skills and to reinforce positive values within our class and the wider Academy community.

Our Achievosaur Dinosaurs for this term will help develop the children to our investigation skills and encourage us to ask questions.



Explorasaur

"I am Explorasaur! I explore everything around me!"



Askaraptor

"I am Askaraptor! I ask lots of questions!"

The Prime Areas: putting in solid foundations

During the Autumn term, our focus for the Reception children is to ensure their development in the Prime Areas is well developed. The Prime Areas of Personal, Social and Emotional Development (PSED), Communication and Language (CL) and Physical Development (PD) underpin every other aspect of a child's development and learning throughout their Reception year and beyond. If these foundation elements are strong, then each child will have an enjoyable and successful lifetime of learning ahead of them.

PSED

PSED underpins and flows throughout all our learning in Start Point and throughout the school community, helping us to learn and play alongside our friends. We will continue to strengthen our understanding and respect of others, as well as how we can diffuse difficult situations in a calm and fair way.

The children have several opportunities on a daily basis to undertake roles of responsibility, whether they are in charge of taking the register or our Line Leader.

Communication & Language

The children are taught in a language rich environment, exposing them to a plethora of vocabulary and explanations that help to deepen their learning and thinking. This area covers the skills of listening, speaking and thinking about their use of language. This is a key priority and we plan opportunities on a daily basis to enhance every child's Communication and Language.

Physical Development

In Start Point we provide numerous daily opportunities for the children to develop their coordination, control, and movement. The children will develop their fine motor skills through activities such as Finger Gym challenges, regular scissor, brush and pencil control activities. We will also develop gross motor skills through ball control, simple gymnastic movements and coordination in our daily PE sessions. In Start Point, we help children to understand the importance of a range of physical activity and to make healthy choices in relation to food.

Mathematics

As mathematicians, the children in Reception will engage in a range of learning opportunities that allow them to demonstrate and explain their understanding of our numbers within 10.



The Reception children will begin to recognise their numbers 0-5 in a range of ways, including numeral recognition. We will use a range of practical, real life problems to draw out the children's thinking through mathematical discussions and learning opportunities in the environment. We will also explore sorting and classifying of objects into different groups. The children will be encouraged to record their mathematical thinking in a way that is meaningful to them.

Literacy & English

The development of Literacy here in Start Point Class is focused on the immersion of the children in a language rich environment, securing their enjoyment and engagement with the written and spoken word.

We will share a variety of high quality texts, both fiction and non-fiction to explore authorial voice and writerly craft in an age appropriate way. The children will be introduced to and deepen their love of storytelling through our *Favourite Five* books and lots of gorgeously written class novels.



Phonics is taught using the *Read Write Inc.* programme which teaches children to read accurately and fluently with good comprehension. They learn to form each letter, spell correctly, and compose their ideas step-by-step.

The children in Reception will be encouraged and supported to mark make and write by tapping into their interests through a range of learning opportunities throughout the learning environment and through their Learning Play.

This is Me - People & Communities

As a new year begins and a new year group enters Start Point, it is the perfect time for us all to get to know each other! In our welcome packs, you will have received a brown bag biography and family portrait strip; these will help form some of our getting to know me activities and learning opportunities over the first couple of weeks.



The children will be provided with lots of opportunities to build new friendships, as well as strengthening existing ones.

The World Around Us - Forest School, Science & Geography

We are extremely lucky that our lovely school is set in such a breathtaking position close to rolling fields and the estuary. Over the course of the year, both the Reception and Year 1 children will have a half term at Forest School with Pete from Forest & Beach, as well as going on regular welly walks. These opportunities allow the children to engage with and explore the local area. We look at the variety of wild plants and flowers growing in the fields and hedgerows. We will also observe and describe the seasonal changes we notice over the coming months.



Religious Education

As global citizens, the Reception children will be looking at belonging and being special. This ties in beautifully with their *This is Me* learning over the first half term. As Christmas is a very important time to Christians, we will spend lots of time exploring the story of the Nativity through storytelling and discussion about Advent and the importance of Jesus' birth.



Art & Design



As artists and designers in Start Point, we will be investigating and experimenting with a range of drawing, painting and 3D construction materials. The children will create their own self portraits using a range of materials and techniques, linking in with the learning for both the Reception and Year 1 children. The children will be introduced to simple colour techniques, including colour mixing, shade and tone. We will also learn about artists and some of the techniques they used to create their art.

Technology

As designers and constructors, we will be empowered to be inquisitive, curious learners. We will be looking at a range of houses, including those in the village, and identifying key features before constructing them, linking to our learning in Geography.

Computing

As users and programmers of communication and information technology, we will develop our computational thinking, logical reasoning and digital literacy through using different programmes.



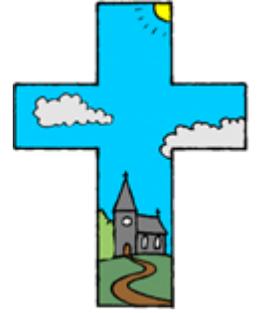
PE

As well rounded, active citizens we will have lots of opportunities for positive competition in sport and other activities to build character and self-discipline. The sport we will be focussing on this half term is tag rugby, the children will be learning the skills needed to partake in games and understand the rules.

Christian Distinctiveness

Through our daily Acts of Worship, we will reflect on how we demonstrate our Christian values in school and within our local and world communities. We also weave our Christian values into the children's learning opportunities and activities. We will explore **The Words of Jesus** and **Advent and Christmas**,

as well as celebrating the key festivals of Harvest and Christmas, as well as marking Remembrance Day with our wider church family in November in a unique way this year.



Class Acts of Worship

Each week, the children will join their friends in their Family Group to deepen their understanding of the themes covered in our whole school Acts of Worship. These sessions offer a wonderful opportunity for all children to come together and work collaboratively as a family. This term we will be deepening our understanding of **The Words of Jesus** and **Advent and Christmas**.

Home Learning in Start Point class

We value the support that parents and families provide from home. It enriches your child's learning and helps them achieve the best that they can. In Start Point Class, we send home weekly home learning for both the Reception and Year 1 children.

In Reception, this consists of a weekly Maths game for you to play with your child that promotes their enjoyment and engagement with Mathematics. Occasionally, we may set a special project, investigation or experiment for you to work on together at home!

Reading, Reading, Reading!

Regular reading is of HUGE importance to the Literacy and social development of our young children. In the early days of school, it is vital that we ignite the children's love of books and reading.

You can support your child's reading at home by encouraging them to:

- Name any sounds they recognise, such as the ones they see in their name.
- Ask them to predict the ending to the story and explain why.
- Ask questions to help them understand and enjoy the story.
- Listen to a wide variety of pleasurable books.
- Continue to read a variety of stories to your child so that they are hearing a variety of story language and develop a love of reading.
- Don't forget bedtime stories are still important too!