

4.4 Areas of Learning and Development

The EYFS is made up of **six areas of Learning and Development**. All areas of Learning and Development are connected to one another and are **equally important**. All areas of Learning and Development are underpinned by the Principles of the EYFS.

The areas of Learning and Development are:



The aspects of Learning and Development

Each area of Learning and Development is divided into aspects. The aspects for each area are:

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

- Dispositions and Attitudes
- Self-confidence and Self-esteem
- Making Relationships
- Behaviour and Self-control
- Self-care
- Sense of Community

Communication, Language and Literacy

- Language for Communication
- Language for Thinking
- Linking Sounds and Letters
- Reading
- Writing
- Handwriting

Problem Solving, Reasoning and Numeracy

- Numbers as Labels and for Counting
- Calculating
- Shape, Space and Measures

Knowledge and Understanding of the World

- Exploration and Investigation
- Designing and Making
- ICT
- Time
- Place
- Communities

Physical Development

- Movement and Space
- Health and Bodily Awareness
- Using Equipment and Materials

Creative Development

- Being Creative – Responding to Experiences, Expressing and Communicating Ideas
- Exploring Media and Materials
- Creating Music and Dance
- Developing Imagination and Imaginative Play



Effective practice

Each area of Learning and Development card shows how settings can effectively implement that particular area by ensuring that children have appropriate experiences and are supported by:

- Positive Relationships
- Enabling Environments.



Learning and Development

- The six areas of Learning and Development together make up the skills, knowledge and experiences appropriate for babies and children as they grow, learn and develop.
- Although these are presented as separate areas, it is important to remember that for children everything links and nothing is compartmentalised.
- The challenge for practitioners is to ensure that children's learning and development occur as an outcome of their individual interests and abilities and that planning for learning and development takes account of these.



Requirements

There are separate requirements for each area of Learning and Development shown in 'Requirements' on each of the areas of Learning and Development cards. The requirements set out what practitioners must provide in order to support babies' and children's development and learning in each aspect and area of Learning and Development of the EYFS.

What do I do next?

- **Welfare requirements** are explained in full in the *Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage* booklet.
- **Areas of Learning and Development** including effective practice, planning and resourcing at different stages are detailed in the *Practice Guidance for the Early Years Foundation Stage* booklet and on the CD-ROM.
- **Early Support** information is available on the CD-ROM under areas of Learning and Development.
- **Research and resources** are available on the CD-ROM.

