How will my child learn?

In KS1, learning continues to be practical, hands-on, and mainly play-based. Children may learn:

- In small groups or one-to-one
- With help from visual supports, routines, and sensory tools
- Through structured tasks or free exploration, depending on what suits them best
- With specialist input from therapists (e.g. speech and language, OT, physiotherapy)

Your child's timetable will look a little different from EYFS. We plan carefully to make sure every child gets what they need.



Transition

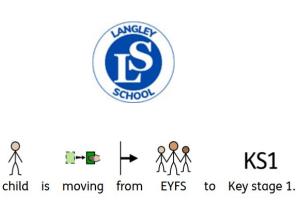
Before September, your child will meet their new teacher and the class team to help them develop some familiarity with the children and staff they will be working with in KS1. During this time they will join in with 'getting to know you activities and games'. This supports children as they move from EYFS to KS1.

A-A

Your child's current teacher in EYFS will meet with their KS1 teacher to discuss their individual needs. This includes, but is not limited to: their personal interests, preferences, commu-



nication support, relationships with others, health and dietary requirements and sensory needs.





As your child moves from the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) into Key Stage 1, there will be some natural changes in the way we support both children and families.

This booklet provides information for parents about the transition from EYFS to KS1 Branches Pathway.



Welcome to KS1

Key Stage 1 (KS1) is an exciting step in your child's school journey. In our special school, learning is personalised, flexible, and tailored to each child's unique needs and strengths. This stage is all about building on the foundations laid in Early Years, while supporting children to grow in confidence, independence, and curiosity.

What will change?

welcome

In EYFS, communication between home and school is often very frequent. We understand how important this is in the early stages of a child's school life. Daily updates, regular photos, and individual feedback help build trust and ensure a smooth transition from home to school. As children enter Key Stage 1:

- You may notice fewer day-to-day updates from staff.
- We will still share key information, but not necessarily on a daily basis.
- Staff may not be able to speak to parents face-to-face as often but will continue to use Class Dojo and parents can send messages via Class Dojo.

In EYFS, children often receive very close, individualised support throughout the day, which is both appropriate and necessary at that stage. As they move into KS1, we begin to encourage more self-help skills and support them in a way that continues to foster their development. We know that all children develop at their own pace, particularly within a specialist setting, so changes in support will always be carefully considered and tailored to your child's needs.

Although the style of communication may change, our commitment to working in partnership with you does not. Please use Class Dojo to share important messages, photographs from home or to provide us with updates about your child. You will be invited to discuss your child's progress at parent meetings and EHCP review meetings. If you need to arrange an appointment to see your child's teacher at any other time, please contact them via Class Dojo. We will continue to work closely with you to make sure your child feels safe, supported, and valued.

What will my child learn? Children in KS1 will continue to develop key skills across several areas: **Communication and Interaction**

- Building on speech, language, and communication skills
- Using communication aids or symbols
- Learning to express wants, needs, feelings, and choices
- Developing turn-taking and listening skills with support

English – Reading and Writing



Abc

Writing

Communication and

<u>G</u>

interaction

- Exploring stories, books, songs, and rhymes
- Learning letters and sounds through phonics (at their own pace)
- Early mark making and writing skills

Maths

- Developing early number skills (e.g. counting, sorting, matching)
- Exploring shapes, patterns, size, and time



Social and Emotional

• Using practical, hands-on activities to build understanding

Social and Emotional Development

 Learning about emotions and how to manage them with support



Developing independence in everyday tasks

The Wider Curriculum

Children will engage in a wide variety of curriculum activities across different subjects, learning about the world around them. They will continue to build on and develop gross-motor and fine-motor skills, enjoy a range of sensory experiences, learn through play, explore different materials and media and express themselves through creative activities. They will go on trips and visits within the school locality to widen their experiences.













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