

My Child is Starting School

Information for Early Years Foundation Stage Parents







Excellent

teaching gives children the life chance they deserve.

Enjoyment

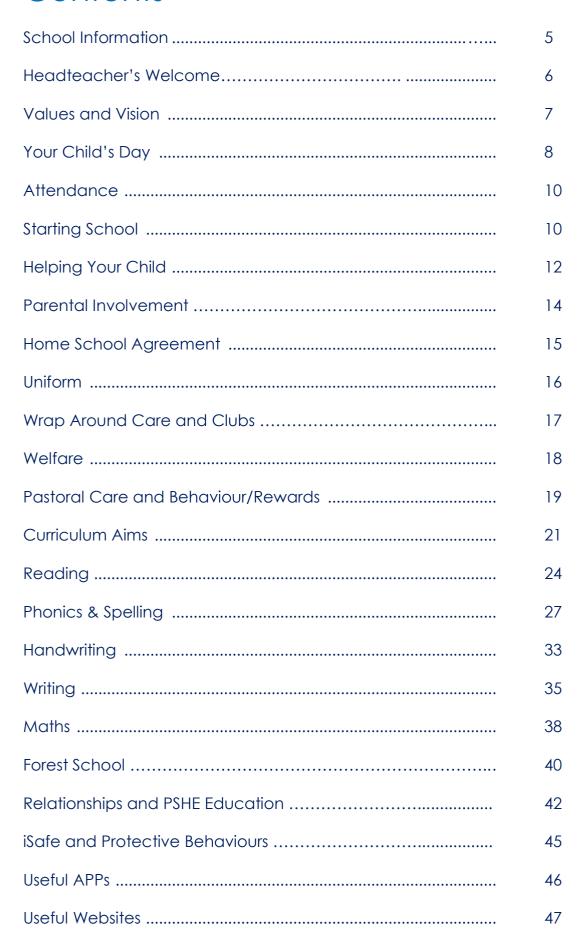
is the birthright of every child.

But the most powerful mix is the one that brings the two together.





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School Information

Russell Street Stony Stratford Milton Keynes MK11 1BT

Tel: 01908 563148

Website: www.russell-street-school.co.uk

Headteacher: Mrs D Robinson.

Deputy Headteacher: Mrs J Van Rooyen.

Assistant Headteacher: Mrs S Camp.

Chair of Governors: Dr N Sumpter.

School Business Manager: Mrs A Starr.

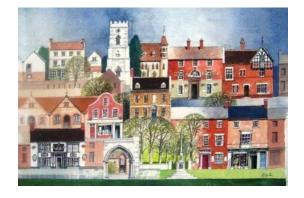
Safeguarding and Child Protection: Mrs D Robinson & Mrs Lydia Read.

Office Contact: office@russell-street-school.co.uk

Admissions Contact:

https://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/schools-and-lifelong-learning/school-admissions primaryadmissions@milton-keynes.gov.uk

Tel: 01908 253338 Civic Offices 1 Saxon Gate East Central Milton Keynes MK9 3EJ





Headteacher's Welcome



Your child is an individual — they deserve a unique, personalised education.

A warm welcome to Russell Street School. We are a dedicated, hard-working, friendly team who work very closely together to support children's growth and learning.

We are an infant school situated in the heart of Stony Stratford. Choosing an infant school education ensures that you have a whole school team supporting your child who are dedicated to and specialise in the education of 3 to 7 years olds. We have extremely strong links with our local junior school, ensuring that there is a seamless transition into Key Stage Two.

Russell Street School was built in 1844 and moved into the present buildings in 1907. We are a Local Authority school that caters the Early Years Foundation Stage (3-5 years old), which includes a nursery and reception classes and Key Stage 1 (5-7 year olds). There are three classes in each year group with a maximum of 288 places, which includes 78 part-time nursery places.

We have high expectations, inclusive approaches, an exciting bespoke curriculum and excellent teaching. We aim to create a happy, caring environment in which children develop self-confidence and independence; are encouraged to be considerate and show respect for others. Russell Street children are encouraged to work hard; have a positive attitude to learning and become confident in their own ability.

We are committed to working in partnership with our parents, the local and global community to develop our pupils' values for life alongside a broad range of skills that will prepare them for lifelong learning.

Mrs Dawn Robinson



Vision and Values of Russell Street School



Russell Street School children are **STARS** - Safe, Together, Achieve, Resilient, Special.

SAFE

'We all have the right to feel safe all the time. Nothing is so awful or so small that we cannot talk about it.' (RSS iSafe Programme).

TOGETHER

Highly supportive relationships are established based on mutual respect. Children make a positive contribution to society. They understand their rights and responsibilities as citizens and respect the beliefs and values of others.

ACHIEVE

Children achieve the best possible outcomes through the delivery of an exciting, ambitious curriculum built around progressive new skills and knowledge acquisition. Children have a strong desire to learn more and acquire the knowledge and cultural capital they need to succeed in life.

RESILIENT

Children demonstrate high levels of self-determination and control. Through a growth mindset attitude, children believe the impossible is possible.

