




Reception Progression of Skills & Curriculum Overview 2025-2026

Area of Learning	Autumn 1 - Me and my world	Autumn 2 - Seasons Christmas in the past	Spring 1 - Amazing Creatures	Spring 2 - Once Upon a Time	Summer - The Gruffalo and friends	
Other Possible Themes	Pets Emotions Looking after ourselves People Who Help Us Our Local Area Our Families	Autumn Diwali Nursery Rhyme Week Christmas Remembrance Day Bonfire Night	Valentine's Day Chinese New Year	Pancake Day Fairtrade Easter International Women's Day	Zog- People who help us Monkey Puzzle- Growing and changing/ life cycles The Ugly Five- Contrasting habitats	
Enrichment Activities	Daily 'Play, chat, read' with parents/carers Life Education Healthy Me Week BCP Road Safety visit	Nativity Performance Christmas Jumper/Dinner Day	Chinese New Year Celebration Dinosaur Museum for Parents	World Book Day Spring Treat Day	Trip to Moors Valley People Who Help Us visits (Zog)- Police, Fire Service, RNLI Library visits (Detective Dog) National Storytelling Week World Music Day	
Communication and Language  Communication and Language is developed throughout the year through high quality interactions, daily group discussions, circle times, stories, singing, speech and language focus groups, show and tell, Daily vocabulary input during Drawing Club as well as 'word of the day.' Poetry Basket used in school and any follow up from home learning tasks on Tapestry.	Listening, Attention and Understanding Adults to model ACTIVE listening. Children will be able to understand how to listen carefully and know why it is important. Speaking Children will talk in front of small groups and their teacher offering their own ideas.	Listening, Attention and Understanding Children will begin to understand how and why questions. Adults to ask meaningful questions in continuous provision to extend and clarify ideas. Speaking Children will use new vocabulary throughout the day which has been introduced and modelled by adults.	Listening, Attention and Understanding Children will learn to ask questions to find out more which will be modelled by adults. Speaking Children will talk in sentences using conjunctions, e.g. and, because. This will be modelled in continuous provision.	Listening, Attention and Understanding Children will retell a story and follow a story without pictures or props. They will begin to ask and answer questions about familiar characters. Speaking Children will engage in non-fiction books and to use new vocabulary in different contexts.	Listening, Attention and Understanding Children will be able to understand a question such as who, what, where, when, why and how. Speaking Children will use talk to organise, sequence and clarify thinking, ideas, feelings and events.	Listening, Attention and Understanding Children will be able to have conversations with adults and peers with back-and-forth exchanges. Speaking Children will use talk in sentences using a range of tenses.
	<p>Listening, Attention and Understanding: Listen attentively and respond to what they hear with relevant questions, comments and actions when being read to and during whole class discussions and small group interactions. Make comments about what they have heard and ask questions to clarify their understanding. Hold conversation when engaged in back-and-forth exchanges with their teacher and peers.</p> <p>Speaking: Participate in small group, class and one-to-one discussions, offering their own ideas, using recently introduced vocabulary. Offer explanations for why things might happen, making use of recently introduced vocabulary from stories, non-fiction, rhymes and poems when appropriate. Express their ideas and feelings about their experiences using full sentences, including use of past, present and future tenses and making use of conjunctions, with modelling and support from their teacher.</p>					
Personal, Social and Emotional Development  Children develop their personal, social and emotional skills throughout the year through circle times, social stories, ELSA support (if necessary), diversity stories, assemblies and prayer times. Children will learn about the school Missions Statement and Learning Values.	Self-Regulation Children will be able to follow one step instructions. Children will recognise different emotions. Children will focus during short whole class activities. Managing Self Children will learn to wash their hands independently. They will begin to show an awareness of healthy food choices and also how to keep safe and healthy. Building Relationships Children will seek support from adults and gain confidence to speak to peers and adults.	Self-Regulation Children will talk about how they are feeling and to consider others feelings. Managing Self Children will understand the need to have rules. Building Relationships Children will begin to develop friendships.	Self-Regulation Children will be able to focus during longer whole class lessons. Managing Self Children will begin to show resilience and perseverance in the face of a challenge. Building Relationships Children will be able to use taught strategies to support in turn taking.	Self-Regulation Children will identify and moderate their own feelings socially and emotionally. Managing Self Children will develop independence when dressing and undressing. Building Relationships Children will listen to the ideas of other children and agree on a solution and compromise.	Self-Regulation Children will be able to control their emotions using a range of techniques. Managing Self Children will manage their own basic needs independently. Children will learn to dress themselves independently. Building Relationships Children will learn to work as a group.	Self-Regulation Children will be able to follow instructions of three steps or more. Managing Self Children will show a 'can do' attitude. Children will understand the importance of healthy food choices. Building Relationships Children will have the confidence to communicate with adults around the school.

