

Early Years Foundation Stage Policy

Happy Times is committed meeting the requirements of the Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage 2023 (EYFS). EYFS applies to all children from birth through to the end of their reception year. More information about EYFS is available from the Department for Education's website.

The company's designated EYFS coordinator is Surjit Bains.

The designated EYFS coordinator at the club is Surjit Bains and Mar Lopez, who are responsible for:

- Identifying EYFS children when they join the Club, and informing the other staff
- Determining the primary EYFS provider (typically, the school) for each child
- Assigning a key person for each EYFS child
 - Agreeing information sharing policies with the primary EYFS provider and gaining parental consent for this where necessary or appropriate
 - Liaising with the primary EYFS provider to discuss what support the Club offers to EYFS children
 - EYFS coordinator everyday check with the staffs dropping children at the Club how the child's day has been/ any accidents that needs passing on to the parent at the pickup time..

The Club provide a mix of adult-led activities like art activity, outdoor group game, board game and child-initiated activities. The club always follows play principles, allowing children to choose how they occupy their time, and never forces them to participate in a given activity.

We recognize the four overarching principles of EYFS:

- **A Unique Child:** Every child is constantly learning and can be resilient, capable, confident and self assured. We use positive encouragement and praise to motivate the children in our care.
- **Positive Relationships:** Children learn to be strong and independent through positive relationships. We aim to develop caring, respectful, professional relationships with the children and their families.

Enabling Environments:

Children learn and develop well in enabling environments, in which their experiences respond to their individual needs and there is a strong partnership between practitioners and parents and carers. We try to provide a variety of resources for the children to use. There is usually some role play item, mindfulness coloring, word searches, paper, recycling paper, junk modeling, coloring pencils are always available, as are construction, books and games. As much as possible we try to make sure there is time for free play outside at breaks and chill out times too.

- **Children develop and learn in different ways and at different rates.**

Children develop and learn in different ways. Practitioners teach children by ensuring challenging, playful opportunities across the prime and specific areas of learning and development. The key areas we hope to support while your child is with us are the Prime Areas of Development. The prime areas begin to develop quickly in response to relationships and experiences, and run through and support learning in all other areas. The prime areas continue to be fundamental throughout the EYFS.

Prime Areas

Personal, Social and Emotional - Making Relationships, Self Confidence and Self Awareness, Managing Feelings and Behavior.

Coming to club and meeting new children of a variety of ages and abilities. Parting from their parent or carer and learning to trust new adults, having positive role models and support from older children, joining in activities, knowing they can have a go at anything but not have to do anything if they decide they don't enjoy it, participating in the welcome meeting, helping to set the rules and celebrate others success at following the rules, being kind and being helpful.

Physical Development - Moving and Handling, Health and Self Care

Outdoor play weather dependent is provided everyday where children get an opportunity to play football, hoopla hoops or simply run around and make imaginary games, using scissors, cutting and sticking or junk modelling, pencil control, using paintbrushes all help fine and gross motor skills. Children sit down to have snack together and are expected to wash hands. They are encouraged to be independent in toileting and learning to recognize when they are thirsty.

Communication and Language - Listening and Attention, Understanding, Speaking

Children will be surrounded by role models talking to each other throughout the session, from adults to other groups of children. All activities have instructions for the children and the staff. The children learn to listen to the instructions, and ask questions, and are encouraged to ask for help. They will see older children doing this and learn from them too, as well as use their relationship skills to ask other children to help them. All the games will require listening skills. We also organize quiz time and games such as guess who or Head bands where children get a chance to ask questions and show good listening skills when listening to other children's ideas.

The Specific Areas

Literacy, Maths, Understanding the World, and Expressive Arts and Design feature in most of our creative themed activities.

Alongside the EYFS framework, we recognise the importance of working with a child at their developmental stage rather than their age.

This policy was adopted by: Happy Times Club Ltd	Date: June 2024
To be reviewed: July 2025	Signed: Surjit Bains, Club Manager

Written in accordance with the Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage (2023): Before/after school care [3.41] and Safeguarding and Welfare Requirements: Information for parents and carers [3.74] and The Learning and development requirements, Footnote 5, p7