SPECIAL

Children have access to a wide, rich set of experiences and have frequent opportunities to develop their talents and interests. Children feel an important sense of worth and belonging ensuring good mental health and well-being.









Your Child's Day

8:40am Arrive and enter the school building.

8:50am Registration

2.55pm End of the School Day.



Children should be collected at 2.55pm.

All children will have access to water at all times. Please provide your child with a named water bottle. We will send these water bottles home daily to be thoroughly cleaned. Please return them to school daily.

Cool Milk Scheme

Milk is provided free of charge to all children under the age of five. Once your child becomes five, you are still able to order and pay for milk for your child. To receive your child's free or paid for milk you must register with Cool Milk online. https://www.coolmilk.com

Snack

Children are provided daily with a free piece of fresh fruit.

Lunch

Your child is entitled to a universal infant free school meal provided by the government for all Foundation Stage and Key Stage One children. Our hot lunches are provided daily by Essence Catering.

All meals should be booked online. Please see the Essence Catering Website for further details: www.essence-catering.co.uk

You may send your child to school with a packed lunch if you prefer. Packed lunches must contain only healthy choice food and should be sent to school in a clearly named lunch box. Water only please for a drink.

The Russell Street School website has many facts and figures that you may find useful

www.russell-street-school.co.uk

Attendance - Every Lesson Counts



Every child has the right to receive full time education 190 days a year (380 sessions)

- Children can only make the most of the educational opportunities if they attend school regularly and on time.
- Lessons lost will never be found.
- 96% attendance or below is a cause for concern.

Please inform the office about the absence of your child by 9:00am. All unexplained absences will be followed up by the office. If your child has a medical appointment during the school day, please make sure you inform the school office and provide proof of the appointment.

Holiday Absence during Term Time

Government legislation that came into effect on 1st September 2013 means that parents are no longer entitled to take their child on holiday during term time. Parents can be fined by the local authority for taking their child on holiday during term time. The initial Fixed Penalty Notice of £60 is issued to each parent for each child (two parents, two children = £240).

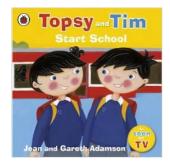


Starting School

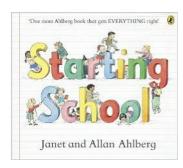
Starting school is an exciting time for you and your child. We will do everything possible to ensure your child is happy, feels secure and develops a thirst for lifelong learning.

You can support your child's transition into school by talking positively about how exciting it will be to meet other children and to learn new things at school.

Some books which discuss starting school that you could read to your child are:









Before Starting School

If your child is in a holiday routine – possibly staying up later and rising later - then one week before term begins change their schedule. Gradually bring their bedtime back to a time suitable for school nights and introduce more regular eating habits with meals at set times.

Involve your child in getting ready for their first day. For example, the evening before term starts, work together to lay out their uniform.

Set your alarm early for the first day - even the most organised parents and children need extra time to get ready and take those well treasured photographs.



The First Morning

Most children are excited and playful, but if your child is a little anxious, keep as calm and as matter of fact as possible. Children who are distressed at separation usually settle very quickly. Take your cue from the teacher about when to leave and if you need reassurance that your child has settled then please phone school when you get home.

The End of the Day

Do make sure you are a little early to collect your child at the end of their first few days - even a few minutes late can seem an eternity to a waiting child. Your child will probably be tired and hungry so a healthy snack and some quiet time will be just what they need after school.

You will find your child will be very tired! If you would like your child to be part time to begin with, please let us know.

Helping Your Child



You can help your child enormously through normal daily activities.

Hold conversations with them about their daily tasks. Ask them why they have chosen to play with a particular toy, explain to them why they cannot behave in a particular way, retell a book you have read together.

Let your child help plan their daily schedule, ensuring they understand that a day is broken down into various tasks and time slots.

Count the stairs each time you walk up them, and then try counting backwards as you walk back down. (Counting up to 20 would be fantastic!) As your child advances ask them 'what is one more than 2? Is 5 bigger than 1? Show me 5 fingers, now add on 3 more'.

Let your child play with sand and water asking them to pour 'half ' of the water away, or ask them to fill the bucket 'half' full with sand.

Show them a pattern of objects or colours and see if they can continue the pattern. Red, blue, red, blue, ?, ?

Read to them every day and talk about what has been read.

Ensure your child is able to explain their feelings to you.

Ensure your child knows that reading and writing are important. Say to them as you are driving, 'I know I am going the correct way because I am reading the road signs and they are telling me where to go'. 'I am writing your birthday invitations so that your friends know you are having a party. These words say where the party is and what time it starts and finishes'.

Complete jigsaw puzzles together.

Plant seeds and watch them grow, asking 'why are the seeds growing?'

Ensure your child knows how to eat independently, using a knife and fork.

Talk to your child about different places around the world and family members that may live in different countries.

Sing a variety of songs, if you need inspiration, you can find lots of songs and rhymes online.

Help them to recognise their name in written form (not in capital letters).