Self-Regulation: Show an understanding of their own feelings and those of others, and begin to regulate their behaviour accordingly. Set and work towards simple goals, being able to wait for what they want and control their immediate impulses when appropriate. Give focused attention to what the teacher says, responding appropriately even when engaged in activity, and show an ability.


Managing Self: Be confident to try new activities and show independence, resilience and perseverance in the face of challenge. Explain the reasons for rules, know right from wrong and try to behave accordingly. Manage their own basic hygiene and personal needs, including dressing, going to the toilet and understanding the importance of healthy food choices.

Building Relationships: Work and play cooperatively and take turns with others. Form positive attachments to adults and friendships with peers. Show sensitivity to their own and to others' needs.

Physical Development  <p>Children improve their gross and fine motor skills daily by engaging in different Funky Fingers activities (threading, cutting, weaving, playdough), mark making, construction, drawing, writing, Dough Disco, Pen Disco and Squiggle While You Wiggle.</p>	Gross Motor Children will learn to move safely in a space. Adults will ensure that time is allowed to learn how to be still and quiet.	Gross Motor Children will explore different ways to travel using equipment.	Gross Motor Children will be able to control a ball in different ways.	Gross Motor Children will jump and land safely from a height.	Gross Motor Children will move safely with confidence and imagination, communicating ideas through movement.	Gross Motor Children will be able to play by the rules and develop coordination.
	Fine Motor Children will begin to use a tripod grip when using mark making tools.	Fine Motor Children will accurately draw lines, circles and shapes to draw pictures.	Fine Motor Children will balance on a variety of equipment and climb.	Fine Motor Children will use cutlery appropriately.	Fine Motor Children will hold scissors correctly and cut out small shapes.	Fine Motor Children will form letters correctly using a tripod grip.

Gross Motor: Negotiate space and obstacles safely, with consideration for themselves and others. -Demonstrate strength, balance and coordination when playing. -Move energetically, such as running, jumping, dancing, hopping, skipping and climbing.

Fine Motor: Hold a pencil effectively in preparation for fluent writing - using the tripod grip in almost all cases; - Use a range of small tools, including scissors, paint brushes and cutlery; - Begin to show accuracy and care when drawing.

Literacy 	Comprehension Children will independently look at a book, hold it the correct way and turn pages.	Comprehension Children will engage and enjoy an increasing range of books.	Comprehension Children will act out stories using recently introduced vocabulary.	Comprehension Children will be able to talk about the characters in the books they are reading.	Comprehension Children will retell a story using vocabulary influenced by their book.	Comprehension Children will be able to answer questions about what they have read.
	Word Reading Children will continue Phase 1 as a foundation for phonics. Children will begin to segment and blend sounds together to read words.	Word Reading Children will begin to read captions and sentences.	Word Reading Children will recognise taught digraphs in words and blend the sounds together.	Word Reading Children will read words containing tricky words and digraphs,	Word Reading Children will read longer sentences containing phase 4 words and tricky words.	Word Reading Children will read books matched to their phonics ability.

Writing
 Children will give meanings to the marks they make.

Writing
 Children will begin to form letters correctly. Children will start to recognise capital letters as well as lower case letters.

Writing
 Children will write words representing the sounds with a letter/letters.

Writing
 Children will write labels/phrases representing the sounds with a letter/letters.

Writing
 Children will write words which are spelt phonetically. Some children will begin to use simple punctuation.

