The 7 areas of learning and development - a guide for parents

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) areas of learning and development have been produced by the government and early years professionals for use by all early years providers including childminders.

We use the areas of learning and development when we are observing, assessing and planning for your child's individual needs. The areas of learning and development make sure that we are constantly challenging your child and helping them to develop and succeed.

There are 7 areas of learning and they are split into 2 parts -

- 1. The 3 prime areas which are for all children and will always be the main focus of our planning and activities for babies and children under 3
- 2. The 4 specific areas which are mostly used for the older children (over 3s) but are also relevant for younger children

Personal, social and emotional development PSED	 This area of learning and development is about how your child > Is confident and self assured > Manages their feelings and behaviour > Makes friends > Shares and takes turns
Physical development	 This area of learning and development is about how your child Moves and uses gross motor skills Develops fine motor skills Learns about healthy living Manages self care independently
Communication and language	 This area of learning and development is about how your child Listens and pays attention Understands what is being said Communicates with others Develops vocabulary and speech

These are the 3 prime areas -

Literacy	This area of learning and development is about how your child
Literacy	 Enjoys reading books Likes making marks Learns to write Starts to explore phonics and letter sounds
Mathematics Maths	 This area of learning and development is about how your child Learns about numbers and counting Recognises the passing of time Explores measures, capacity, space, shapes, opposites etc during play
Understanding the world	 This area of learning and development is about how your child Finds out about nature and the world around them Talks about people and their local community and learns about similarities and differences Learns to confidently use ICT equipment
Art and design	 This area of learning and development is about how your child Enjoys being creative Sings, dances and makes music Plays imaginatively Uses colour to express themselves

If you want to find out more about the EYFS or the areas of learning and development, all the documents we use can be found on this website which also has parents pages and contains lots of information about the EYFS -

http://www.foundationyears.org.uk/

If you have any questions about any part of the EYFS, please do not hesitate to ask!