Reception Curriculum and Skills Overview 2025-2026

Topic/ Theme	Personal, Social and Emotional Development	Phonics and Literacy	Communication and Language	Mathematics	Understanding of the World	Physical Development	Creative Development
Autumn 1 All About Me Harvest	Children settle and learn Reception class routine. Build Relation with adults and peers within the classroom. Independently going to the toilet and washing hands. Begin to self-regulate emotions and follow the expectations and rules within the classroom.	Stories linked to transition (first day at school) and feelings. Recap and secure knowledge of Level 1 Phonics. Begin Level 2 Phonics (Twinkl) Recognise sounds Begin to orally blend and segment CVC words. Recognise tricky words-the, I, go, to , no	Begin to speak confidently to adults and ask for help when needed. Use story language in play.	Recognise numbers of significant importance. Explore and work with numbers to 5. Begin to investigate the composition of these numbers using concrete resources. Subitising. Number bonds to 5. Count to 10 Begin to know one more/less than a given number. Compare quantities. Order by length and weight.	Begin to know about own culture and beliefs and those of other people. Talk about family and home. Observe seasonal changes in the environment-Autumn changes. Buildings of significant importance. Harvest-Discussing where are food comes from and farming.	Taking coat and shoes off and on independently. Navigating the space safely outside. Holding a pencil using tripod grip. Holding and using scissors correctly. Develop fine motor-Busy finger activities,	Begin to draw recognisable shapes. Using colour for a purpose. Manipulating materials-clay/playdough (push, roll, squeeze, pinch) Learning songs/nursery rhymes.
Autumn 2 Celebrations and Festivals	Maintain new relationships. Self-regulate emotions on most occasions. Develop an understanding or similarities and difference between people.	Sequence and re-tell familiar stories. Build on the story telling language. Begin to make predictions on what will happen next in a story and identify key points in the story. Continue learning Level 2 sounds. Begin to write a CVC word using magnetic letters. Blend sounds together to read CVC words.	Use full sentences to share their ideas and feelings. Discuss and talk in a small group. Talk to a talk partner 1 to 1. Explore vocabulary through play. Able to talk about and share ideas with another.	Begin to gain a deeper understanding of numbers up to 5. Explore the composition of these numbers using concrete resources. Explore the skill of subitising and begin to suggest quantities without counting. Recall number bonds to 5. Count to 15 verbally. Compare quantities up to 10. One more/less. Names and properties of 2D shapes.	Explore festivals that take place around the world. Talk about celebrations that they take part in with their family, Observe and discuss about the season, talk about changes they observe. Explore religious and cultural communities.	Use scissors safely with increasing control. Strengthen muscles for support writing skills.	Use a variety of tools, material and techniques to create for a purpose. Explore colour mixing. Talk about their work and how to make their work better. Sing songs and nursery rhymes. Join in with dances and actions. Join in with Christmas performance.
Spring 1 The Senses	Understand the feelings of others and their own. Self-regulate emotions. Understand right from wrong. Managing behaviour according to the environment.	Begin Level 3 Phonics. Write CVC words and label pictures. Retelling stories using picture clues and their own words. Anticipate key events in a story. Use vocabulary build up from knowledge of stories. Read what they have written to check it makes sense.	Join in with storytelling language and actions when telling a story. Use own ideas to share thoughts and feelings in group discussions. Use newly learnt vocab. Have a two way conversation with peer or adult.	Explore and use numbers up to 10. Explore the composition of these numbers using concrete resources. Subitise without counting numbers to 5. Recall number bonds to 5. Begin to learn number bonds to 10. Verbally count up to 20. Compare quantities of 10 objects. Naming 3D shapes and there properties.	Talk about the lives in the people around them. Explore the past. Explore the natural world.	Use a range of tools independently and effectively.	Use a variety of tools, material and techniques to create for a purpose. Explore colour mixing. Talk about their work and how to make their work better. Sing songs and nursery rhymes. Join in with dances and actions. .

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Spring 2 Spring/Growth/Gardening	Show an understanding of own feelings. Give attention and focus accordingly. Resolve problems independently without adult support.	Continue Level 3 Phonics Retell stories using storytelling language. Writing words using their phonic knowledge to spell. Write some HFW's from memory. Recognise and identify level 2 and 3 sounds. Write simple phrases that can be read by themselves and others. Write recognisable letters which most are correctly formed.	Make comments and ask questions relevant to a given topic. Hold conversations confidently. Begin to explain and describe what they are doing. Use full sentences to express ideas and feelings.	Gain a deeper understanding of numbers to 10. Subitise without counting to 5. .Recall some number bonds to 10. Count to 20 verbally. Compare quantities of 10 objects.	Describe the immediate environment and changes they observe. Planting and growing seeds. Explore change of states or matter.	Draw pictures that are recognisable. Demonstrate increasing care when drawi8ng. Using a range of small tools confidently. Form most letters recognisably.	Retell and act out different narratives and stories. Work towards and create a final outcome, using own ideas. Explore and experiment using different approaches to reach desired outcome. Sing well known songs from memory. Perform with others
Summer 1 Our Planet Summer 2 Fantasy/Fairy Tales	Regulate own behaviour. Work toward simple goals. Wait for their own time. Be confident to try new activities without adult support. Show independence and resilience when faced with a few task. Form positive relationships and attachments. Work and play co-operatively.	Begin Level 4 Phonics Retell stories using storytelling language. Writing words using their phonic knowledge to spell. Write some HFW's from memory. Recognise and identify level 2 and 3 sounds. Write simple phrases that can be read by themselves and others. Write recognisable letters which most are correctly formed.	Respond to what you hear with relevant questions. Express ideas and feelings confidently to others. Us past, present and future tense correctly. Offer explanations as to why things happen.	Have a deep understanding of numbers to 10. Subitise without counting to 5. Automatical recall of number bonds to 5 and some number bonds to 10. Verbally count beyond 20. Compare quantities up to 10.	Similarities and difference in the natural world around them. Explore life in this country and other countries.	Show accuracy when drawing. Use correct pencil grip. Form recognisable letters that are mostly correctly formed. Negotiate space and obstacles safely/	Story props Drama role-play