Writing
 Children will write simple phrases and sentences using recognisable letters and sounds.

Possible Book Focus'	Starting School I am Too Absolutely Small for School Topsy and Tim Start School Colour Monster Colour Monster Goes to School My Class is a Family Information books about healthy eating and looking after our bodies.	Tree The Squirrels Who Squabbled A Stroll Through the Seasons Information books about seasons. The Jolly Christmas Postman Lucy and Tom's Christmas Alfie's Christmas	Handa's Surprise Dear Zoo The Lion Inside How to be a Lion The Girl and the Dinosaur Dear Dinosaur Dinosaur Roar Harry and the Bucket Full of Dinosaurs Information books about dinosaurs / Africa / African animals The Runaway Wok (CNY)	The Gingerbread Man Three Billy Goats Gruff Goldilocks and the Three Bears Jack and the Beanstalk The Three Pigs Mr Wolf's Pancakes	The Gruffalo Zog Zog and the Flying Doctors Stickman Cave Baby The Smeds and the Smoos The Ugly Five What the Ladybird Heard / at the seaside / on holiday Monhey Puzzle The Hungry Caterpillar Mad About Minibeasts Tiddler The Snail and the Whale Superworm Information books about minibeasts / lifecycles
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Comprehension: Demonstrate understanding of what has been read to them by retelling stories and narratives using their own words and recently introduced vocabulary. Anticipate (where appropriate) key events in stories. Use and understand recently introduced vocabulary during discussions about stories, non-fiction, rhymes and poems and during role play.

Word Reading: Say a sound for each letter in the alphabet and at least 10 digraphs. Read words consistent with their phonic knowledge by sound-blending. Read aloud simple sentences and books that are consistent with their phonic knowledge, including some common exception words.

Writing: Write recognisable letters, most of which are correctly formed. Spell words by identifying sounds in them and representing the sounds with a letter or letters. Write simple phrases and sentences that can be read by others.

Mathematics



Number
Children will have a deep understanding of 1-3.

Numerical Patterns
Children will verbally say which group has more or less.

Number
Children will have a deep understanding of numbers 1-5.

Numerical Patterns
Children will compare equal and unequal groups.

Number
Children will have a deep understanding of numbers 1-8.

Numerical Patterns
Children will understand and explore the difference between odd and even numbers.

Number
Children will have a deep understanding of numbers 1-10.

Numerical Patterns
Children will add and subtract using number sentences.

Number
Children will revise number bonds to 5.

Numerical Patterns
Children will share quantities equally.

Number
Children will know number bonds to 10, including doubling facts.

Numerical Patterns
Children will be able to count beyond 20 and higher.

Number: Have a deep understanding of number to 10, including the composition of each number. Subitise (recognise quantities without counting) up to 5. Automatically recall (without reference to rhymes, counting or other aids) number bonds up to 5 (including subtraction facts) and some number bonds to 10, including double facts.

Numerical Patterns: Verbally count beyond 20, recognising the pattern of the counting system. Compare quantities up to 10 in different contexts, recognising when one quantity is greater than, less than or the same as the other quantity. Explore and represent patterns within numbers up to 10, including evens and odds, double facts and how quantities can be distributed equally.

Understanding the World



History: Past and Present
Children will know about their own life story and how they have changed.

Geography: People, Culture and Communities
Children will know about features of the immediate environment. They will talk about themselves and their immediate family.

Science: The Natural World
Children will understand the terms 'same' and 'different'.

RE: The Mission Statement, Creation and Harvest.
Children will learn about what the school Mission Statement means to them. They will learn about God's Creation and think about how to look after it. They will prepare for, and celebrate Harvest.

History: Past and Present
Children will know some similarities and differences between things in the past and now.

Geography: People, Culture and Communities
Children will know that there are many countries around the world.

Science: The Natural World
Children will explore and ask questions about the natural world around them. They will talk about and observe changing seasons.

RE: Prayers, Saints and Feasts and Advent.
Children will learn about what prayer is and how they can show love to others. During Advent, the children will learn about how we prepare ourselves for Christmas.

