

Our Curriculum

# About a curriculum

#### **Curriculum Intent**

Our intent is clearly outlined through specific goals, visions, and objectives designed to provide our children with the best possible learning and development experiences during their early years of education.

#### Implementation (Pedagogy)

Teaching Strategies: We will employ a robust play-based pedagogy for our teaching approach.

Learning Environment: Our environments will create a warm, inclusive, and welcoming atmosphere that feels like home. We will provide open-ended resources and loose parts to support the children's development.

Curricular Activities: Our activities will encompass a wide range of experiences, including baking, swimming, forest schools, among many others. Each activity is thoughtfully planned to provide valuable learning opportunities that children might not experience without adult guided activities.

#### Impact (Assessment)

Assessment Methods: A baseline assessment will be conducted within six weeks of a child's start date to understand their initial developmental start point.

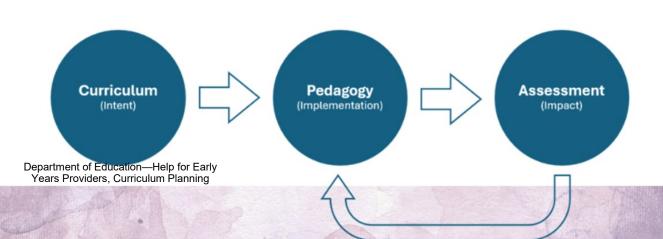
After this assessment, next steps will be established, and the information will be shared with parents.

Assessment will be carried out around February half term, or at least 12 weeks after the baseline assessment, to evaluate the level of development and consider updating the next steps.

The end of the year assessment will take place approximately at the end of June, or 12 weeks after the midyear assessment, for children not following the academic year.

\*Parent Partnership\*: All assessments and baseline evaluations will involve parent meetings and will be shared on the Famly app.

\*\*Data-assessments\*\*: All assessment data will inform our pedagogy/ implementation of the curriculum. Adjustments will be made to support learning and development for all children, whether through individual plans or modifications to the pedagogical approach.



# Our 8 curriculum goals

- 1. Settle in and become confident and independent learners
- 2. To create your own self-portrait
- 3. To be able to follow a recipe and method
- 4. To tell and perform your own story
- 5. To light and put out a fire safely
- 6. To grow a seed
- 7. To manage water safely
- 8. To engage with community life





# Curriculum goal 1

# Settle in and become a confident, independent learner

First milestone: Children develop a strong relationship with their key person. Increasingly they separate from their parent/ carer at the start of the session with more confidence.

They use their key person as a 'secure base' throughout the session and 'touching base' as and when needed.

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Implementation: A home visit where children feel secure, to build warm and positive relationships. Children attend settling in sessions with their parent/ carer. They are offered two sessions free of charge, and if needed for the child they will receive more. Every day, families are greeted warmly by staff, and handovers are carried out to ensure smooth communication. A mindful key person approach remains from intimate care to group times. Key people know their key children well including who is in their family, interests and celebrations.

Second milestone: Children increasingly access the environment independently.

They develop a sense of belonging within their environments, which cater to their interests and needs.

Accessing resources independently.

Implementation: Provide a highquality environment that supports individual diverse motivations, interests and needs. Inclusive spaces that are nurturing and supportive of all children, considering the environment from a child's perspective.

A routine that allows children opportunities to choose their own learning and enquiries through play with free flow.

Teachable moments from adults to guide and model how to use and respect the environment.

Third milestone: Parents as partners to enhance their children's learning, well-being and development. Practitioners to recognise parents' commitment to their child's early development and education. Parents must feel included, listened to and trusted within their role.

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Implementation: Parents knowledge of their child is captured through the home visit and settling in process. This continues throughout daily handovers and termly parent meetings.

Practitioners listen to parents and value what they say. They ask appropriate questions to widen their understanding to support the child such as about culture, celebrations, individual needs and family.

Develop a genuine interest in each family, remaining fair and inclusive.

Fourth milestone: Children to feel 'known' and a sense of belonging throughout transitions.

Forming friendships, making choices in play and learning.

Managing feelings and showing compassion for their peers.

Emotional resilience, coping with challenges and showing perseverance in tasks.



Transitions include not just movements between one setting and another in a linear way, but movements "horizontally" from one room to another within the same setting, moving to a more structured part of the day within the daily routine such as lunchtime.

Implementation: Effective communication shared during transitions with the next room or setting, and parents. Transition notes and reports shared. Visual aids to assist children with daily routines, including now and next prompts, and social story books. CoEL language used in children's learning.







# Curriculum goal 2 Create your own self portrait



First milestone: Children to develop a strong sense of self.

Children to enhance selfawareness and recognise themselves in a photo and mirror. Children to express their understanding of who they are, fostering a sense of identity.

Second milestone: Children can explore and represent their emotions through facial expressions in self-portraits.

Hand and eye co-ordination.

Start to use circular shapes.

Third milestone: Emotional literacy and vocabulary development.

Problem solve.

Express their emotions.

Add features to their face. like eyes and mouths.

Fourth milestone:

To know yourself through similarities and differences.

Draw with increasing complexity and detail.

Show different emotions in their drawing.

Explore colour and colour mixing. Emotional literacy.

Implementation: Mirror play to provide opportunities to look at themselves. You name their facial features and expressions. Point to and name facial features on yourself as well as on the children. Share and Read 'All About Me' Books and Picture Books, look at their Famly pictures together. Explore faces in books and discuss them together.

Face-to-Face Games: Engage in games that involve mimicking facial expressions and sounds, particularly peek-a-boo and other face-related games.

Offer mark-making opportunities to explore creating marks using entire bodies, and developing marks into smaller marks and detailed. Capture all of the above activities in photographs to use as selfportrait evidence.

Implementation: Arrange a variety of collage materials on a table for the project, giving children ample time to explore and interact with them. By sharing these materials, you can ignite their curiosity and interest, allowing them to consider which pieces they would like to use to create their own self-portraits.

Encourage them to use words related to facial features. Eyes, nose, mouth. Provide mirrors of various sizes. Offer a range of skin-tone colours. Emphasise that the focus is on the creative process rather than the final product, giving them time to explore. Incorporate terms like 'happy face' and 'sad face' to help children connect facial features with different emotions.

Implementation: Encourage the children to create self-portrait's by providing them with mirrors and a variety of creative resources. Allow time for the children to engage in observation of their faces from this new perspective. Invite them to draw or paint themselves on paper, merging the image they see in the mirror with their own self-perception.

Their portraits will serve as powerful expressions of their identities. This activity should be completed during the baseline period when a child starts in Bluebells and Poppies, and again at the end of the summer term and displayed.

