

Curriculum Manual for Partners



Family Learning



**Learn Together and Achieve
Together
2021 - 2022**



Family Learning in Leicester

All Family Learning programmes contribute to supporting parents to feel more confident in helping their children's learning, raising the aspirations and achievements of the whole family.

This booklet should be used in conjunction with the 'Family Learning in Leicester' parent booklet that summarises course content and the detailed Course Information Sheets on our website.

Family Learning Curriculum Intent Statement:

Courses include opportunities for intergenerational learning that is planned, purposeful and progressive.

Courses are planned to provide an offer 'on the doorstep' in a safe familiar setting for families in schools and CYPFCs to enable families to engage in stimulating, hands on active learning linked to the National Curriculum used in schools and identified priorities relating to the needs of the service, city residents, national and local strategic agendas.

- To support parents to prepare their child's transition for school and beyond.
- To engage parents in their child's learning and development at school.
- To build parents' confidence, aspirations and skills to progress to further learning and employment.
- To support parents to make healthier choices with their families.

From September 2021 course have been organised into 5 strands of learning, rather than WFL (Wider Family Learning) and FEML (Family English Maths and Language) we have used in previous years, to make it more accessible as a curriculum offer.

The 5 strands are:

1. Foundation Years
2. Reading
3. Helping your Child at Home with....suite of courses
4. Family Health and Well Being
5. Family Fun with English

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What we offer is:

- Qualified, experienced and committed staff
- A commitment to listening to your families and ensuring that the learning programme meets their needs
- An individualised learning programme that allows the families to enjoy a positive learning experience, instilling a love of learning in the home
- High quality resources that enhance the learning.

What we require from our partners is:

- The commitment to making it work
- The ability to recruit the parents or carers who would benefit most from taking part
- The space to run the programmes
- Key staff to liaise with the Family Learning team and support participating families to enable them to enjoy and be successful in their learning.
- Evaluation Feedback each term to review our programmes and the impact of attending courses for the whole family.

Family Learning programmes require no prior subject knowledge.

Learning is approached through kinaesthetic activities and is fun.

On some courses families receive 'home time' kits to encourage more purposeful activity in the home.

*When referring to 'families' or 'parents' we include any intergenerational group where the child is under 16 and the adult (over the age of 19) has a caring role.

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1. Foundation Years Courses - For families with children aged 3-5 years.

Purpose/Aims: Our aim is to provide a high-quality early year's education to equip parents with key knowledge about the importance of play for children's development.

What is taught?

The curriculum will teach learners about the value of using play to support children's early learning. Learners will have the opportunity to gain an understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum used in pre-schools and schools, and how they can use this knowledge to support their child's learning at home.

How is it designed?

By the time they leave Family Learning learners will have gained key knowledge and skills in using play to support children's learning across 7 key areas: Personal, Social and Emotional development, Communication and Language skills, Physical development, Literacy, Mathematics, Expressive Arts and Design and, Understanding of the world.

What knowledge and skills are developed?

Learning in either our Getting Ready for School, Early Start or Learning Through Play courses supports parents to gain an understanding the areas of learning of the Early Years Foundation Stage for children under five years of age. Learners will have the opportunity to gain an understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum used in pre-schools and schools, and how they can use this knowledge to support their child's learning at home.

Some examples of successful Foundation Stage activities:

- Discussing the value of traditional tales with parents, making porridge with their 3-year olds and making games that extend children's understanding of relative size, as prompted by '**Goldilocks**'. These are then taken home, together with a template to create a second game and a copy of the story to read and enjoy.
- Exploring how creative play at home links to early writing skills and experimenting with several resources (sand, modelling, corn flour, spaghetti etc). In joint time the families try finger painting and the home time pack contains some double-handed scissors and an art pack to create a picture at home.
- Parents are encouraged to bring these in the following week and where possible they are displayed and celebrated.

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2. Reading with your Child

Purpose/Aims Our aim is to provide a high-quality reading education that equips learners with key knowledge about the importance of embedding reading and exploring books from an early age and to recognise different reading strategies that make reading fun and interactive for children.

What is taught?

The curriculum will teach learners about the value of reading for children's education. Learners will have the opportunity to gain an understanding of using different strategies to involve children in reading stories for example, the use of phonics and whole word recognition or using a story sack for kinaesthetic reading. Learners will have the opportunity to gain skills in re-telling stories and how this helps with creative writing skills, and how using simple comprehension games helps children have a better understanding of what they are reading. Learners will gain an understanding of the value of using a range of reading materials to encourage a love of reading for life.

How is it designed?

The course content for the three strands of Reading (Everybody's Reading workshops, Story Sacks and Reading with your Child courses) are planned in partnership with schools and negotiated with learners to enable support for children at an age appropriate level. Learners will have the opportunity to gain an understanding of how to use a wide range of books and online resources effectively and safely to support their child's learning at home. The objectives with each strand support the development of learning within a key stage.

What knowledge and skills are developed?

Learners will have an opportunity to gain an understanding of different reading strategies to engage children, developing confidence to read together using imagination, different voices, and intonation to make reading fun. Learners will gain knowledge about developing imagination and building vocabulary that will help to develop writing skills. Learners will have the opportunity to understand how to use books as conversation starters to be able to discuss different aspects of a child's life. Learners will have the opportunity to use this knowledge to support their child's learning at home through designing and making age appropriate learning resources for their child.

***"It was my first experience
of
reading aloud to someone."***

Parent comment

***"It was fun when we read to each
other in our language!"***

Parent comment

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3. Helping your Child at Home with ... suite of courses for families with primary aged children.