Find a place for your child to paint, mixing colours and using a variety of brushes and tools to create marks.

Take your child to the local park and help them to learn how to manoeuvre around the equipment there; climbing, swinging, balancing. This will develop their gross motor skills, as will riding a bike or throwing and catching a ball.

Ensure your child can organise their play independently for short periods.

Give your child instructions to follow, firstly giving them one instruction, then two instructions, for example: go and get your coat, go and get your coat and then find your shoes.

Talk about what happened yesterday/last year (the past), what happened today (present) and what are we doing tomorrow (future).

Ensure your child knows how to be healthy by being active and eating healthy food.

Ensure your child develops the correct pencil grip when colouring, in preparation for writing.

Support your child in dressing and undressing so that they can do this independently when entering school. Only purchase uniform you know your child can manage to put on independently.

Help your child to use the toilet independently.

If you wish to teach your child sounds, please teach them pure sounds. Information can be found using the following link:

http://www.ruthmiskin.com/en/resources/

Parental Involvement

Parents are invited to sign a Home–School agreement. This includes information about the school and details of what the school and the home will provide for the children, and how we can work together to care for your child and raise his or her achievement.

A close partnership between school and parents is vital to a child's educational progress. There are regular Parents' Consultation evenings arranged so that parents can discuss their child's progress with the teaching staff. A written report is given to parents at the end of each school year. This provides details of a child's overall achievements and those in relation to the National Curriculum. Parents are welcome to contact the class teacher or Headteacher if any concerns arise during the school year.

Parents' Association

The Parents' Association is a charity, run by parents, which exists to raise money for the school and to bring the parents of the school and community together. The PA regularly pays for extra books for the library, the water coolers and extra toys for classrooms. It also raises money for additional extras like the climbing frame in the playground, the library refurbishment and play equipment.

The PA is made up of parents and relies on parents volunteering to run stalls at the School Fete or to help out at after-school events. Parents can get involved by helping to plan events, matched funding if their employer operates such a scheme, donating prizes to school events, buying the fundraising products made by children such as teatowels or Christmas cards, giving their time to help out at events.

Volunteering is fun and rewarding. Events benefit your child in providing an occasion for them to remember as well as money to buy equipment that will enhance their school experience.



Home School Agreement

These are our core aims:

- To promote high levels of individual self-confidence and well-being.
- To inspire and motivate children to become successful and lifelong learners.
- To enable each individual child to achieve their full potential.
- To provide outstanding learning environments.
- To instil a sense of community school, local, global.

All our staff will strive to achieve these aims

When I am at school I will:

- try my best in all my lessons
- join in with lessons and have a go even when it is a bit hard
- ask for help when my work is a bit hard
- be a good friend
- try to do things for myself
- do as I am told by the grown-ups of the school
- look after my things and things that belong to other people and to school
- talk to someone if I am sad or worried about something
- talk to people at home about what I am doing at school

As a parent I will:

- ensure my child attends school every day and give school an explanation when my child does not attend
- make sure my child arrives on time each day, and I will collect my child promptly from school
- send my child to school appropriately dressed and equipped for the day
- encourage my child to be independent and to do their best at school
- actively support my child's learning
- attend parents' evenings
- work with the school to make sure my child behaves well
- talk to staff if I have any concerns or if there are any issues that may affect my child's happiness at school
- ensure the safety of all children by parking safely away from the school no parking zones



Uniform

- Red or navy sweatshirts / cardigans.
- White, red or blue polo shirts.
- Grey, navy or black 'bottoms', e.g. trousers, shorts, pinafores, skirts.
- In the summer an optional extra of red or navy gingham dresses.
- Sensible footwear (flat and closed toed).
- A change of clothes for P.E.: plimsolls, black shorts and a white 'T' shirt.
- No jewellery, other than plain stud earrings which should be taped on P.E. days.



School sweatshirts and polo shirts are available from Maisie's in Wolverton:

https://www.maisies-superstore.co.uk

Please name every item of your child's uniform and P.E. kit.

Lost Uniform

All unnamed uniform will be held in lost property boxes until the end of the half term and then will be given to a charity collection.



Wrap Around Care BEFURE AND AFTER SCHOOL CARE

We have a dedicated building in which to provide a safe and relaxed social environment for the start and the end of the school day for those families who require before and after school care provision.

Before and After School Care is run by Premier Education.

For further information or to book a place, please go to <u>www.premier-education.com</u> or see our school website.

Monday to Friday 7.30am - 8:40am Breakfast Club

3pm - 6pm After School Club

Please note that for After School Club you can chose either a 5pm pickup or a 6pm pickup.

After School Clubs

As well as wrap around care we also offer a range of after school clubs for Key Stage 1 children over the year these may include: dodge ball, football and art. These run from 3pm until 4pm.

Welfare

Russell Street School is committed to Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. The Health & Safety of all children is paramount.

Parents and carers expect the school to provide a safe, secure and caring environment in which their children can flourish. To meet this expectation, the school implements a wide range of measures and policies, including the school's Safeguarding & Child Protection policy and Health & Safety policy.

