



## BRAILES CofE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Your child's learning journey in Brailes Nursery and Reception

What do we want for our children at Brailes?

**GROW TOGETHER, SHINE BRIGHT**  
**"LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE"**  
**MATTHEW 5:16**



**BRAILES CofE**  
**PRIMARY SCHOOL**

### OUR MISSION

To **believe** in ourselves, each other and be proud of our own and others' achievements.

To **belong**, be understood, valued and confident and proud of who we are.

To **aspire** to be our best: outward facing, determined and able to achieve more than we think is possible.

### OUR VISION

At Brailes School, we embrace the adventure of learning, encouraging everyone to step out further and think more deeply.

We support and encourage all to aspire to great things, to find and nurture their passion, to live life in all its fullness and for the light of each life to shine and make a positive difference, in our school, our communities and our world.

Aiming for excellence in all that we do, through high standards, mutual respect and compassion, we encourage and nurture confident, articulate, resilient, reflective and flexible citizens who are courageous, curious and empowered to steer their own lives, challenging and supporting those around them.

We build and sustain strong relationships which enables every child to learn about themselves, value themselves and others, celebrate differences and their personal strengths and to use these gifts to help others.

We value everyone's contribution and expect that everyone will participate. Together, we grow and shine brightly.

## SCHOOL VALUES



**We are courageous:** Team Brailes does not give up. We are brave, take responsibility, persevere when faced with challenges and are committed.



**We are compassionate:** Team Brailes listen, are present, encourage, support and take care of ourselves, each other and our world.



**We are curious:** Team Brailes are resourceful and innovate finding solutions. We have an unending desire to learn and improve.

## TRUST VALUES

Relationships  
Excellence  
Service  
Passion  
Ethics  
Collaboration  
Trust



## How do we observe children and monitor progress?

We have developed a model of *effective, meaningful, and principled* assessment of young children's learning.

By **effective**, we mean a method of assessment that ensures that all children are supported in reaching significant milestones.

By **meaningful**, we mean that the observations made inform our everyday practice and curriculum. By gaining an insight into children's thinking, feelings and needs we can plan our environment and actions to provide future possibilities for learning.

By **principled**, we mean that our focus is on **observing to understand** children. We will not test children or seek unnecessary knowledge. Children are recognised as individuals, not as a percentage in a pie chart.

We will not spend unnecessary amounts of time writing observations or gathering evidence of children's learning. We believe that if we are **capturing** the moment, we cannot be **part** of the moment. Instead, we have structures in place that enable us to regularly discuss each child as a team and with their family.

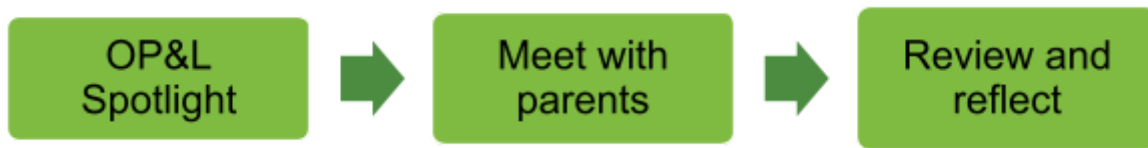
## Observation of Play and Learning (OP&L)

**Your child's learning will be closely monitored in collaboration with you to ensure they are supported to reach significant milestones for their age.**

OP&L works on the basis of having very simple, six-monthly child developmental milestones, which we use to monitor children's development. These milestones reflect what we believe a 'typical' child, should be able to achieve. We know that not all children will have 'typical' development. OP&L allows us to tell and celebrate each child's story and focus on the support they need from us.

The observations and assessments that we make are called 'spotlights'. We observe children's innovation, their creativity, their ideas, their intentions and feelings. The insight that we gain enables us to discuss, reflect and plan our environment to support and shape future learning.

OP&L follows a simple, three step cycle:



## What to expect?

There will be many opportunities throughout the year for us to come together to talk about your child and their learning.

**Settling in:** At our November Parents Evening, we will meet with you to talk about how your child has settled in. We will look at the child development milestones together for the 6 monthly milestones that your child has most recently passed and share with you their Starting Points observation.

**Parent Drop In:** You are invited to our half termly Parent Sharing events to look at your child's work in paper journals, class floor books and on display.

**Seesaw:** We will post regular whole class updates and photographs, sharing recent highlights.

**Curriculum Newsletter:** Shared via PING and available on our school website, you will be able to access a half termly Curriculum Newsletter that lets you know all about our topic for the half term and key dates for your diary.

**Newsletter:** Shared via PING and available on our school website each month, our Newsletter is a celebration of everything we have been doing across the school and a reminder about upcoming events and important dates.

**Spotlight:** Each child will have two 'spotlight' points in the year. These will be our November Parents Evening and one other time at their birthday or half birthday in line with our 6 monthly milestones check, providing your second Parents Evening of the year. Please be aware that the date of this second 'spotlight' meeting will be different for each child depending on when their birthday falls. We will invite you in to share the spotlight and talk about your child's learning and development.