



Reception Class Curriculum Overview



The children's year is broken up into themed half terms where we read books and learn further around a topic area. These topics are extended and guided by the children's own interests and developed to ensure ample opportunity for the children to develop their skills and meet the early learning goals (as set out in the Development Matters Framework).

Autumn 1 - Hedgehogs and all things Autumn; what does hibernate mean?

Autumn 2 - Author focus, Julia Donaldson (and Christmas); why didn't you know, there's no such thing as a Gruffalo?

Spring 1 - Princesses and Dragons; do princesses really need rescuing?

Spring 2 - Space; what is it and how do we fit into it?

Summer 1 - Dinosaurs; they're not all extinct!

Summer 2 - Eco Earth, Our planet; we are all Eco warriors!

Personal, Social and emotional development

The children have access to a safe space in the classroom where they can talk about thoughts and feelings, having time alone if they wish.

- Through activities in the classroom the children learn to play cooperatively and take turns. The children learn to show sensitivity to the needs and feelings of others.
- Children will become confident to try new activities. They are confident to speak in a familiar group sharing their ideas and will choose the resources they need for their chosen activities. The children will become confident to ask for help when they need it.

Physical Development

A diverse selection of activities are available for the children to engage in that target both fine motor and gross motor skills. The children learn to:

- Show good control and co-ordination in large and small movements and move confidently in a range of ways, safely negotiating space.
- Understand the importance of good health, physical exercise, and a healthy diet.
- Manage their own basic hygiene and personal needs successfully, including dressing and going to the toilet independently.

Communication and language

Through a range of activities including reading, roleplay and team games the children learn to:

- Listen attentively in a range of situations. They listen to stories, accurately anticipating key events and respond to what they hear with relevant comments, questions, or actions.
- Follow instructions involving several ideas or actions. They answer 'how' and 'why' questions about their experiences.
- Express themselves effectively, showing awareness of listeners' needs. They use past, present, and future forms accurately when talking about events. They develop their own narratives and explanations by connecting ideas.

Literacy

An open reading area, weekly class texts and stories shared throughout the day enables children to:

- Read and understand simple sentences, using phonic knowledge to decode regular words and read them aloud accurately.
- Demonstrate understanding when talking with others about what they have read.
Through daily writing and mark making activities children learn to:
- Write simple sentences which can be read by themselves and others. Some words are spelt correctly, and others are phonetically plausible.

Mathematics

By relating maths to everyday life including daily activities and 'tuck shops' the children learn to:

- Count reliably with numbers from one to 20, place them in order and say which number is one more or one less.
- Use numbers and objects to add and subtract two single-digit numbers and count on or back to find the answer.
- Solve problems, including doubling, halving, and sharing.
- Use everyday language to talk about size, weight, capacity, position, distance, time, and money to compare quantities and objects

Expressive arts and design

Through weekly music sessions, daily art activities, stories and roleplay children develop the ability to:

- Sing songs, make music and dance, and experiment with ways of changing them.
- Safely use and explore a variety of materials, tools, and techniques, experimenting with colour, design, texture, form, and function.
- Represent their own ideas, thoughts and feelings through design and technology, art, music, dance, role play and stories.

Understanding the world

Through circle times, ICT sessions and time exploring the garden/wild area the children learn to:

- Talk about past and present events in their own lives and in the lives of family members.
- Understand there are similarities and differences between themselves and others, and among families, communities, and traditions.
- They make observations of animals and plants and explain why some things occur and talk about changes.
- Recognise that a range of technology is used in places such as homes and schools and can select and use technology for particular purposes.