History: Past and Present
Children will talk about the lives of people around them. Children will learn about significant people in the past.

Geography: People, Culture and Communities
Children will know that people around the world have different religions.

Science: The Natural World
Children will talk about features of the environment they are in and learn about the different environments.

RE: Christmas, Revelation and Other Faiths.
The children will show their understanding of how and why we celebrate Christmas. During the revelation topic, the children listen to some important Bible stories.

History: Past and Present
Children will talk about past and present events in their lives and what has been read to them.

Geography: People, Culture and Communities
Children will know about people who help us within the community.

Science: The Natural World
Children will make observations about plants discussing similarities and differences. Children will plant and grow their own plant.

RE: Lent, The Mass and Holy Week.
The children will learn about how we prepare for Easter and the sequence of events during Holy Week. They will also begin to explore parts of The Mass.

History: Past and Present
Children will know about the past through settings and characters.

Geography: People, Culture and Communities
Children will know that people in other countries may speak different languages.

Science: The Natural World
Children will make observations about animals discussing similarities and differences.

RE: Easter, Mary, Other Faiths and Pentecost.
Children learn about the importance of Easter and the special role Mary plays in our lives.

History: Past and Present
Children will know about the past through settings, characters and events.

Geography: People, Culture and Communities
Children will know that simple symbols are used to identify features on a map. Children will draw their own map based on a familiar story.

Science: The Natural World
Children will know some important processes and changes in the natural world, including states of matter.

RE: Pentecost, Sacraments and St Walburga.
The children will explore the events of Pentecost and the presence of the Holy Spirit. They will look at Sacraments, focussing on Baptism and will find out about our school Saint.

Past and Present: Talk about the lives of the people around them and their roles in society. Know some similarities and differences between things in the past and now, drawing on their experiences and what has been read in class. Understand the past through settings, characters and events encountered in books read in class and storytelling.

People, Culture and Communities: Describe their immediate environment using knowledge from observation, discussion, stories, non-fiction texts and maps. Know some similarities and differences between different religious and cultural communities in this country, drawing on their experiences and what has been read in class. Explain some similarities and differences between life in this country and life in other countries, drawing on knowledge from stories, non-fiction texts and (when appropriate) maps.

The Natural World: Explore the natural world around them, making observations and drawing pictures of animals and plants. Know some similarities and differences between the natural world around them and contrasting environments, drawing on their experiences and what has been read in class. Understand some important processes and changes in the natural world around them, including the seasons and changing states of matter.

Expressive Arts and Design



Music: *Being Imaginative*
 Children will sing and perform nursery rhymes.

See Charanga Scheme of Work

Art & Design: *Creating with Materials*
 Children will experiment mixing with colours.

Music: *Being Imaginative*
 Children will experiment with different instruments and their sounds.

See Charanga Scheme of Work

Art & Design: *Creating with Materials*
 Children will experiment with different textures.

Music: *Being Imaginative*
 Children will create narratives based around stories.

See Charanga Scheme of Work

Art & Design: *Creating with Materials*
 Children will safely explore different techniques for joining materials.

Music: *Being Imaginative*
 Children will move in time to the music.

See Charanga Scheme of Work

Art & Design: *Creating with Materials*
 Children will make props and costumes for different role play scenarios.

Music: *Being Imaginative*
 Children will play an instrument following a musical pattern.

See Charanga Scheme of Work

Art & Design: *Creating with Materials*
 Children will explore and use a variety of artistic effects to express their ideas and feelings.

Music: *Being Imaginative*
 Children will invent their own narratives, stories and poems.

See Charanga Scheme of Work

Art & Design: *Creating with Materials*
 Children will share creations, talk about process and evaluate their work.

Creating with Materials: Safely use and explore a variety of materials, tools and techniques, experimenting with colour, design, texture, form and function. Share their creations, explaining the process they have used. Make use of props and materials when role playing characters in narratives and stories.

Being Imaginative: Invent, adapt and recount narratives and stories with peers and their teacher. Sing a range of well-known nursery rhymes and songs. Perform songs, rhymes, poems and stories with others, and (when appropriate) try to move in time with music.