Implementation: We focus on the process of observation, encouraging children to draw what they see in the mirror instead of relying on their mental images or preconceived ideas of a face. Our goal is for the children to closely examine their features, helping them distinguish the individual parts of their faces from the whole. This method of observational drawing not only enhances fine motor skills but also lays a strong foundation for pre-literacy development. Before introducing any drawing materials, dedicate ample time for the children to simply observe their faces. Prompt them with the question. \*What do you notice?\* Following this, proceed to the drawing phase and continue this process termly, displaying their developing portraits.





# Curriculum goal 3

# To be able to follow a recipe and method

Cooking is an educational activity which enables children to communicate, be creative and develop physical and problem-solving skills. Cooking provides an exciting learning opportunity for all children. It allows children and adults to work together with the adult guiding the child through the experience. The adult should provide the child with freedom to make decisions and undertake important tasks, building their independence and confidence throughout the process.

Through finding out where food comes from and how it grows, the children are connected to nature and develops a greater understanding of the world around them.

An adult should model new skills and techniques such as kneading and chopping. Practising these skills enables children to strengthen muscles in their hands and arms, which impacts other areas of learning such as mark making, coordination and writing.

Cooking is an active and engaging first-hand experience here at Episkopi Early Years and a core part of the curriculum. When cooking, group sizes should remain small (a maximum of 8 children) ensuring each child is supported throughout the process and time is given. Cooking can be planned for, or happen spontaneously following the interest of the child.

A recipe card should be clearly displayed so that children can see the method and follow it with ease.

Using real tools is important for children to learn how to manage risk and take responsibility for their actions in a safe environment. Knives, graters and peelers are all safe with the right supervision.

Repeating processes benefits children by strengthening neural connections for memory and learning, building confidence and emotional well-being through predictability. Repetition aids language and literacy development by helping children understand word patterns, promoting social skills through shared routines and supporting children through regular routines. Through the repetition of following a method, this routine becomes embedded and children can take this into other areas of their learning.

Children should begin following visual recipe cards with guidance from an adult, and each week the adult should step back to allow the child to predict, recognise and follow the method independently.



It is rewarding for children to grow their own foods and use them in their recipes.



Skills such as tools and cracking eggs should be modelled first. Using tools builds strength to be independent in the cooking.





# Curriculum goal 4 To tell and perform your own story

Age range	Development Progression
6 to 12 Months	<ul> <li>Begin responding to familiar voices, sounds, and rhymes.</li> <li>Encourage babbling and turn-taking in 'conversations'.</li> <li>Develop early listening and attention through songs and repeated words.</li> </ul>
1 to 2 Years	- Explore naming familiar objects, people, and actions Encourage joining in with simple songs and rhymes.
2 to 3 Years	<ul> <li>Expand vocabulary through role play, stories, and repetition.</li> <li>Begin forming simple sentences.</li> <li>Encourage asking simple questions and expressing choices.</li> </ul>
3 to 4 Years	<ul> <li>Use language to share ideas, retell events, and predict outcomes.</li> <li>Develop storytelling skills through imaginative play.</li> <li>Begin speaking in longer sentences and exploring more complex vocabulary.</li> </ul>



# Curriculum goal 5

# To light and put out a fire safely

Refer to the Play Progression document - Forest School

Children learn how to position themselves safely around the fire in the 'respect position', and how to walk around the fire circle safely.

Children benefit from being given time to preserver with lighting a fire, and display excitement and proudness when they successfully get a spark.

The children learn that fire is safe when managed appropriately, and learn the skills to do this. They will begin to talk about fire safety and how to manage this, sharing their knowledge with practitioners, parents and peers.

They learn to set-up before lighting a fire, and skilfully build tepee's using sticks. They can collect wood for the fire, and put it into groups by thickness.

Children learn to cook with confidence on the fire, demonstrating safety at all times.

Children know how to put out the fire safely.

Wood stages when lighting the fire - children collect the wood in the environment.

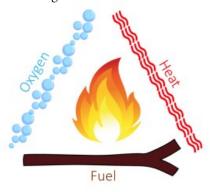
Stage 1 Wood Kindling – very thin wood that can be lit by your tinder.	Stage 2 Wood About the thickness of your little finger.	Stage 3 Wood About the thickness of your thumb.	nick wood up to 3 inches
			W W 1/1



Respect Position



The Fire Triangle
The sides of the triangle represent
the ingredients needed fore fire.





# Curriculum goal 6 To grow a seed

Refer to the Play Progression document - Forest School - Dig/ Tools/ Growing and decay

Age range	Development Progression
6 to 12 Months	Sensory Exploration Babies can touch and feel soil, seeds, and leaves, exploring textures and temperatures.
1 to 2 Years	Basic Participation - between 1 to 2 years of age, the children can help with simple tasks, such as pouring water into pots or scattering seeds, developing fine motor skills.  Beginning to understand the effects of watering plants and seeing them grow over time.
2 to 3 Years	Children can engage in more hands-on activities, such as planting seeds in soil or using small tools. They start to grasp the concept of taking care of living things, learning to check if plants need water or sunlight.  Vocabulary expands as they learn names of plants, tools, and actions related to gardening.
3 to 4 Years	Pre-schoolers can take on more responsibility, such as regularly watering plants, weeding, or checking for pests.  They begin to identify problems with plants (like wilting or pests) and propose solutions (like adjusting water or relocating plants).  Working with peers in group gardening activities, fostering teamwork and social skills.  They can articulate basic life cycles of plants and may start to recognize seasonal changes in gardening.







