

Inspiring Awe and Wonder

Use stimuli to motivate and inspire – visits, visitors, artefacts, books, videos, outside learning, our locality.

Problem Solving and Thinking Skills

Creative thinkers, independent learners, real-life challenge, controlled risk-taking, resourcefulness, collaboration, thinking skills.

Nurturing Responsible Citizens

Collaborative learning, care for the environment, share talents, make decisions, links in and around Peterlee, other communities and the environment.

Personal, Social and Emotional Education

Explain the reasons for rules, know right from wrong and try to behave accordingly.
Work together cooperatively towards a common goal.
Recognise that they are unique.
See themselves as a valuable individual.
Work and play cooperatively and take turns with others.
Take steps to resolve conflicts with other children by finding compromises with support.
Recognises, names and owns every day feelings such as happy, sad and cross.

Literacy

Begin Little Wandle phase 2 phonics.
Begin to recognise sounds and blend.
To use a pencil effectively to mark make beginning to form letters correctly.
Demonstrate their understanding by retelling stories.
To begin to story sequence and develop their understanding of story structure.
Anticipate key events in well-known stories.

Understanding the World

Explore the natural world around them, making observations and drawing pictures of animals and plants.
To understand that saying what you see is an important aspect of science.
To know some similarities and differences between themselves and others.
To know that animals use their senses in different ways.
To talk about the lives of people around them.
To know what a community is and identify the communities and groups that they belong to.

Learning Means the World

Happy to be me - All about me



Reception Autumn 1

Theme Map

2025 - 2026

Special Events

Phonic meeting for parents (date to be confirmed)

Reading with parents in school (Date to be confirmed)

Physical Development

Gross motor skills:

To move energetically, such as running, jumping, dancing, hopping, skipping and climbing.
Play action games.

Fine motor skills

Use peg boards
Hold a pencil effectively
Use malleable equipment/materials to develop fine motor skills.

Communication and Language

Listen attentively and respond to what they hear with relevant questions, comments and actions.
Make comments about what they have heard and ask questions to clarify their understanding •
Offer explanations for why things might happen, making use of recently introduced vocabulary from stories.
Talk about feelings and how we might know how somebody may be feeling.
Talk about our senses and how amazing our bodies are.
Look at and talk about differences.
To talk about a member of their family.

Mathematics

Use number names and symbols when comparing numbers, showing interest in large numbers.
Recite numbers from 0-10 and back from 10-0.
Engage in subitising numbers to five
Use informal language and objects analogies (heart shape, and hand shaped leaves) as well as mathematical terms to describe shapes.

Expressive Arts and Design

Safely use and explore a variety of materials, tools and techniques, experimenting with colour, design, texture, form and function.
To paint a self-portrait.
To create funny faces with collage materials.
Explore with smelly paints.
Create a family picture.
Design their own school belonging badge.