

Nursery Curriculum Overview

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

- Can play in a group, extending and elaborating play ideas and builds relationships with others by demonstrating friendly behaviour.
- Initiates play, offering cues to peers to join them and responds to others
- Keeps play going by responding to what others are saying or doing.
- Welcomes and values praise for what they have done.
- Enjoys responsibility of carrying out small tasks and selecting appropriate resources
- Is more outgoing towards unfamiliar people and more confident in new social situations, when asking adults for help and in talking to other children when playing.
- Aware of own feelings and those of others, being able to take turns and share resources
- Can usually tolerate delay and adapt behaviour to new situations

Communication and Language Development

- Listens to others one to one or in small groups, when conversation interests them.
- Listens to stories with increasing attention and recall and joins in with repeated refrains and anticipates key events and phrases
- Focusing attention – still listen or do, but can shift own attention and able to follow and respond to simple directions
- Understands use of objects (e.g. “What do we use to cut things?”)
- Shows understanding of prepositions such as ‘under’, ‘on top’, ‘behind’ by carrying out an action or selecting correct picture.
- Beginning to understand ‘why’ and ‘how’ questions and questions why things happen and gives explanations
- Beginning to use more complex sentences to link thoughts
- Can retell a simple past event in correct order and can connect ideas, explain what is happening and anticipate what might happen next.
- Uses a range of tenses and intonation, rhythm and phrasing to make the meaning clear to others.
- Uses vocabulary focused on objects and people that are of particular importance to them and uses talk in pretending that objects stand for something else
- Builds up vocabulary that reflects the breadth of their experiences.

Physical Development

- Moves freely and with pleasure and confidence in a range of ways
- Mounts stairs, steps or climbing equipment using alternate feet and walks downstairs, two feet to each step while carrying a small object.
- Runs skilfully and negotiates space successfully,
- Can stand momentarily on one foot when shown.
- Can catch a large ball.
- Draws lines and circles using gross motor movements and uses one-handed tools and equipment, understanding that they have to be used safely.
- Holds pencil between thumb and two fingers, no longer using whole-hand grasp and uses it with good control.
- Can copy some letters.
- Can tell adults when hungry or tired or when they want to rest or play and observes the effects of activity on their bodies.
- Gains more bowel and bladder control and can attend to toileting needs most of the time themselves.
- Can usually manage washing and drying hands.
- Dresses with help

Literacy- Reading

- Enjoys and shows awareness of rhyming and rhythmic activities and recognises rhythm in spoken words
- Listens to and joins in with stories and poems and anticipates key events and phrases in rhymes and stories and describes main story settings, events and principal characters.
- Beginning to be aware of the way stories are structured and suggest appropriate endings.
- Shows interest in illustrations and print in books and print in the Environment and knows information can be retrieved from them.
- Recognises familiar words and signs such as own name and advertising Logos and knows that print carries meaning.
- Looks at books independently, holds them the correct way up and handles books carefully.

Literacy – Writing

- Sometimes gives meaning to marks as they draw and paint.
- Ascribes meanings to marks that they see in different places.

Understanding the World

- Shows interest in the lives of people who are familiar to them.
- Remembers and talks about significant events in their own experience.
- Recognises and describes special times or events for family or friends.
- Shows interest in different occupations and ways of life.
- Knows some of the things that make them unique, and can talk about some of the similarities and differences in relation to friends or family
- Comments and asks questions about aspects of their familiar world such as the place where they live or the natural world.
- Can talk about some of the things they have observed such as plants, animals, natural and found objects and about why things happen and how things work.
- Developing an understanding of growth, decay and changes over time.
- Shows care and concern for living things and the environment.
- Knows how to operate simple equipment
- Shows an interest in technological toys with knobs or pulleys, or real objects such as cameras or mobile phones.
- Shows skill in making toys work by pressing parts or lifting flaps to achieve effects such as sound, movements or new images.
- Knows that information can be retrieved from computers

Maths - Number and Shape, Space and Measure

- Knows that numbers identify how many objects are in a set.
- Uses some number names and number language spontaneously and in play, can recite numbers in order up to 10.
- Beginning to show an interest and represent numbers using fingers, marks on paper or pictures.
- Sometimes matches numeral and quantity correctly.
- Shows curiosity about numbers by offering comments or asking questions and shows an interest in number problems
- Compares two groups of objects, saying when they have the same number.
- Separates a group of three or four objects in different ways, beginning to recognise that the total is still the same.
- Shows an interest in numerals in the environment.
- Realises not only objects, but anything can be counted, including steps, claps or jump
- Shows an interest in shape and space by playing with shape, constructing or making arrangements with objects and using shapes appropriately for tasks.
- Shows an interest in and an awareness of similarities of shapes in the environment.
- Uses positional language.
- Beginning to talk about the shapes of everyday objects,

Expressive Arts and Design

- Enjoys joining in with dancing and ring games and sings a few familiar songs.
- Beginning to move rhythmically and imitates movement in response to music.
- Taps out simple repeated rhythms.
- Explores and learns how both sounds and colours can be changed.
- Understands that they can use lines to enclose a space, and then begin to use these shapes to represent objects.
- Beginning to be interested in and describe the texture of things.
- Uses various construction materials begins to construct, joining pieces together to build and balance and realises tools can be used for a purpose.
- Developing preferences for forms of expression.
- Uses and creates movement to express feelings and respond to music.
- Sings to self and makes up simple songs and makes up rhythms.
- Notices what adults do, imitating what is observed and then doing it spontaneously when the adult is not there.
- Engages in imaginative role-play based on own first-hand experiences.
- Builds stories around toys and uses available resources to create props to support role-play.
- Captures experiences and responses with a range of media.