



# EARLY YEARS FOUNDATION STAGE (EYFS)

## Networking within St Francis CMAT

### WHAT ARE THE EYFS NETWORKING EVENTS?

The St Francis Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) network meetings are an opportunity for EYFS specialists to come together half-terminally to collaborate, support, share best practices, research and policies and address common challenges in early childhood education.

### WHY ARE THE EYFS NETWORKING EVENTS IMPORTANT?

The EYFS serves as the cornerstone of every child's educational journey, laying the crucial foundation for their future learning, development and well-being. From birth to age five, children undergo remarkable cognitive, social, emotional and physical growth. The St Francis CMAT believes that the EYFS is more than just a curriculum; it's a framework which supports the unique, God-given potential of every child and one that has a profound impact on the holistic development and growth in early life. The EYFS networking events are designed to:

- † Provide **dedicated time** for practitioners to develop their learning, understanding and confidence in the delivery of such a specialised curriculum.
- † Share **strengths** in practise, resources, **innovative** ideas and **collaborate** on projects.
- † Provide **opportunity** for effective **moderation** to ensure assessment judgements are accurate and consistent.
- † Be a **supportive space** to feel part of a team with purpose and provide encouragement and help to overcome barriers or challenges within home-school settings.
- † Be a **platform** for EYFS teachers to stay updated on the latest trends, evolving practises, regulations and educational resources.
- † Be **relevant** and **focused** to the needs and priorities of the EYFS across the CMAT in an ever-changing landscape of early years education.

### WHEN ARE THE EYFS NETWORKING EVENTS?

These events will be half termly. Dates may change dependant on priorities and circumstances within schools. Times will be communicated with advanced notice prior to each event. The dates for 2024 to 2025 are below:

<b>Autumn 1:</b>	8th October, 2024.
<b>Autumn 2:</b>	TBC (Moderation focus)
<b>Spring 1:</b>	3rd February, 2025
<b>Spring 2:</b>	TBC (Moderation focus)
<b>Summer 1:</b>	6th May, 2025
<b>Summer 2:</b>	TBC (Moderation focus)

Each event will usually be approximately 2 hours during the school day.

*The St Francis CMAT believes that through developing intellectual curiosity and collaboration, teachers will improve their practise to become the best practitioners in Early Years education.*

### WHERE ARE THE EYFS NETWORKING EVENTS?

To foster a clear sense of purpose, aid collaboration and showcase school resources, each event will be hosted within one of the CMAT Primary Schools. Any school is welcome to volunteer to host the event. Each venue will be confirmed prior to the networking event.

**Further details:** Please contact **Katie Tupling** for further information – [KTupling@smh.school](mailto:KTupling@smh.school)