Child Protection

Our first priority is your child's welfare. The law requires schools to report any obvious or suspected cases of child abuse. We will do this in every case.

Administering Medicines

Only medicines prescribed by a doctor can be administered in school. If your child requires prescribed medication during the day, it should be handed to your child's class teacher at the start of the day. A medical consent form must be completed and signed stating the precise does and time for the medication to be given.

Bumped Heads

If your child has a bump to the head during the course of the school day, your child will bring home a bumped head note. If the bump is significant, a member of staff will call you to let you know.

Keeping Your Child Safe

The following websites can support you in keeping your child safe. NSPCC

http://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/underwear-rule/ E-Safety

https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/

Our comprehensive **iSAFE Programme** teaches the children that they have a right to feel safe all of the time & that nothing is awful or so small that they can't talk to someone about it. The iSAFE Programme sessions are as follows:

Session 1 The right to feel safe

Session 2 Early Warning Signs

Session 3 Recognising Feeling Unsafe

Session 4 Recognising Good Friends

Session 5 Being Safe Around the Home

Session 6 We are all Unique and Special

Session 7 Race

Session 8 Religions and Celebrations

Session 9 Differently Abled

Session 10 eSafety

Session 11 Keeping Our Bodies Safe

Session 12 Dealing with Bullies/Good Mental Health



Pastoral Care and Behaviour

We provide a caring environment in which people and property are respected. We are committed to 'Restorative Practices'; helping the children to understand the impact that their choices have on the community around them. We use daily circle times to build strong relationships and communities. The focus of the school's behaviour policy is on the positive reinforcement of expected behaviours. Courtesy, consideration and self-discipline are expected and encouraged at all times. We give children clear, consistent guidelines and boundaries for behaviour in school and encourage parents to support us in this at home.

Bullying is not tolerated. All allegations of bullying are taken seriously and dealt with as appropriate. Both the bully and the victim are counselled and given support.

If necessary, 'thinking time' or the withdrawal of certain privileges will be used as a sanction in line with the school's Behaviour Policy. Where a child's behaviour is a serious or persistent cause for concern, the parents are formally involved and invited to school to discuss how their child's challenges and needs can be supported. The school will liaise with outside agencies if expert support is required.

Rewards

There is a focus on intrinsic awards. Teaching staff give meaningful praise and 'catch the children being good'. A cross on the class 100 square is awarded to the whole class when class rules and values are observed. Crosses can also be awarded to the class when individuals make a notable contribution. Year groups set targets for the number of crosses to be achieved in order to earn a class reward. The class reward occurs around every half term and is shared by all the class. Previous rewards have included teddy bears picnics, movie afternoons and trips to the orchard.

<u>House System</u> – All children are placed in a House with family members within the Primary School. Our Houses are **Red**, **Blue**, **Yellow and Green**.



Children who work hard and demonstrate the school values are awarded 'caught doing the right thing' tokens. For exceptional work and continuous demonstration of our values, gold stars worth 20 points are awarded.

Children can also be awarded a 'WOW' certificate. These children will be invited to attend a 'WOW' with a member of the leadership team. Whilst at WOW, the children will be given the opportunity to talk about their WOW, their work and generally discuss school.

Each week we hold a 'Values in Action' assembly. During the assembly two children from each class, who have demonstrated the half termly value are mentioned in the assembly and their achievements are shared with the whole school.



Birthdays are celebrated in classrooms and children will receive a sticker from the office. Please inform the office if you do not celebrate birthdays. As a healthy school, we do not give out sweets etc on birthdays. If you would like your child to give something to their friends; stickers or a book for the class to share are welcome.



Curriculum Aims

Intent

Russell Street School's curriculum provides **exciting experience-based integrated** educational opportunities for **children of all backgrounds** that allow each child to develop the **long term** knowledge and skills needed to reach their **full potential**, in order to take **full advantage of opportunities**, **responsibilities and experiences of later life**.

Children will:

- develop the appropriate subject specific knowledge, skills and understanding
 as set out in the National Curriculum, so that children can flourish, reach and
 exceed their potential academically, physically and artistically.
- have a holistic set of values that prepares them for life in the modern world in a diverse and ever changing community.
- develop the behaviours learners need to succeed in the world, such as concentration, perseverance, imagination, co-operation, the enjoyment of learning, self-improvement and curiosity.
- understand spirituality in themselves and others, develop social skills and understand society, build a firm set of personal morals, and to engage in the culture they live in and understand the cultures of others.

Through the delivery of integrated, exciting, motivating and relevant topics children are taught how to:

Question and challenge

Make connections and see relationships

Envisage what might be

Explore ideas, keeping options open

Reflect critically on ideas, actions and outcomes

Young children are naturally good thinkers and our foundation stage curriculum enhances this way of learning. We will encourage the children to bring everything they know to their learning, everything will be linked and everything will be relevant. If they are learning about gardens, then they read and write garden stories, sort and draw plants, count seeds, weigh soil, study and taste food that grows in a garden, sing about gardens, print gardens, draw gardens, paint gardens, dig gardens and plant gardens.