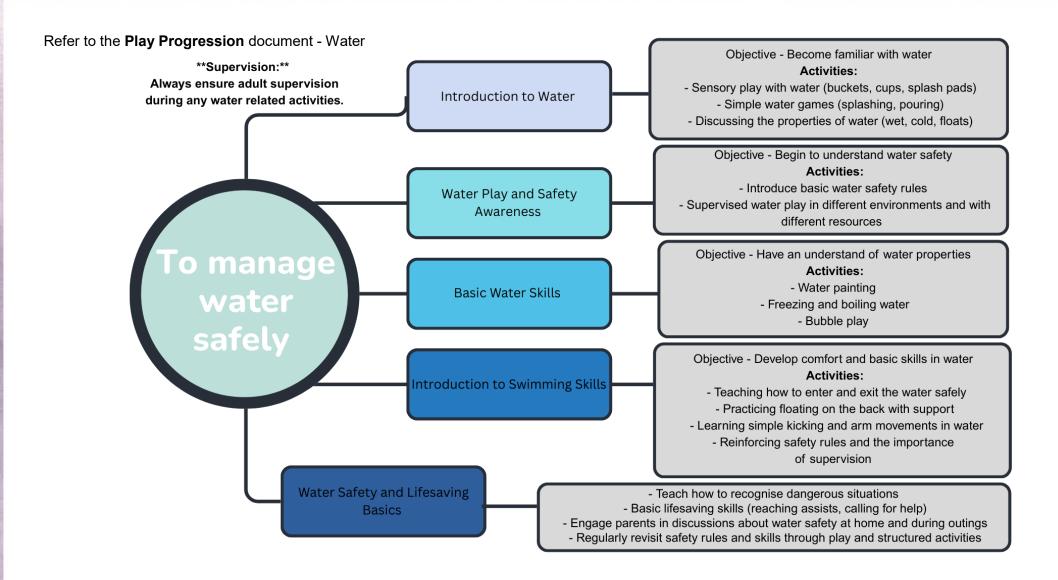








# Curriculum goal 7 To manage water safely





# Curriculum goal 8 To engage with community life

Age range	Development Progression
	Community Engagement Impact
Birth to 12 Months	Interaction with caregivers and community members helps infants feel secure and promotes early social skills.  Social Development: Infants begin to recognize familiar faces and respond to social interactions.
	Community Engagement Impact
1 to 2 Years	Opportunities to interact with diverse community members help children to learn about different roles, such as those of teachers, doctors, emergency services and community helpers.  Vocabulary expands rapidly; beginning to use simple words and follow simple instructions.
	Community Engagement Impact
2 to 3 Years	Exposure to various cultural practices and community events fosters an appreciation for diversity and helps children understand different roles in society.  Social Development and Emotional Development- as the children become more self-aware, showing signs of empathy and understanding others' feelings.  Language skills continue to develop, with the ability to form simple sentences.
	Community Engagement Impact
3 to 4 Years	Participating in community activities, such as festivals or local gatherings, reinforces social skills and cultural awareness. Learning about different professions and roles in the community enriches their understanding of societal functions. Children start to understand differences and similarities between their families and communities and will share through discussion, pictures or stories.
	Children start to take turns and engage in group activities, showing an understanding of group dynamics. Children will begin to ask questions about the world around them, demonstrating curiosity. They can follow multi-step directions and engage in imaginative play.





# To engage with community life

#### The early years values of Episkopi - community, diversity, respect, and resilience are essential in our military setting.

Children will be involved in activities that promote interaction with their community. To enhance children's cultural awareness, we aim to introduce them to the cultural aspects of the British military, alongside Cypriot traditions and various other festivals within our community.

Our enhanced curriculum offers several exciting highlights, such as Storytime sessions featuring important figures from the community, including parents, the Padre and military personnel. We invite military personnel and community members to share their experiences and stories in a way that is engaging for young audiences.

We participate in music and dance sessions that highlight songs and dances from diverse cultures. We aspire for children to participate in Community Connection Activities. We enjoy welcoming the community such as the military band to perform for our children.

We visit local establishments such as the dental centre, library, fire station, and gym, allowing children to experience community life first-hand. Our children learn about the roles of community helpers, including military positions, doctors, nurses, dentist, dog handlers, police and many others. The wide range of experiences and celebrations within both military, local and wider contexts, encourage children to participate in various events and develops their knowledge of the world around us.

We aim to promote parental engagement in community activities, building our parent partnership, and children's knowledge of their child's learning.

By the end of the academic year, children, from our youngest cohorts to those aged four, will demonstrate their understanding of the community by participating in at least three community engagement activities. This will provide them with insights into the roles of our community and help them express appreciation for the diverse cultures present in their environment.

This approach not only fosters a sense of belonging and connection to the community but also assists children in developing social skills, cultural awareness, and a sense of responsibility towards their surroundings.



# Our long term teaching and learning planning

## · Stories we'll share:

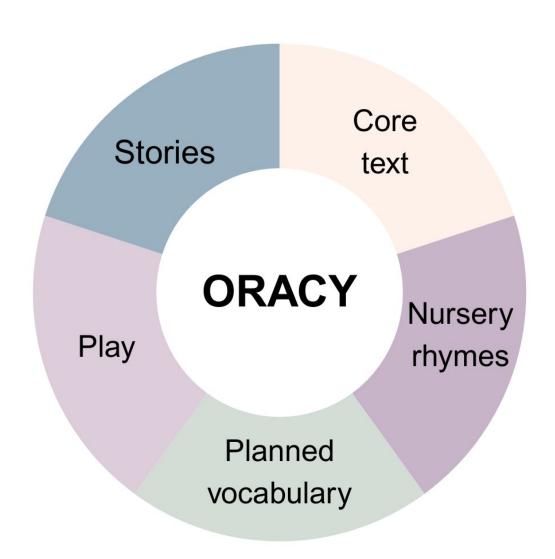
	• 0-2 Years:	- Page 14
	• 2-3 Years:	- Page 15
	• Rising 3's:	-Page 16
	Pre-school: Located separ	ately
•	Nursery rhymes	Page 17
•	Forest School	Page 18
•	Cooking and baking	-Page 20
•	Mathematical learning	Page 21
•	Inclusive Practice	Page 23
	Parent Partnership	Page 24
	Characteristics of Effective Learning	Page 25
	Understanding and Managing Emotions-	- Page 26
•	Celebrations, Trips and Experiences	- Page 27
•	Celebration Must Do's	Page 28
	Parent Partnershin Yearly Event	Page 20





# Communication and Language Development

- Assign a time-slot to offer
   Oracy sessions.
- Ensure fiction and non-fiction stories are available across the room indoors and outdoors.
- Follow the high-quality core text and Nursery Rhymes in every day practice.
- Repetition of planned vocabulary, exposing the children to a wide-range.
- Commentary and extension of language through play.







# 0 - 2 Years: Our high-quality text - stories we'll share

	Term 1.1	Term 1.2	Term 2.1	Term 2.2	Term 3.1	Term 3.2
Overarching	Being me in my world	Fabulous festivities	My world, my community	The natural world	Splish, splash, splosh	Adventures near and far
High Quality Texts	Hide and seek pig  Monkey puzzle	Fox's socks Chocolate Mousse for Greedy Goose	Oh dear! Each peach pear plum	Dear Zoo Noisy Farm	Hooray for Fish Polar bear, polar bear what do you hear?	Postman bear
Intent	The colour monster  Build positive relationships with key person.  Separate from parent with ease.  Express their emotions freely.  To learn to blow to support strategies for calming down.  Confidently express their personal preferences.	Establish sense of self.  Expressing preferences and make decisions.  Try new things and start establishing their autonomy.  Recognise and use items from their home culture.	Recognise and become familiar with professionals within our community.  Language development and repeating words, inducing rhyming through text.	To be confident at explore the natural environment.  To link animals to natural environments.	Children to explore water in a variety of ways.	To maintain strong relationships with key adults.  To feel safe and secure with their adult, and therefore show independence/ confidence exploring new spaces.
Key knowledge	Knowledge that their parents/ carers come back for them.  Know and respond to their name, and begin to know their peers name.  Name some body parts.	Familiarity with items that reflect their home culture.  Know the routine of meal times, and demonstrate table manners.	Begin to use their peers names, and names of people in the community e.g. police.	Key knowledge is the different animals and what makes a pet.  Develops knowledge of the farm animals names and the noises they make.  Experience the natural world around them and notice the wind, bird sounds.  Show respect for living things, learning to take care of plants.	Begin to recognise marks with water, e.g. splash marks on surfaces.	Who their safe people are.  To know what brings them comfort and security.
Key skills	Recognise people who are familiar to them.	Join in with actions/ Ma- katon to familiar nursery rhyme.  Notice pictures and symbols beginning to recognise what they stand for in their famil- iar experience.	Recognise key people in their own lives.	Characterises – such as too big, too jumpy.  Demonstrate curiosity with natural items and transport them during their play.  Through curiosity, observes the movement of people, animals and growth.	Manipulate water - squeez- ing a sponge, filling and emptying containers.	To access items independently that comfort them.  To go to a trusted adult when they need to checkin or have comfort.  To have high-level involvement in play.

