



Child initiated learning:

- Is led or chosen by the child
- Is unique to every child – values individuality and respects their interests
- Starts from what children are interested in
- Allows children to choose their own resources, using and adapting according to their interests
- Gives children ownership of their learning
- Enriches their knowledge and experiences
- Motivates the learner
- Gives the opportunity to explore and develop creativity and curiosity
- May come from a teacher directed activity which children then follow through in their own way
- Meets the needs of all of the children
- Involves the children in planning and designing the learning process
- Encourages communication in the setting



Welcome to
Reception at
Chesterfield
Primary School

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR EYFS LEADER



We are delighted that you and your child will be joining our EYFS at Chesterfield Primary School. It gives me great pleasure to welcome you and your family to our school and we hope that you enjoy this beginning of your school journey.

I just wanted to take the opportunity to introduce myself and to say how much I am looking forward to getting to know all of you and having you as part of the Chesterfield family. My name is Sarah-Lee Ward and I am the Assistant Headteacher for the Early Years Foundation Stage at Chesterfield. I oversee the teaching and learning across the nursery and reception classes. I grew up and trained as an early years teacher in New Zealand and have been living and teaching in the UK since August 2011. I have been at Chesterfield since January 2014.

HOW DOES THE EYFS WORK AT CHESTERFIELD?

We are currently in the middle of some very exciting changes to our early years provision. We have worked very hard in 2020 to change how we plan for and teach the children. Our curriculum is based around our strong belief in the power and importance of child initiated learning. Over the next couple of months we will share more about how we teach in early years. Here is some brief information about what child initiated learning is all about.

"Young children are experiencing and learning in the here and now, not storing up their questions until tomorrow or next week. It is in that moment of curiosity, puzzlement, effort or interest – the 'teachable moment' – that the skilful adult makes a difference. By using this cycle on a moment-by-moment basis, the adult will be always alert to individual children (observation), always thinking about what it tells us about the child's thinking (assessment), and always ready to respond by using appropriate strategies at the right moment to support children's well-being and learning (planning for the next moment)."

