Early Years Foundation Stage
at Heartwood Federation



"Together we nurture curious minds, kind hearts and confident learners – laying the foundations for every child to flourish."
Heartwood Federation Early Years Team

Across our Federation, children are at the heart of everything we do. We are committed to ensuring that every child feels safe, valued and loved, enabling them to grow in confidence, develop a sense of belonging and thrive as unique individuals.
Working in partnership with families and communities, we celebrate each child's strengths, interests and individuality, recognising that every child develops in their own way and at their own pace.



Together, we create a curriculum that nurtures confident, curious and capable learners who are equipped with the knowledge, skills and attitudes needed for the next stage of their education.

Relationships & Interactions:

Within our Federation we ensure that all children:

- Build warm and secure relationships that help them feel emotionally safe enough to explore and learn.
- Feel valued, seen, and able to participate fully.
- Have high-quality interactions within our schools. Adults extend thinking by commenting, questioning and introducing new concepts within play.
- Develop strong relationships with others, including peers, including have opportunities for turn taking, sharing, empathy, building friendships
- Have opportunities to interact with the wider community, both within and outside of the school.

Environments:

Within our Federation we ensure that all children:

- Access a play-based environment where they learn indoors and outdoors through exploration, discovery and purposeful play.
- Have inviting and engaging spaces that spark curiosity, creativity and a love of learning.
- Explore opportunities for independence that encourage children to make choices, solve problems and develop confidence.
- Are provided with child-led learning opportunities that follow children's interests while building progressive knowledge and skills.

Curriculum:

Within our Federation we ensure that we:

- Have high expectations and inclusive opportunities for every child.
- Deliver a broad, balanced and ambitious curriculum that exposes all children to language, maths, creativity, physical development and the wider world.
- Build knowledge and skills progressively across all areas of learning.
- Follow children's interests to create meaningful and engaging learning experiences.
- Promote communication, language, creativity and critical thinking.
- Provide opportunities for exploration, problem-solving and independent learning.

Parental Engagement:

Within our Federation we ensure that we:

- Build strong, respectful relationships with families.
- Maintain open and effective communication.
- Encourage families to be active partners in their child's learning.
- Celebrate children's achievements both at home and at school.
- Provide guidance and support to help families engage with learning.
- Create an inclusive community where all families feel welcomed, valued and heard.