# 2 - 3 Years: Our high-quality text - stories we'll share

	Term 1.1	Term 1.2	Term 2.1	Term 2.2	Term 3.1	Term 3.2
Overarching	Being me in my world	Fabulous festivities	My world, my community	The natural world	Splish, splash, splosh	Adventures near and far
	Owl babies	Handa's Surprise	We're going on a bear hunt	Sam plants a sunflower	Snail and the whale	Paddington
High Quality	The Colour Monsters	Stickman	Squirrels who Squabbled	Farmyard Hullabaloo	The fish who could wish	The Train Ride
Texts	A little bit brave	Christmas book				What the ladybird heard at the seaside
	Build positive relationships with peers and practitioners.	Establishing sense of self.	Recognise and become fa-			
	Understand, label and talk about their emotions such as happy, sad. "I'm sad because"	Notice similarities and differences.	miliar with professionals within our community.	To grow a seed with guid- ance from an adult.	To use water with a purpose.	To maintain strong relation- ships with key adults.
Intent	To learn strategies for calming down.	To have an understanding different celebrations and cultures.	To build confidence within their community.	To respect growth with little reminders.	To explore and 'have a go' at new methods of pouring and filling.	To feel safe and secure with their adult, and therefore
	Have a sense of self emotionally and physically.	To follow structures and routines with ease, demonstrat-	To walk on the path safely within the community with	To demonstrate confidence in the natural world when exploring.	Ğ	show independence/ confidence exploring new spaces.
	Confidently express their personal preferences.	ing independence.	little support from an adult.			
	Knowledge that their parents/ carers come back for them. Know some people in their fami- ly.	Demonstrate an interest and some knowledge of books about their culture.	Visit local places within the	Talk about what they see and notice in the natural environment.	Know that cloths and towels	To know their safe people who are in their immediate environment, and who are
Key	Know and respond to their name, and know their peers name.	Have knowledge of familiar sounds from the community/	community and identify them through photos.	Link animal sounds to the	dry wet surfaces.  Think about when something	further away.  To know what comforts them
knowledge	Know their body parts.			animal.	is full and empty.	and makes them feel secure.
	Have knowledge of strategies for calming down such as breathing exercises.	nature.		Knowledge of how Sam in the story grew a sunflower.		Knowledge of where they are going on holiday, or moving house to.
	Know their likes and dislikes.					
Key skills	Recognise people who are familiar to them through photos.  Begin to recognise happy and sad faces.	Perseverance to challenges.  Explore and express themselves through music from diverse cultures.  Follow different routine and events, meeting people from a variety of culture, sharing real world experiences.	Use small world toys to represent their experiences within the community, e.g. Fire engine with the sound.	Know how to use items such as watering cans and trowels to help plants grow.  Explore nature (grass, mud, plants, animal life).  Identify sounds in the natural world (cars, birds, wind).	Use jugs and a range of resources for pouring and transporting water.	To recognise and talk about key things in photos - their new house/ what they did on holiday.  To have high-level involvement in play.

# Rising 3's: Our high-quality text - stories we'll share

_	Term 1.1	Term 1.2	Term 2.1	Term 2.2	Term 3.1	Term 3.2
Overarching	Being me in my world	Fabulous festivities	My world, my community	The natural world	Splish, splash, splosh	Adventures near and far
		Bertie's Poppy	Leaf Thief	Jack and the Beanstalk	Rainbow Fish	Jabari Tries
High Quality Texts	Same text as the one above as sharing a classroom.	To Carnival!	Elmer	Supertato	Big Red Bath	Lost and Found
10/10		Christmas book	Goldilocks and Three Bears	The three billy goats gruff	Goodnight Ocean	Tiddler
	Build positive relationships with	Understanding why we cele-	Understanding of seasons.	Growing.	Water safety	To maintain strong relationships
	peers and practitioners.	brate Remembrance Day.	Adapting to changes.	Actions have consequences	Water volume	with key adults.
	Understand, label and talk about their emotions such as happy,	Different celebrations and cul- tures. Positive attitudes to	Teamwork and friendships.	To try new experiences in For-	Weight / size	To feel safe and secure with
	sad, angry. "I'm sad because…"	similarities and differences.	Healthy foods and choices.	est school and risky paly.	Phonic knowledge	their adult, and therefore show independence/ confidence ex-
	To learn and use strategies for calming down, with co-regulation.	Expressing ourselves through music and sounds and sharing	Growing vegetables and fruits.	Vocabulary related to changes living things go through.	Routines and boundaries	ploring new spaces.
Intent	Have a sense of self emotionally	preferences.	Connecting to nature.	Different stages of life cycles.	Turn taking skills.	To know and talk about what is
	and physically.		Looking after living things.	Respect for nature.	Marine life.	coming next for them.
	Express their personal prefer-		Plant cycle. Life cycle of insets.	Nature walks.		
	ences, beginning to consider others feelings.		Something belong to us and somethings are shared.	rvatare wante.		
	Know where they live.		Interest in different occupations.			
	Name and talk about people in their family.	Have knowledge of why we				
	Know and respond to their name, and use their peers name.	celebrate Remembrance Day.				To know their safe people who
	Know their body parts and how to	Beginning to build knowledge of items that reflect their home	Knowledge of season changes.	Talk about the effects of the		are in their immediate environ-
	use their body.	culture.	Look through photos of their first hand experiences and share	wind through observation of		ment, and who are further away.
Key knowledge	Have knowledge of strategies for calming down and when to use them, such as breathing exercises.	Knowledge that songs and sto- ries can be shared in different languages.	their knowledge of their experi- ence.	chimes, windmills and bubbles.  Demonstrate planting and taking care of a seed with little	Talk about weight and capacity.	To know what comforts them and makes them feel secure.  Knowledge of where they are
	Know their likes and dislikes and talk about these.			support.		going on holiday, or moving house to.
	Begin to have knowledge of per- sonal space of others, and re- spect this.					
	Recognise and talk about the feelings of others.					
Key skills	To talk about where they live.	Use items meaningfully that reflect their culture and imitating everyday actions from own family and culture.	Use small world to build upon	Begin to know what is needed to grow a seed.	Use a range of resources to transport water for a purpose.	To recognise and talk about key things in photos - their new house/ what they did on holiday.
		Begin to recognise similarities and differences that connect them to, and distinguish them from other people.	their first-hand experiences	To use tools safely when taking care of the natural environment.	Use water to make things work.	To have high-level involvement in play.