At Russell Street School our fully integrated curriculum offers rich and exciting programmes of learning that give cohesion, meaning and motivation, developing the creativity, curiosity and energy of young people. The units of work pull learning into a single field of study and a therefore understandable unity. This means that classroom environments are focused centres of learning, and with such a shared focus and consistency between year groups and key stages, this ensures the whole school becomes a high quality learning zone for all children and staff.

By linking subjects, timetabling the required curriculum to be covered is simple. There is more time for children to gain hands on experiences, have more problem solving/research tasks and therefore learn in greater depth. Facts learnt are anchored

to meaning and have definite relationships with each other. There is 'learner centred learning'. Pupils work in teams, exploring and helping one another while the teacher sets directions, offers opportunities and acts as a guide and resource. The children ask better questions, seek their own answers and gain deeper insights than they had before.

Implementation

Implementati	How are the specific curriculum stages taught?	Planned Stages and End Points	Impact Measured
EYFS	EYFS Framework / Unit Plans.	ELGs (age related stages)	Continual assessment against ELG's.
Phonics	RWI Phonics Scheme (R &1) Letters and Sounds (Year 2 until 2021)	(R & 1) Stages A – J of RWI scheme. (As listed in RWI half termy assessment overview) Year 2 - Phase 5 phonics is recapped and phase 6 is taught. Children become fluent readers and accurate spellers. By the end of Phase 6, children read hundreds of words using one of three strategies: • Reading them by sight • Decoding them quickly and silently • Decoding them aloud Children will also recognise pre-fixes and suffixes, tenses and spelling rules.	(R & 1) Half termly assessments are carried out by the Reading Leader. Information is used to regroup children and provide immediate support to anyone falling behind. (Year 2) – Half termly assessments are carried out to highlight any gaps in learning and common misconceptions are addressed. Infomration is used to group the children and provide small group/1:1 support. Phonics Screening (Year 1 & 2)
Spelling	RWI Spelling (from 2021 for year 2).	Year group stages as listed in RWI spelling scheme.	Assessed through termly assessments. Immeidate support given to anyone falling below the expected standard.
Writing Handwriting	The Write Stuff (TWS) approach using the EYFS and KS1 Writing Rainbows. Sentence Stacking taught. Continuous Cursive.	The Write Stuff (Assessment Framework) – Year group termly expectations.	Moderated assessment writing – marked against TWS assessment framework – once per term.
Reading	Hooked on Books (Year 1 & 2) Reading Rainbow for K\$1.	Book Talk Performance of Reading (Assessment Framework). Year group ongoing expectations.	Year 1 & 2 – ongoing reading assessment through Book Talk sessions using the Book Talk Assessment Framework.

	Year 2 - Reading Scheme – Rising Stars – closely matches & enhances Letters & Sounds phonics. Year R & 1 - Reading Scheme – RWI Book Bag Books – closely matches & enhances Read Write Inc phonics.	Termly running record assessments – using reading scheme books listed.	YARK Reading Assessments – 2 x per year. Year 2 upwards – Reading Comprehension Assessments
Maths	Whole school – White Rose Maths	End of unit and end of term assessments – with key questions to ensure the children are using and applying their learning.	Half termly assessments carried out and measured against the White Rose Maths Framework.
Science	RSS Science Skills & Knowledge Overviews, plus information from unit plans.	Termly end of unit assessments based on Unit Plan teaching & Knowledge Organisers.	Measured against key skills knowledge overviews.
Humanities	RSS History & Geography Skills & Knowledge Overviews, plus information from unit plans.	Termly end of unit assessments based on Unit Plan teaching & skills & knowledge overviews.	Measured against key skills knowledge overviews.
Art/DT	RSS Art & DT Skills & Knowledge Overviews, plus information from unit plans.	Termly end of unit assessments based on Unit Plan teaching & skills & knowledge overviews.	Measured against key skills knowledge overviews.
IT	Purple Mash.	Termly end of unit assessments based on Unit Plan teaching & skills & knowledge overviews.	Measured against key skills knowledge overviews.
Music	Active Music Digital Skills overviews, plus information from unit plans.	Termly end of unit assessments based on Unit Plan teaching & skills & knowledge overviews.	Measured against key skills knowledge overviews.
P.E.	RSS P.E. Planning Document.	Key Skills specifically listed within P.E. Scheme	Continuous assessment (against key skills)
R.E.	MK Agreed Syllabus.	Knowledge listed per R.E. Unit	Continuous assessment (against specific knowledge)
PHSE/RSE	Jigsaw.	The Jigsaw Puzzles (Specific Content Overview)	My Jigsaw Learning or My Jigsaw Journey



Reading



The National Curriculum states: children should read aloud accurately books that are consistent with their developing phonic knowledge and that do not require them to use other strategies to work out words. They should re-read these books to build up their fluency and confidence in word reading.

The amount of books brought home may increase as your child's reading level increases. Your child's teacher may ask you to learn to write sections from your child's reading book and learn to spell particular words, as well as hear them read.

