



CENTRE ACADEMY
EAST ANGLIA
SUNSHINE CLASS

Pre-Prep Department
Reception, Year 1 and Year 2/ Key Stage One



The Sunshine Class

Welcome to the Centre Academy East Anglia Sunshine Class! Sunshine Class caters for pupils of all abilities between the ages of 4 to 7.



Within the Sunshine Class, we provide a welcoming, safe and stimulating environment where children are able to enjoy learning through play and first-hand experiences. The class covers the National Curriculum Early Years Foundation Stage and Key Stage One and Two programmes of study.



The Sunshine Class Curriculum

Each day consists of designated Literacy and Numeracy sessions. Within these sessions whole class activities are provided followed by both an adult-led activity focused on the sessions' learning objectives and child-initiated activities.

Daily phonic sessions to introduce or consolidate phonic knowledge, handwriting and guided/ individual reading times are also provided in addition to the Literacy session.

Lessons entitled 'Knowledge and Understanding of the World' consist of Science, History, Geography, ICT, Design and Technology and Religious Education programmes of study. Creative development sessions provide opportunities for Music- based sessions, or drama and creativity focuses. Personal, Social and Emotional development learning incorporates both PSHE and Citizenship programmes of study.

The Topic Approach

The Sunshine Class curriculum is designed using a series of topic approaches. The topic approach uses familiar themes in children's experiences, through which they are provided with opportunities to meet selected objectives from the relevant programmes of study. Planning is flexible so we can make the best use of unplanned opportunities for learning activities.



In addition we emphasise the importance of enabling pupils to work within both the indoor and outside environments. Details of topics and activities are available within the Sunshine Class Planning display.

The Importance of Play and Child-Initiated Activities

The role of play and its importance in children's development is acknowledged within the Early Years Foundation Stage as that which "underpins all development and learning for young children... and it is through play that they develop intellectually, creatively, physically, socially and emotionally."

Play within the Sunshine Class is adopted as 'child-initiated learning' where the children practice and reinforce their developing skills and explore and consolidate their knowledge of the world around them (Sally Featherstone 2010). Throughout the school day opportunities for pupils to engage in child-initiated activities are provided in addition to more structured whole class sessions and group work.



Daily Timetable

School starts at 8.30am in the Sunshine Classroom, where pupils are encouraged to engage in early morning activities or to gather together in preparation for whole school assemblies.

Snack Times

We aim to promote healthy eating habits through both whole class snack times and school lunches. The morning snack times provide a wide range of fruits and vegetables for the pupils to try, accompanied by either milk or water. During these snack times we promote good health and manners. It is also a time set aside each day to allow the whole class to sit and talk, providing important opportunities to help support communication and language skills.

Break Times

Some break times are taken within the Sunshine Class outdoor area, while others take place



on the large school playing field allowing pupils to mix socially with other classes within the junior school.

The school day finishes at 2.30pm, when parents or designated carers can collect the children from the Sunshine Class. An after school club is also available from 2.30 until 6.00pm.

Assessment

The curriculum is tailored to meet the pupils' individual needs; consequently, on-going teacher assessment informs

planning, supports efforts to track pupils' progress and assists in setting achievable targets.

Each pupil has an A4 folder readily available within the class, where photographs, examples of work and comments from teachers, pupils and parent/carers are recorded. This A4 folder provides all those involved with a clear picture of the child's progress and successes.

The Anticipation Box

This is an opportunity for pupils to bring items into school for show- and- tell, supporting good speaking and listening skills. The show- and- tell time allows pupils to talk about items that are of interest and important to them. We ask that expensive or fragile items are not brought into school for the Anticipation Box, as we can not accept liability for lost or damaged items.



School Outings

During the academic year we invite visitors from various professions into the class, and we also arrange off site visits. When any school trips are planned parents are informed and invited to attend.



The Sunshine Class and the Whole School

The Sunshine Class is an integral part of Centre Academy East Anglia and therefore profits from the school's family-style environment. The Sunshine Class also profits from the regular contact with the teaching faculty at CAEA, including specialist teachers and other support staff.