

Medium Term Planning

Reception

Autumn1 2025



Topics and Themes

Marvelous Me, My Family, Home, and Community

This topic supports children with settling into the new rules and routines of school and encourages them to make new friends and feel confident in their class. It teaches children about being helpful, kind and thoughtful at home and at school. This topic also teaches children how they are unique and special, the importance of friendship and how people in their family, school and local community are important and can help them.

Exploring Autumn

This topic teaches children about the natural changes that happen during the season of autumn, including how the weather changes, why trees lose their leaves and how animals prepare for winter.

Prime Areas of Learning

In reception we will learn to...

Communication and Language

As listeners:

Follow adult cues to listen carefully and begin to understand why listening is important for our learning

Understand acceptable behaviours for successful listening:

- Eyes are looking
- Ears are listening
- Lips are waiting for my turn

Remember, join in and sing a range of simple nursery rhymes Learn and listen carefully to new rhymes and songs, paying attention to how they sound

Engage in whole group story times and small group guided learning Listen to and talk about stories to build familiarity and understanding

Listen, remember and use new and phrases learned around our topics

As speakers:

Retell stories, once we have an understanding of the story, some as exact repetition and some in our own words

Ask our teachers, friends and families either/or questions

Talk about our ideas and thoughts in well-formed sentences

Listen, remember and use new and phrases and words learned around our topics

Physical Development

As we develop our gross motor skills we will:

Stack, line up and balance blocks of different shapes and sizes Join in using our bodies with action nursery rhymes and songs Join in with our morning exercises indoors and outdoors to strengthen our bodies

Learn to move safely in a large space such as outdoors and in our school hall, negotiating obstacles and our friends

Learn as we are moving fast or slow to change direction and stop quickly

Join in with the Write Dance/ Dough Disco activities to help us control our big movements and strengthen our hands and fingers Learn the skills that we need to manage our school day successfully:

- lining up and queuing
- mealtimes sitting for our meals and use a knife and fork correctly

As we develop our fine motor skills we will:

Learn to use a range of tools_competently, safely and confidently:

- Pencils etc for drawing and writing
- paintbrushes
- scissors
- knives, forks and spoons for lunch times and cooking

Use different media to draw our own portraits

Thread, peg, and sew on string / cards

Use scissors safely to cut along straight lines

Use squashing techniques including rolling pins to achieve desired effects in our playdough

Personal Social & Emotional Development

As individuals we will:

Learn to build constructive and respectful relationships with our new teachers and our new friends

Learn to express our feelings appropriately and consider the feelings of others in our class

Develop strategies to build resilience and perseverance in the face of challenges

Learn how to manage our own feelings socially and emotionally Learn and follow our new classroom routines and expectations of our own behaviour

Learn about making healthy food choices and what are special treats Learn and begin to talk about what makes us special

Managing our own personal needs, we will:

See to our own personal hygiene, including cleaning our bodies after the toilet and washing and drying our hands

Begin to know and talk about the different ways that support our overall health and wellbeing:

- regular physical activity
- · healthy eating
- toothbrushing
- sensible amounts of 'screen time'
- having a good sleep routine
- being a safe pedestrian

Build a vocabulary to talk about our feelings Learn what things make us a special friend

Learn how to take care of our classroom and our outdoor environment

Become confident choosing new activities and manage ourselves within each activity:

- using aprons to keep our new uniforms clean
- use resources appropriately within each area of our classroom
- wash and dry our hands independently after messy activities

Specific Areas of Learning In reception we will learn to...

Mathematics

As mathematicians:

We will learn to count objects, actions, and sounds Recognise and explain numbers to 5 through our love of number rhymes, daily maths meetings, counting using calendar and adult / small group led activities

Learn number patterns to 5 using numicon

Develop our maths vocabulary (more, less, bigger, fewer, behind, and next to) through our activities in small groups and throughout the day

We will learn to count forwards to 5, naming the number after and counting on from a given number

We can recognise commonality and make sets Learn that the same set can be sorted in different ways Learn that sets can be compared and ordered

We can talk about the pattern of our new school day using now, next, after playtime, after lunch, before home time etc

As readers:

We will develop book like vocabulary and language structures through hearing patterned texts eg 'whose being eating my porridge'

Literacy

Join in with, memorise, and perform simple action rhymes

Look for cues in pictures to help us guess what will happen in our stories Re-read books to build up our confidence in word reading, our fluency and our understanding and enjoyment of stories fact and fiction

Enjoy rhyming stories and songs and rhythmic activities

We will match sounds that we learn to objects

We will learn to look after our books carefully when we read by ourselves

Understanding the World

As world understander's:

We can talk about ourselves and people in our families in circle time We can talk about where we live, and the world we live in and special places to us and our families

We will learn about ourselves in relation to our friends We will learn about harvest

We can plant bulbs and predict how they will grow in the future Begin to describe changes to trees and woodland plants in autumn and begin to understand seasonal changes

Expressive Arts and Design

As artists:

We will create self –portraits for our display by using a mirror to look at our features

We will explore colour and how colours can be changed to create new colours by mixing green, brown, orange, and yellow pastels and paints; predict and talk about their effects

We will create collaboratively, sharing ideas, resources, and skills as a group and as friends

We will copy, memorise, and perform a repertoire of simple hand action songs. We will sing in a group or on our own, increasingly matching the pitch and following the melody of different songs

We will perform a small repertoire of short repetitive songs

We will learn further action songs and story ring games by heart

We will play familiar domestic routines and brief family narratives in our home corner role play using props and small world play

We will use our imagination to play imaginary games indoor and outdoor

Phonics

In phonics:

We will revisit Letters and Sounds, Aspects 1-6 We will start our new Power Phonics programme

Talk for Writing Focused Texts:

Colour Monster's go to School Goldilocks and the Three Bears Owl Babies

Share a variety of fiction, non-fiction and traditional tale's stories in whole group story times and independently in our class book area