We use Read Write Inc 'Book Bag' books for children to learn to read. These books exactly match the phonics children are learning in school and move their reading forward at a rapid rate. Your child will bring home a Read Write Inc phonics book as well as a Book Bag book weekly to read at home.

Book Bag book colours

Ditty	Red	Green	Purple	Pink	Orange	Yellow	Blue	Grey
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

When children have finished reading Book Bag books, they move onto chapter books.

The following chart is a guide to the book bands of our chapter books.



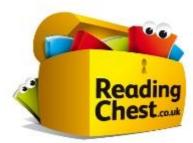




Oxford Owl

http://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/

Oxford Owl is a wonderful home reading resource. Create a free account and access 250 free Oxford Reading Tree books on-line.



Reading Chest

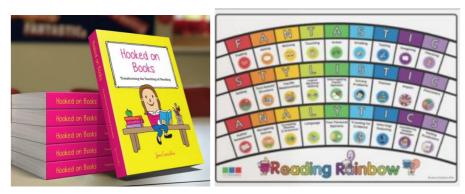
https://www.readingchest.co.uk/

Any parent is always more than welcome to borrow books from school as often as they wish. We do understand that sometimes there are times that you would like to access more books such as holidays. Reading Chest provides a service where you can pay to have reading scheme books delivered to your house.

https://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/libraries

Why not join your local library? The above link provides a wealth of information about developing your child's love of reading in MK.

We use the principles of **Hooked on Books** - **Book Talk** -to teach writing in Key Stage One.



For further details see our school website.

Questions to ask your child while reading together

Questions to ask your child can be found in each book your child brings home to read.

Further questions that may be asked are below.

Child Aged 30-50 months

- Can you think of anything else that begins with that sound?
- Can you notice any words that rhyme?
- What words come next? Can you join in?
- Are we at the beginning or the end of the story?
- What do you think might happen next? How might the story end?
- What does the front cover tell us?
- Where do you think the story is set?
- What just happened in the story?
- Are there any words that you recognise?

Child Aged 40-60 months

- Can you think of any other words that rhyme with this one?
- What sound does this word begin with?
- What does this word say? Can you blend the sounds together to read it?
- What sound does this letter make?
- What is the name of this letter?
- Can you find (a word) in the text?
- Can you read the next sentence? (Make sure this is short and made up of words that can easily be sounded out e.g. 'hat' 'dog').
- Is this a fiction or non-fiction book? How do you know?

End of year R

- Can you read the next sentence?
- What happened?
- Can you blend the sounds in that word? What does the word say?
- Do you recognise this word? What does it say?
- What happened in the story?
- What is your favourite part of the story? Why?
- Is this story like any other books that you have read?
- Can you retell this part of the story to your friend?
- Find a page in this book that you didn't like.
- What was your favourite part?
- What is the **title** of the book?
- What is an author/illustrator?





At Russell Street School we teach phonics in the order listed on the following pages. Some children may learn whole words more easily and therefore we will adapt our approach to match your child.

To support your child learning phonics at home, Read Write Inc home resources can be purchased for home use from Amazon or similar websites.



The following websites also provide a wealth of materials.

http://www.twinkl.co.uk/resource/t-l-3916-parents-phonics-pack

http://www.letters-and-sounds.com/

http://www.ruthmiskin.com/en/read-write-inc-programmes/phonics/

Term	Meaning
CVC	A consonant-vowel-consonant word, such as cat , pin or top . You may also come across the abbreviation CCVC for consonant-consonant-vowel-consonant words such as clap and from . Also CVCC for words such as mask and belt .
Phoneme	Phonemes are the smallest unit of speech-sounds which make up a word. If you change a phoneme in a word, you would change its

	meaning. For example, there are three phonemes in the word sit /s/-/i/-/t/. If you change the phoneme /s/ for /f/, you have a new word, fit . If you change the phoneme /t/ in fit for a /sh/, you have a new word, fish - /f/-/i/-/sh/.
Grapheme	Graphemes are the written representation of sounds.

Children are taught to recognise sounds and to put them together ('sound blend' them) into words for reading. They are taught one way of representing the 44 main sounds of English first, and then go on to learn the alternative spellings later on.

When teaching your child letter sounds, it is important to remember to keep them very 'pure' and distinct, to help with sound-blending later on. If you are unsure how to pronounce pure sounds visit http://www.ruthmiskin.com/en/resources/sound-pronunciation-guide/ to hear the sounds. To enable your child to gain confidence in reading, they should only be asked to read words containing letter sounds they know securely.



Sounds Set 1

(RWI Home Phonics Flashcards Set 1 - Green Box)

Sounds Set 2

(RWI More Home Phonics Flashcards Set 2 - Yellow Box)

Sounds Set 3

(RWI More Home Phonics Flashcards Set 2 - Yellow Box)

The following record sheet can enable you to keep track of your child's progress in the phonics programme.

Mark with a tick when they can accurately say the correct letter sound when you show them the letter(s).