# Long term teaching and planning - nursery rhymes

	Term 1.1	Term 1.2	Term 2.1	Term 2.2	Term 3.1	Term 3.2
Overarch- ing	Being me in my world	Fabulous festivities	The world around me	The natural world	Splish, splash, splosh	Adventures near and far
0 - 2 Years Good morning song We're going outside outside  2 - 3 Years Good morning song	I've got a body  If you're happy and you know it  Peek-a-boo  Tommy Thumb  I have feelings  I've got a body  If you're happy and you know it.  The hokey cokey  I have feelings  This is the way we	Twinkle, twinkle little star Christmas songs  Wind the bobbin up Horsey, horsey don't you stop Christmas songs	Brush your teeth Incy wincy spider Look at that doggy in the window Hickory dickory dock  The bear went over the mountain Brush your teeth 5 little firemen Hey diddle diddle  Three little men in a flying saucer	Baa baa black sheep Round and round the garden Eenie, Meenie, Minie, Mo Did you ever see a bunny?  3 little speckled frogs Old MacDonald had a farm Little bo peep See the little bunny sleeping Dingle dangly scarecrow	Row, row, row your boat I had a tiny turtle Teddy bear, teddy bear Baby shark  1,2,3,4,5 Once I caught a fish alive Jack and Jill Ring-a-roses The waves in the sea go Catch a fish	Humpty dumpty Pat-a-cake, pat-a-cake Miss Polly had a Dolly I'm a little airplane  Down at the station Alice the camel Zoom, zoom, zoom The wheels on the bus Two little dickie birds
Rising 3's Good morning song Days of the week	Head, shoulders, knees and toes.  If you're happy and you know it  The hokey cokey  Tommy Thumb  I have feelings	Five little apples I can sing a rainbow Twinkle, twinkle little star Christmas songs	Brush your teeth  Here we go round the mulberry bush  I hear thunder  It's raining, it's poring  A tisket, a tasket  The ants go marching	Five little monkeys swinging from a tree  Mary, Mary quite contrary  I went to visit a farm one day  Wiggle woo  I'm bringing home a baby bumblebee  The Farmer in the Dell	A sailor went to sea 5 little ducks I had a tiny turtle Row, row, row your boat I'm a little fish My Bonnie Lies Over the Ocean	The grand old Duke of York This is the way we lay the brick When Goldilocks went to the house of the bears Five in a bed The snail and the mouse The wheels on the bus
Pre- School Good morn- ing song Days of the week	Head, shoulders, knees and toes.  One finger, one thumb keep moving  If you're happy and you know it.  I'm a little tea pot.  Here we go round the mulberry bush  I have feelings	Celebration song Hickory, dickory dock Hammer, hammer, hammer Christmas songs	Brush your teeth  London bridges falling down  We're marching in our wellingtons  Five little men in a flying saucer  Dr Foster went to Gloucester  Do you know the muffin man	The animals went in 2 by 2 5 little monkeys jumping on the bed Here is the beehive, where are the bees? We're going to the zoo B-I-N-G-O The very hungry caterpillar	The big ship sails on the ally ally oh  There's a hole in the bottom of the sea  Jack and Jill  Over the deep blue sea  Five little sea shells  Penguin song	Five current buns  Mary had a little lamb  Two little dickie birds  Bower constrictor  The more we get together  This old man

# Our curriculum overview - Forest School

		Term 1.1	Term 1.2	Term 2.1	Term 2.2	Term 3.1
	er- hing	Forest school safety— <i>MUSTER</i>	Fire	Tools & Managing Risk	Planting	Knots & den building
	0 - 2 years	To know the session starts at the fire circle.  Explore freely using their senses.	Sit down safely whilst the fire is on.  Feel safe with adults around the fire circle when it is lit.	Know how to use a trowel and begin to do this with control.	Plant and water seeds with an adult.  Begin to be respectful to growth.	Exploring and hiding in enclosed spaces.  Exploring rope and seeing what happens.
	2 - 3 years	To know the session starts at the fire circle.  Explore freely using their senses. Beginning to follow and facilitate the Forest School ethos and principles – SPICES.  Transport loose parts.  Be introduced to the respectful position.  Can stop when asked.	Approach the fire circle safely and sit down on a log.  Feel safe with adults around the fire circle.  Use tongs on the fire safely with an adult.	Begin to use the loppers with support to cut back bushes.  Dig with developing control.  Find bugs and take care of them.	Plant and water seeds with an adult.  Begin to be respectful to growth.	Beginning to understand knots are needed to hold something in place.  Begins to tie over hand knots with support.
Intent	Rising 3's	Follow the forest school safety rules.  Know where the muster point is.  Know how to approach the fire circle and sit down safely on the logs surrounding it.  With support, do the respectful position.  Explore freely, following their interests, displaying curiosity.	Be familiar with the respectable position.  Use the flint and steel with support.  Make a tepee fire lay with little support.  Use the natural environment and resources to mark make.  Begin to talk about how things look, smell and feel.	Dig with developed control.  Use loppers responsibly, knowing how to use them safely to cut back bushes.  Listen to sounds in forest school and enjoy hunts for bugs and animals.	Learn how to weed areas and removed the roots.  Begin to recognise growth and decay.  Plant seeds with guidance from an adult.  Have an understanding of what seeds need to grow.  Be respectful to growth.  Demonstrate curiosity in what we see and notice.	Beginning to tie knots with support – over hand knot, square knot, bow knot.  Help an adult to make a balancing line using the gym ropes.  Use the balancing line with ease.
19	Pre-school	Follow the forest school safety rules and begin to explain them.  Follow instructions to muster point.  Know how to respond if a snake is sighted.  Know how to approach the fire circle and sit down safely on the logs surrounding it.  Independently adopt the respectful position.  Explore confidently.  Transport natural loose parts to support their play and interests.	Know how to light a fire.  Knows how to put out a fire safely.  Know the respectable position and model with ease.  Use the flint and steel.  Make a tepee fire lay with little support.  Have an understanding of how to reuse materials e.g. charcoal for marking.	Use tools safely – loppers, axe and saws. Independently know some of the tool talk. Begin to understand how to clean tools and why. Recognise sounds in forest school and identify bugs and animals in their habitats.	Know how to weed and remove the roots from the ground.  Recognise decay and have some knowledge of what to do.  Plant seeds with guidance from an adult.  Know what seeds need to grow.  Be respectful to growth.  Move soil from A to B using a spade and spill very little.  Demonstrate curiosity in what we see and notice.	Tie knots with little support - over hand knot, square knot, bow knot.  Use a mallet with good hand-eye coordination.  Use knots to make a balancing line using the gym ropes with support.  Use the balancing line independently.