Purpose/Aims: Our aim is to provide a high-quality education to equip parents with key knowledge and skills to support their children within 5 areas of the National Curriculum used in Primary Schools in England.

What is taught?

The curriculum will teach learners about the National Curriculum subjects of English, Maths, Science, History and Geography across Key Stage 1 and 2. Learners will have the opportunity to gain an understanding of the topic being taught in a particular subject, Key Stage and term through considering what is being taught at their child's school.

How is it designed?

The course content for each subject is planned in partnership with schools and around learners' needs to support their child in that subject that term. Learners will have the opportunity to gain an understanding of how to use a wide range of online resources effectively and safely such as BBC Bitesize and the National Curriculum website to support their child's learning at home. The objectives with each strand support the development of learning within a key stage.

What knowledge and skills are developed?

Learning in our 'Helping your child at Home with' courses supports parents to gain an understanding of topics covered under key areas of the National Curriculum. Learners will have the opportunity to gain an understanding of the curriculum subject through using the resources available via the internet, libraries, and their child's school. Learners will have the opportunity to use this knowledge to support their child's learning at home through designing and making age appropriate learning resources for their child.

Some examples of Helping your Child at Home with activities:

- Parents using an adult text to pick out and identify linguistic features, e.g. compound nouns from a magazine article
- Using and building adjectives for familiar objects (e.g. a sari, a blue sari, a blue silky sari).
- Making games that reinforce number bonds up to 20.
- Families using rooms in their home to role play travel to different countries, using maps, quizzes, video clips etc – shared weekly in Google Meets with a grandparent during the COVID lockdowns

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4. Family Health and Wellbeing

Purpose/Aims: Our aim is to provide a high-quality suite of courses to equip learners with the skills and knowledge they need to meet their family's health and wellbeing needs.

What is taught? The curriculum will teach learners skills in how to support their family's health and wellbeing across several strands that can be accessed as individual courses to meet their family's needs at different stages of your child's school life.

Courses include:

- Family Health with 1st Aid
- Feed your Family for a Fiver
- Learning after Lockdown (Being the Best Coach for your Kids),
- Helping your child to Learn Online
- 1 2 3 Magic – an 8-week behaviour management programme for families
- Too Busy to be Bored
- Crafty Christmas.

How is it designed?

The course content is negotiated with learners to focus on aspects of well-being most relevant to them. Strategies for being healthy and staying well will be modelled and practised, so that parents/carers feel confident in adopting these in their family's lives to enhance the skills they already have from being parents.

What knowledge and skills are developed?

Learners will have the opportunity to gain an understanding of the factors that influence the physical and mental well-being of adults & children through:

- Connecting with other people
- Learning new skills
- Being physically active
- Being mindful
- Managing their child's behaviour in a positive way
- Exploring different strategies to encourage the children to learn from their mistakes rather than giving up too easily so they are ready to learn, resourceful, resilient, reflective, and able to remember better.

Parent quote:

"I have enjoyed this course (Family Health & First Aid). I thought the teaching was very good and I especially appreciated the way each week we had a quiz to help us remember what we had learned the previous week."

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5. Family Learning – Family Fun with English

Purpose/Aims: Our aim is to provide a high-quality language education for learners whose first language is not English, to equip them with the language they need for everyday life.

What is taught?

The curriculum will teach learners basic English that will help them to be more independent as an individual and within their family unit. Learners will have the opportunity to gain an understanding of a range of topical vocabulary that is needed to engage confidently within a range of everyday situations. This includes vocabulary to provide essential information to their GP, English for shopping or talking to school about their children's learning.

How is it designed?

The course content is negotiated with learners around the vocabulary they want to learn, understand, and use which provides families with basic English skills in speaking and listening, reading, writing, and developing strategies to support their children's learning at home.

What knowledge and skills are developed?

Learning through everyday topics builds better understanding and use of key vocabulary which equips learners to engage with their children's teachers, other professionals, and the wider community more confidently in English. There is an opportunity to undertake a speaking and listening exam at the end of the course. This equips learners with the language skills needed to progress on to ESOL courses with increasing confidence and a variety of other courses from having improved confidence in basic vocabulary.

Some examples of Family Fun with English activities:

- Making phone calls to report absences or ask for additional information about school.
- Role play asking and answering questions at a parents' evening.
- Learning about the primary curriculum – how it works and what parents can do to help.
- Making “**Welcome Packs**” for other, newly arrived families who speak their language.

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Course Summary:

1. Foundation Years	2. Reading	3. Helping your Child at Home with.....	4. Family Health and Well Being	5. Family Fun with English
Getting Ready for school	Everybody's Reading events	English	Family Health with 1 st Aid	Family Fun with English
Early Start	Reading with your child	Maths	Learning After Lockdown – Being the Best Coach for your Kids	
Learning Through Play	Story Sacks	Science	Feed your Family for a Fiver	
		History	Learning and Staying Safe Online	
		Geography	Too Busy to be Bored	
			Crafty Christmas	
			1 2 3 Magic - Behaviour Management	

We have been running these programmes successfully in Leicester for many years in schools, Children Young People and Family Centres and voluntary sector settings.

Courses are tailored to suit the families taking part. They are free to all and provide a first step opportunity for adults and children to experience the rewards of learning and working together.

This curriculum manual is designed to give you a flavour of the kind of courses family learning can offer. If you have something else in mind, please let us know.

You can contact us at:

alison.greet@leicester.gov.uk or call 07712410513 or 0116 4541888

You could explore what we have to offer your families on our website that has course information and ideas for parents to try at:

<https://sites.google.com/leicesterlearns.ac.uk/lasals/home/family-learning>

You or your parents can join or Family Learning Facebook group at:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/LasalsFL/>

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