Sounds Set 1

m	а	s	d
t	i	n	р
g	0	С	k
U	b	f	е
L	h	sh	r
J	v	у	w
Th	z	ch	qu
X	ng	nk	

Sounds Set 2

ay	say	ee	Meet
igh	night	ow	Snow
00	moon	00	Look
ar	park	or	Worn
air	pair	ir	first
ou	count	oy	toys

Speed Sound 1 / 2 (Already introduced)	Speed Sound 3 (Alternative spelling)	Example word
ee	ea	seat
oy	oi	join
ay	а-е	name
igh	i-e	time
ow	o-e	home
00	u-e	tune
or	aw	saw
air	are	share
ir	er	after
ir	ur	turn
ου	ow	town
ay / a-e	ai	snail
ow / o-e	οα	b <mark>oat</mark>
oo / u-e	ew	chew
	ire	hire
	ear	hear
	ure	sure
	tion	tradition
	cious	delicious
	tious	scrumptious



First 45 key words to learn to read and spell

In frequency order reading down the columns

Reception 45 Key Words					
I	see	to	for	get	
а	can	no	all	said	
it	cat	go	are	look	
is	dog	of	you	big	
like	the	in	they	come	
mum	she	am	this	away	
dad	he	at	went	day	
my	we	on	was	going	
and	me	up	yes	play	
i	see	to	for	get	



First 100 words to learn to read and spell KS1

			l
that	not	look	put
with	then	don't	could
all	were	come	house
we	go	will	old
can	little	into	too
are	as	back	by
Up	no	from	day
had	mum	children	made
my	one	him	time
her	them	Mr	l'm
what	do	get	if
there	me	just	help
out	down	now	Mrs
this	dad	came	called
have	big	oh	here
went	when	about	off
be	it's	got	asked
like	see	their	saw
some	looked	people	make
SO	very	your	an
	with all we can are Up had my her what there out this have went be like some	with then all were we go can little are as Up no had mum my one her them what do there me out down this dad have big went when be it's like see some looked	with then don't all were come we go will can little into are as back Up no from had mum children my one him her them Mr what do get there me just out down now this dad came have big oh went when about like see their some looked people

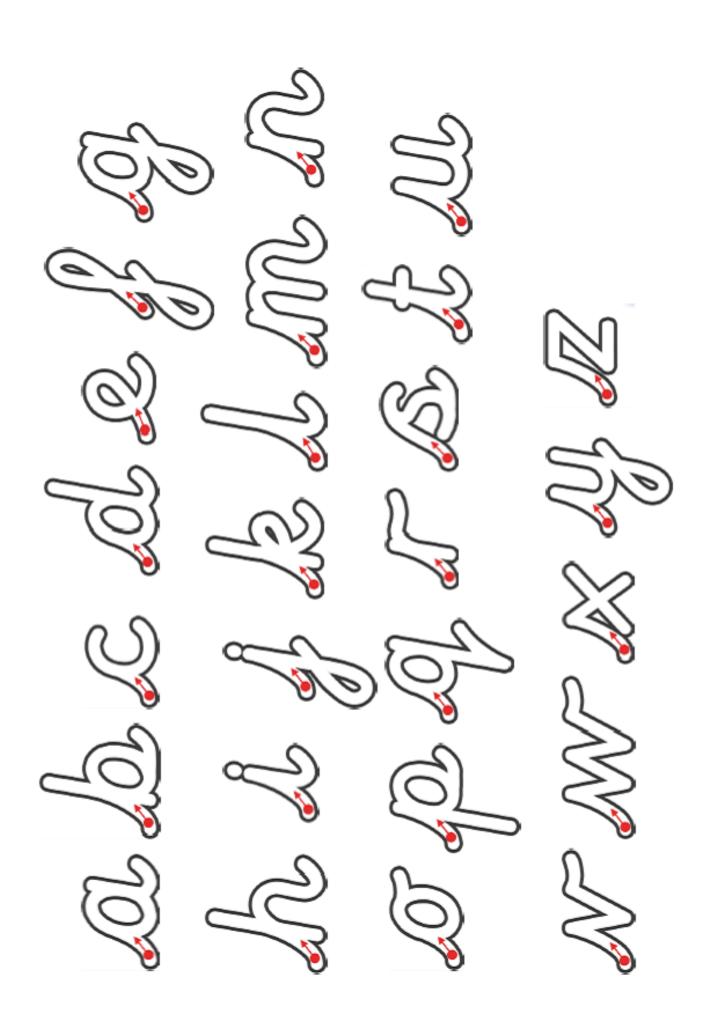
Handwriting

By the end of year 2 children are now expected to know horizontal and diagonal strokes needed to join letters. Instead of teaching the children to write letters without these strokes in year R, then teach them a completely different method in year 1 (which can be very confusing for your child) at Russell Street School we teach the continuous cursive font from year R through to year 2.

Our font is as follows:







Writing





Writing develops alongside reading and handwriting.

Children:

- learn to write the letters/letter groups which represent the 44 sounds
- learn to write words by saying the sounds and graphemes
- learn to build sentences orally using adventurous vocabulary
- start with simple sentences and develop towards more complex ones by the end of the programme
- compose a range of texts using discussion prompts

Early writing and mark-making.