# Forest School Curriculum

Allows groups to scaffold each other's learning. Children learn through their play and when interacting with others.

hysical

Providing the opportunity to develop a child's fine and gross motor skills whilst valuing the learner and their learning style.

This type of learning offered is part of a process rather than a product. Developing imagination and decision making.

ommunication

Forest School develops the use of language by allowing children to ask questions.

motional

Individual learning opportunities which develop's a child;s confidence and self-esteem. It develop's a child's respect.

piritual

Focus on a child's views and beliefs.
The spiritual element of being in nature, and in forest school for overtime element and participant focus give personal space or participants to engage with this aspect as they will.

# Long term teaching and planning - Cooking and baking

		Term 1.1	Term 1.2	Term 2.1	Term 2.2	Term 3.1	Term 3.2
	er- ning	Fruit kebabs	Making soup	Bread rolls	Making pizza	Water	Baking
0 - 2 ye	- 1	Whole hand grasp and co-ordination - PD Pick something up with first finger and thumb - PD Express preferences - PSED	Hand to eye co-ordinate, passing the vegetables from hand to hand. Exploring the properties of the vegetables in different forms. –PD	Enjoy the sensory experience of making marks L & PD	Place spoon for tomato and toppings with intent PD  Becomes more able to adapt their behaviour and increase their participation and cooperation PSED	Exploring foods PSED  Exploring and making sense of objects and how they behave UTW  Shows interest in buttons UTW	Opportunity to use their senses through multi-sensory exploration EAD
		Wash fruits.  Choose their preferred chopped fruits and put them into their bowl or on a skewer stick.	Wash vegetables. Explore pumpkins, scooping inside.	Build strength in their fingers with the dough.  Notice marks they are creating.	Choose toppings.  Taste new foods.	Wash and chop fruits for a smoothie.  Add them to the blender, press button.	Experiment with pouring, mixing and using a variety of tools.
	2 - 3 ye	Show a preference for dominant hand -PD Learn how to use a knife - PD Express preferences - PSED	Small motor skills - pouring and stir- ring - PD  Learn how to use a knife - PD  Develop own likes and dislikes in food PD	Enjoy the sensory experience of making marks L  Make connections between the movement and marks they make M	Make choices when selecting top- pings PSED Follow activities using nonverbal cues & understand simple sentences C&L Make a pizza through own actions PD	Allow children to pour PD  Respond to capacity/ measurements with maths vocabulary M	Opportunity to use their senses through multi-sensory exploration EAD
	years	Wash fruits.  Chop fruits with support and put them on a skewer with little support.	Wash vegetables and chop with little support.  Talk about what happens when it is blended together.	Build strength in their fingers with the dough.  Notice marks they are creating.	Build strength in their fingers with the dough.	Squeeze fruits to create juice. Pour water and juice into lolly moulds. Observe what has happened.	Experiment with pouring, mixing and using a variety of tools.
Intent	Rising	Show a preference for dominant hand - PD  Learn how to use a knife - PD  Manage to take turns with a knife - PSED	Number recognition - M Pouring with control - PD Talk about what they have observed when cooked - C&L	Begin to notice numerals - M  Explore differences in weight, size and length - M  Use a range of tools PF	Show increasing control using tools PD Show a preference for dominant hand - PD	Allow children to pour PD  Respond to capacity/ measurements with maths vocabulary M	Understand the use of objects C&L  Manipulate a range of tools and show increasing control PD
	ing 3's	Wash fruits.  Chop fruits with support and put them on a skewer with little support.	Wash vegetables and chop them independently.  Measure liquids with little support.	Manipulate the dough with little support, using their hands and tools.  Select toppings independently, and talk about what they like/ dislike.	Manipulate the dough with little support, using their hands and tools.  Select toppings independently, and talk about what they like/ dislike.	Wash fruits and chop them.  Add fruits and water to the lolly moulds.  Observe what has happened.	Use tools with little support, having knowledge of their purpose.  Follow the recipe cards with little support.
	Pr	Use one-handed tool - PD Show a preference for dominant hand - PD	Number recognition - M Pouring with control - PD Talk about what they have observed when cooked - C&L	Begin to notice numerals - M  Explore differences in weight, size and length - M  Use a range of tools PD	Links numerals with amounts - M Collaborative task, encouraging communication between peers C&L	Measure the water M Learn about the characteristics of liquid and solids UTW	Understand the use of objects C&L  Manipulate a range of tools and show increasing control PD
Pre-school	ו יי ו	Wash fruits. Chop the fruit independently and put them on to skewer.	Wash vegetables and chop them independently.  Measure liquids with little support.	Knead the dough with control and use tools independently to manipulate the dough.  Select toppings independently, and talk about what they like/ dislike.	Knead the dough with control and use tools independently to manipulate the dough.  Select toppings independently, and talk about what they like/ dislike.	Boil water using different methods - kettle, pan.  Add water to the jelly - observe what happens.  Add to the fridge - observe the change.	Use tools independently, knowing their purpose. Follow the recipe cards independently.

# Integrating Mathematics Through Everyday Activities

	Children will understand basic measurements.
Baking and Cooking	Use measuring cups and spoons to explore volume. Weighing ingredients.
	Children will learn about measurement through growth and nature.
Gardening and Nature Exploration	Measure the height of plants as they grow, introducing concepts of length.  Count seeds and discuss quantities when planting.  Explore weight by using a balance scale to compare different types of soil or produce.
	Children will observe and measure their environment.
Forest School	Estimate and measure distances between trees or objects in the forest. Count different types of leaves, flowers, or rocks. Use natural materials (like sticks or stones) for basic addition and subtraction activities.
	Foster an understanding of numbers and patterns in play.
Play-Based Learning	Create patterns with blocks, stones, or natural materials. Set up counting games during free play, such as counting steps or jumps. Use role-play scenarios (like a shop) to practice counting money and making change
	Incorporate math into everyday experiences.
Daily Routines	Count children during circle time, and discuss concepts of more and less. Use calendar activities to teach days of the week, months, and simple addition or subtraction with dates.  Measure time using timers or sand timers during activities.  Using 5 and 10 frames
Water Play	Children learn about capacity as they fill and pour different containers, comparing sizes and discussing full, empty, and half-full states.  Children can engage in counting games, such as counting how many scoops of water they've poured or how many containers they've filled  Creating patterns with floating objects  Water play encourages children to think critically and solve problems, such as how to fill a container without spilling or how to make objects float float or sink experiments.
	Children can explore different shapes and their properties while constructing with blocks or other materials
Building and construction	Children learn about length, height, and width through measuring and comparing their constructions
	Creating patterns with blocks helps children understand sequences and symmetry

# Inclusive Practices

Inclusive practices in our early years settings aim to cultivate an environment where every child, irrespective of their background, abilities, or needs, feels valued, respected, and supported in achieving their full potential.

