Educational Programmes

Communication and Language

The development of children's spoken language underpins all seven areas of learning and development. Children's back-and-forth interactions from an early age form the foundations for language and cognitive development. The number and quality of the conversations they have with adults and peers throughout the day in a language-rich environment is crucial. By commenting on what children are interested in or doing, and echoing back what they say with new vocabulary added, practitioners will build children's language effectively. Reading frequently to children, and engaging them actively in stories, non-fiction, rhymes and poems, and then providing them with extensive opportunities to use and embed new words in a range of contexts, will give children the opportunity to thrive. Through conversation, storytelling and role play, where children share their ideas with support and modelling from their teacher, and sensitive questioning that invites them to elaborate, children become comfortable using a rich range of vocabulary and language structures.

Personal, Social & Emotional Development

Children's personal, social and emotional development (PSED) is crucial for children to lead healthy and happy lives, and is fundamental to their cognitive development. Underpinning their personal development are the important attachments that shape their social world. Strong, warm and supportive relationships with adults enable children to learn how to understand their own feelings and those of others. Children should be supported to manage emotions, develop a positive sense of self, set themselves simple goals, have confidence in their own abilities, to persist and wait for what they want and direct attention as necessary. Through adult modelling and guidance, they will learn how to look after their bodies, including healthy eating, and manage personal needs independently. Through supported interaction with other children, they learn how to make good friendships, co-operate and resolve conflicts peaceably. These attributes will provide a secure platform from which children can achieve at school and in later life.

Physical Development

Physical activity is vital in children's all-round development, enabling them to pursue happy, healthy and active lives. Gross and fine motor experiences develop incrementally throughout early childhood, starting with sensory explorations and the development of a child's strength, co-ordination and positional awareness through tummy time, crawling and play movement with both objects and adults. By creating games and providing opportunities for play both indoors and outdoors, adults can support children to develop their core strength, stability, balance, spatial awareness, co-ordination and agility. Gross motor skills provide the foundation for developing healthy bodies and social and emotional wellbeing. Fine motor control and precision helps with hand-eye co-ordination which is later linked to early literacy. Repeated and varied opportunities to explore and play with small world activities, puzzles, arts and crafts and the practise of using small tools, with feedback and support from adults, allow children to develop proficiency, control and confidence.

Literacy

It is crucial for children to develop a life-long love of reading. Reading consists of two dimensions: language comprehension and word reading. Language comprehension (necessary for both reading and writing) starts from birth. It only develops when adults talk with children about the world around them and the books (stories and non-fiction) they read with them, and enjoy rhymes, poems and songs together. Skilled word reading, taught later, involves both the speedy working out of the pronunciation of unfamiliar printed words (decoding) and the speedy recognition of familiar printed words. Writing involves transcription (spelling and handwriting) and composition (articulating ideas and structuring them in speech, before writing).

Mathematics

Developing a strong grounding in number is essential so that all children develop the necessary building blocks to excel mathematically. Children should be able to count confidently, develop a deep understanding of the numbers to 10, the relationships between them and the patterns within those numbers. By providing frequent and varied opportunities to build and apply this understanding - such as using manipulatives, including small pebbles and ten-frames for organising counting - children will develop a secure base of knowledge and vocabulary from which mastery of mathematics is built. In addition, it is important that the curriculum includes rich opportunities for children to develop their spatial reasoning skills across all areas of mathematics including shape, space and measures. It is important that children develop positive attitudes and interests in mathematics, look for patterns and relationships, spot connections, 'have a go', talk to adults and peers about what they notice and not be afraid to make mistakes.

Understanding the World

Understanding the world involves guiding children to make sense of their physical world and their community. The frequency and range of children's personal experiences increases their knowledge and sense of the world around them – from visiting parks, libraries and museums to meeting important members of society, such as police officers, nurses and firefighters. In addition, listening to a broad selection of stories, non-fiction, rhymes and poems will foster their understanding of our culturally, socially, technologically and ecologically diverse world. As well as building important knowledge, this extends their familiarity with words that support understanding across domains. Enriching and widening children's vocabulary will support later reading comprehension.

Expressive Arts and Design

The development of children's artistic and cultural awareness supports their imagination and creativity. It is important that children have regular opportunities to engage with the arts, enabling them to explore and play with a wide range of media and materials. The quality and variety of what children see, hear and participate in is crucial for developing their understanding, self-expression, vocabulary and ability to communicate through the arts. The frequency, repetition and depth of their experiences are fundamental to their progress in interpreting and appreciating what they hear, respond to and observe.

Communication & Language

Develop active listening skills.
Engage in story/rhyme times – listen and recall.
Learn and use new vocabulary (Daily Vocabulary Book)
Rehearse and speak in full sentences
"News" and Circle Time
Nursery Rhymes, Songs, Counting Songs
Role Play ~ Home Corner
Listening Rules: 123, Look at Me

Understanding the World

Talk about ourselves, family and familiar people.
Discuss likes/dislikes & favourite things
Understand special times & events.
Explore the natural world and changes– Autumn and Winter walks (Seasonal discussions)
Explore the indoor/outdoor environment
Black History Week

Mathematics

Master the Curriculum Maths
Getting to know you – routines, times of day, games, getting to know provision, positional language
Maths through story
Just like me – matching, sorting, comparing amounts, comparing size, mass and capacity, exploring patterns
Recognising familiar numbers
0-5 embedded through daily routine
Basic 2D shapes

Personal, Social & Emotional Development

Settle in with new rules & routines.
Build relationships with children and staff.
Explore feelings & emotions.
Manage needs: personal hygiene
Class Identity and Belonging
All about Me
Circle Time & News
How to be a good friend
Peer Massage
Social Skills (manners, basic skills, tidying up)

Reception

Autumn 1

This is me / Autumn

*Topics are child-led and planning will reflect the interests of the children..

Expressive Arts & Design

Create using a range of materials and resources
Listen & move to music.
Develop storylines in pretend play

Physical Development

Use indoor and outdoor environments to move in different ways.
Develop small motor skills using a range of tools – paintbrushes, scissors, pencils…
Use of hall time to revise and refine funda-mental movement skills.
Develop skills to manage the school day – lining up, mealtimes
Dough Disco
Personal Hygiene



Literacy

Listen to and read a range of stories – fiction & non-fiction.
Ascribe meaning to marks
Read Write Inc phonics
Oral Blending
Learn some letter sounds and blend into words
Begin to correctly form letters and write words
Recognising own Name
Storytelling
Read and write from Left to Right
Reading Corner: decodable books