This approach differentiation, embracing a holistic framework that encompasses policy, practice, and culture, and promotes equality, diversity, and the individual needs of each child.

Key elements of inclusive practices in early years include:

- **Establishing a welcoming and respectful environment:** Ensuring that the physical space, resources, and interactions mirror diversity, fostering a sense of belonging for all children.
  - Valuing diversity and celebrating differences: Recognising and appreciating the unique backgrounds, cultures, languages, and abilities of each child and their family.
  - Customising learning experiences: Adapting teaching methods, activities, and resources to accommodate the varied needs and learning styles of all children.
  - Encouraging positive relationships: Building a culture of empathy, respect, and collaboration among children, families, and educators.
    - Partnering with families: Engaging families as active contributors to their child's learning journey and valuing their insights and expertise.
    - Addressing barriers to learning: Identifying and eliminating obstacles that may hinder children's full participation in the early years setting.
- **Ensuring access to resources and support:** Providing necessary support and resources for children with special educational needs and disabilities, as well as those from disadvantaged backgrounds.
- **Promoting positive attitudes and behaviours:** Educators serving as role models by demonstrating inclusive language and behaviours and nurturing empathy and understanding among children.





# Parent Partnership

A strong partnership between parents and setting can significantly enhance various developmental milestones in children.

Below are key areas where noticeable progress can occur:

Social Skills	Children are more likely to develop effective social skills such as sharing, cooperation, and conflict reso-
	lution when parents are actively involved. This involvement reinforces these skills both at home and
	within the nursery setting.

Language Development	Collaborative efforts between parents and caregivers can lead to improved language abilities in children.
	Parents can help expand vocabulary and promote effective communication through reading and engag-
	ing conversations, thus complementing the activities provided by the nursery.

<b>Emotional Regulation</b>	A united approach fosters emotional intelligence. When parents and staff communicate about emotional
	behaviours and strategies, children learn to recognise and manage their feelings effectively.

Cognitive Skills	Parents can reinforce learning concepts introduced at nursery, including numbers, letters, and problem-
	solving skills. This reinforcement solidifies cognitive development and nurtures curiosity and exploration.

Physical Development	By collaborating, parents and nursery staff can encourage physical activities and fine motor skills
	through play. Parents can further support development by providing opportunities for active play at
	home.

Independence and Self-	A strong partnership enables a consistent approach to fostering independence. Children who receive
Esteem	encouragement from both their parents and caregivers are more likely to take initiative and build self-
	confidence.

and Imagina-	Collaborative efforts can enhance children's creative skills. Parents who engage in arts, crafts, or imagi-
tion	native play at home complement the creative activities offered in the nursery.

A consistent approach to learning helps prepare children for a smooth transition to school. Regular rein-
forcement of skills and routines builds confidence and readiness for the next educational stage.





Creativity

**School Readiness** 

# Characteristics of Effective Learning



















The aim is to fully understand how children learn, and know each child's unique learning characteristics, allowing us to adapt our teaching to provide better support for their learning. Furthermore, when children are aware of how they learn, they can harness this knowledge for their development.

The aim is to personalise learning experiences and provide positive reinforcement, which enhancing children's self-esteem. This approach encourages a growth mindset; for example, we have developed characteristics such as "Go for it Gorilla," to encourage children to embrace new challenges.

This strategy is specifically designed to meet individual needs.

By observing which characters resonate most with each child, educators can tailor their teaching strategies accordingly. This immediate responsive approach enables differentiated instruction that caters to the diverse requirements of each child.

The characteristics represented by these characters is aligned with curriculum goals, ensuring that our teaching remains focused on developmental objectives.

This alignment assists practitioners in tracking progress and assessing how effectively children are meeting their learning milestones.

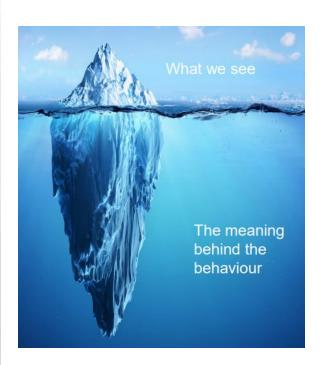
Incorporating characters that represent positive learning traits not only makes the learning experience enjoyable but also enhances the overall effectiveness of this curriculum. It supports adaptive teaching by fostering engagement, reflection, and the development of essential skills within a nurturing environment.

In the implementation section, you may refer to the developed characters we have created to support this approach.



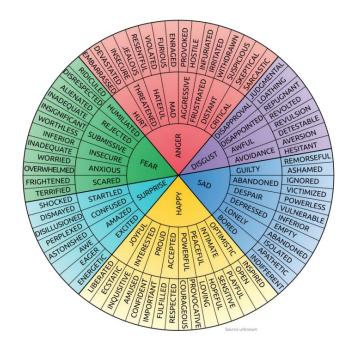


# Understanding and managing emotions



#### Consider the iceberg model

- 1) Identify what behaviours we see.
- 2) Identify the possible meanings behind these behaviours.



#### Validate and label feeling

- 1) Label the emotion you see.
- 2) Validate what they are feeling.

#### **Intent for Emotion Coaching**

- Children's well-being is supported and relationships are nurtured
- Develop effective stress management skills
- To prevent emotional overwhelm for adults and children
- Promote emotional and behavioural selfregulation
- 5) No additional equipment is required
- 6) You become the resource
- 7) Improve staff confidence and positive view on relationships with children
- Long term support emotional wellness, resilience, relationships, emotional literacy, skills in regulation

Over time, through co-regulation, the programme aims to help children develop self-regulation.







# Our curriculum overview

# Celebrations, trips and experiences

#### SEP

9<sup>th</sup> - Emergency services day 13<sup>th</sup> - Positive thinking day 19<sup>th</sup> - Talk like a pirate day 22<sup>nd</sup> - Dashain starts 28<sup>th</sup> - World rivers day

#### JAN

1<sup>st</sup> - New Years Day 4<sup>th</sup> - World Braille Day 15<sup>th</sup> - Medical Service Visit 18<sup>th</sup> - World snow day 20<sup>TH</sup> - Penguin Awareness Day 21<sup>st</sup> - National Hug Day 25<sup>th</sup> - Burns Night

#### MAY

Half term

3<sup>rd</sup> - World Laughter Day
5<sup>th</sup> - Bank holiday
4/10<sup>th</sup> - Screen Free Week
4/10<sup>th</sup> - Sun Awareness Week
8<sup>th</sup> - VE Day
15<sup>th</sup> - International Day of Families
17/18<sup>th</sup> - World baking day
18<sup>th</sup> - Walk to school week
20<sup>th</sup> - World Bee Day
23<sup>rd</sup> - World Turtle Day
30<sup>th</sup> - National creativity day

#### OCT

Half term

1st - International music day
1st - National hair day
3rd - World smile day
5th - Grandparents day
5th - Harvest festival
4/10th - World space week
9th - World post day
10th - Fiji day
10th - World mental health day
19th - Tihar starts
20th - National adoption week
31st - Halloween

#### **FEB**

Half term

1<sup>st</sup> - Black history month
2<sup>nd</sup> - Ukulele Day
2<sup>nd</sup> - National storytelling week
6<sup>th</sup> - NSPCC Number day
3/9<sup>th</sup> - Children mental health week
4/10<sup>th</sup> - Winter Olympics
11<sup>th</sup> - International Day of Women & Girls in
Science
17<sup>th</sup> Pancake Day
17<sup>th</sup> Random Acts of Kindness Day
21<sup>st</sup> - Real bread week

## JUN

3<sup>rd</sup> - World Bicycle Day
5<sup>th</sup> - World Environment Day
7<sup>th</sup> - World food safety day
8<sup>th</sup> - World Ocean Day
10/14<sup>th</sup> - Healthy Eating Week
11<sup>th</sup> - International Day of Play
21<sup>th</sup> - Fathers Day
18<sup>th</sup> - International picnic day
20<sup>th</sup> - Kings Official Birthday
21<sup>st</sup> - International yoga day
27<sup>th</sup> June - Armed forces day
29<sup>th</sup> - International mud day

#### NOV

1<sup>st</sup> - All Saints Day 5<sup>th</sup> - Bonfire night 11<sup>th</sup> - Remembrance 15<sup>th</sup> - Children in need 27<sup>th</sup> - Thanksgiving day 30<sup>th</sup> - St Andrew's Day

#### MAR

1st - St. David's Day
3<sup>rd</sup> World Wildlife Day
6<sup>th</sup> - World book day
8<sup>th</sup> - International Women's Day
15<sup>th</sup> - Mothers Day
17<sup>th</sup> - St Patrick's Day
18<sup>th</sup> - Global Recycling Day
21<sup>st</sup> - International Forest Day
21<sup>st</sup> - Single Parents Day
20th - Comic Relief
28<sup>th</sup> - Earth Hour

#### JUL

Summer hol

14<sup>th</sup> - Shark Awareness Day 16<sup>th</sup> - World snake day 29<sup>th</sup> - International Tiger Day 30<sup>th</sup> - International friendship day

#### DEC

3<sup>rd</sup> - Story with the Padre 10<sup>th</sup> - Christmas FS Stay & Play 12<sup>th</sup> - Christmas Jumper Day 17<sup>th</sup> - Christmas Lunch

## **APR**

Easter hol

1<sup>st</sup> - April Fools Day
2<sup>nd</sup> - World Autism Awareness Day
2<sup>nd</sup> - International children's book day
5<sup>th</sup> - Easter
11<sup>th</sup> - National Pet Day
22<sup>nd</sup> - Earth Day
23<sup>rd</sup> - St. Georges Day
25<sup>th</sup> - Purple up day
29<sup>th</sup> - International Dance Day

#### AUG

Summer hol

4<sup>th</sup> - Owl Awareness Day 12<sup>th</sup> - World Elephant Day



# Our curriculum overview

# Must Do's

SEP

#### OCT

Half term

NOV

DEC

1<sup>St</sup> October - Band

October Music with Su & SJS

Half term Pumpkin soup/ Halloween

11<sup>th</sup> Remembrance day

14th - Children in need

3rd - Story with the Padre 10<sup>th</sup> - Christmas Forest school Stay & Play

12<sup>th</sup> - Christmas Jumper Day

17th - Christmas Lunch

JAN

15<sup>th</sup> - Medical/Dental Service Visit with SJS support **FEB** 

Half term

2<sup>nd</sup> - Ukulele Day- with SJS 6<sup>th</sup> - Children mental health daycelebrate in own roomsspa/relax/yoga! 12/13<sup>th</sup> Pancake Day-Forest school with Emma (SJS support.) MAR

6th - World book day

13<sup>th</sup> - Mothers Day- stay and play

20th - Comic Relief

25<sup>th</sup> Zoo

**APR** 

Easter hol

15<sup>th</sup> - Purple up day

29th - International Dance Day

Sports Day - Date TBC

MAY

Half term

8<sup>th</sup> - VE Day

118/19th - World baking day

27th World Turtle Daybeach trip/ turtle talk JUN

Week starting 1<sup>st</sup> June bike safety-Community Police to support

18<sup>th</sup> - Fathers day Picnic - with a nod to the kings birthday

26<sup>th</sup> June - Armed forces day School transitions JUL

Summer hol

8<sup>th</sup> July 84SQN

Week starting 13<sup>th</sup> July water week.

Bluebells and Poppies transitions

AUG

Summer hol

# Additional

-Weekly Friday letter to parents

-Weekly observation per child on Famly All families receive home visit & free settling in session.



# Parent Partnership Yearly event 2025/26 PLANNER

#### **SEP**

3<sup>rd</sup> - Buttercups and Daisies start the Autumn term 3<sup>rd</sup> - Poppies stay and play 4<sup>th</sup> - Poppies children start the Autumn term

# **OCT**

Parent-Teacher meetings for Daisies: 15<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> October.

## NOV

Parent-Teacher meetings for Buttercups: W/C 3<sup>rd</sup> Poppies: W/C 10<sup>th</sup>

#### DEC

3<sup>rd</sup> - Forest School Stay and Play Buttercups and Daisies 1500-1545 Bluebells and Poppies 1615-1700

#### **JAN**

## **FEB**

Parent-Teacher meetings Buttercups: W/C 23<sup>rd</sup>

#### MAR

Parent-Teacher meetings Daisies: W/C 2<sup>nd</sup> Bluebells: W/C 9<sup>th</sup> Poppies: W/C 16<sup>th</sup>

13<sup>th</sup> - Mother's Day Stay and Play

## APR

Sports day

Bluebells and Poppies Happy Valley Date TBC

## MAY

# JUN

Parent-Teacher meetings Buttercups: W/C 1<sup>st</sup> June Daisies: W/C 8<sup>th</sup> June Bluebells: W/C 15<sup>th</sup> June Poppies: W/C 22<sup>nd</sup> June

18th - Father's Day Picnic

#### JUL

Poppies Graduation 15<sup>th</sup> July

## **AUG**