- 1. Making marks on paper.
- 2. Telling an adult that the marks mean something.
- 3. Beginning to write the letters in their own name.

The Writing Rainbow



Children will learn to write using the lenses of the writing rainbow. Further details about the Writing Rainbow can be found on the school website.

Fine Motor Skills - Pre-Writing Activities

Before even making marks on paper, children need to develop their strength in their fingers and their fine motor control.



On the next page are exercises that strengthen the muscles in hands, wrists, arms and shoulders.

Pennies in a Jar

Picking up small objects and putting them into small holes actually requires a lot of co-ordination.



Threading beads



Sewing



Pegs in a Peg Board



Using Tweezers



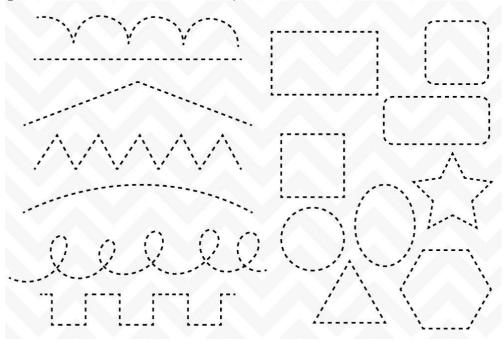
Play Dough





Tracing Lines

Pages where the children can follow lines not only improves fine motor skills but also gives children the chance to practise concentration.



A wealth of writing activities to inspire and engage your child can be found at http://www.twinkl.co.uk (EYFS writing)

Maths

We teach maths through a Singapore approach, linked to our recent involvement in a local maths mastery project. Children under perform in maths generally stating 'because they find it boring or they can't remember all the rules'.

The Singapore method of teaching mathematics develops pupils' mathematical ability and confidence without having to resort to memorising procedures to pass tests - making mathematics more engaging and interesting.

Features of Singapore Maths:

- Emphasis on problem solving and comprehension, allowing children to relate what they learn and to connect knowledge
- Careful scaffolding of core competencies of:
 - visualisation, as a platform for comprehension
 - mental strategies, to develop decision making abilities
 - pattern recognition, to support the ability to make connections and generalise
- Emphasis on the foundations for learning and not on the content itself so children learn to think mathematically as opposed to merely reciting formulas or procedures.

In the Singapore material you will find that the teaching focuses on the use of three core competencies: Visualisation, Finding Patterns, and Mental Strategies.

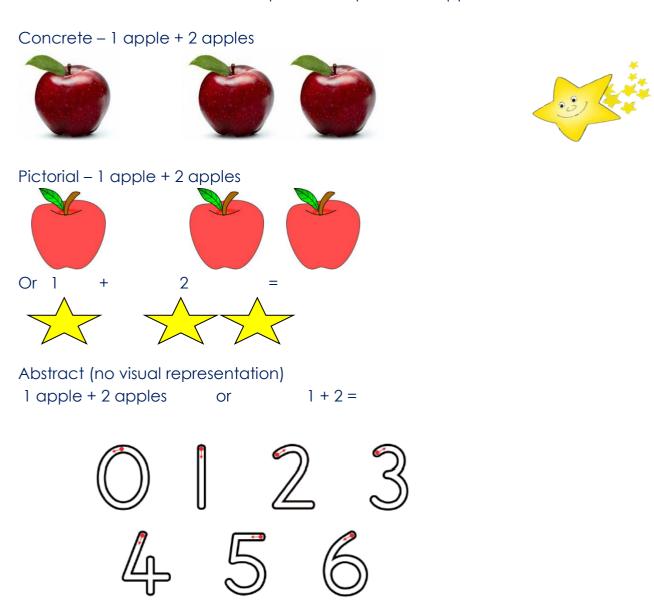
You can support your child at home by using a range of normal household items to count. At school we will use a wide range of resources inc using:

Base Ten, Cuisenaire, coins, counters, clocks.





Your child will be taught maths in the EYFS at Russell Street School through a combination of Singapore & Montessori approaches. Both of these world class methods of teaching focus on a concrete-pictorial-abstract approach. Put very simply, we ensure your child understands what '6' actually is before expecting them to work with the numeral 6 without pictorial or practical support.



Maths activities to help your child should be as practical as possible. Some super ideas can be found at:

http://www.early-years.org/parents/docs/maths-through-play.pdf

More EYFS maths activities can be found at:

http://nrich.maths.org/early-years and

http://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/5-7-years/counting

Forest School



Forest School is a feeling you can't put into words.

Forest School is a child-centred inspirational learning process, that offers opportunities for holistic growth through regular sessions. It is a long-term program that supports play, exploration and supported risk taking. It develops confidence and self-esteem through learner inspired, hands-on experiences in a natural setting.

Forest School has a developmental ethos shared by thousands of trained practitioners around the world, who are constantly developing their learning styles and skills to support new and imaginative learners. Its roots reach back to the open-air culture, friluftsliv, or free air life, seen as a way of life in Scandinavia where Forest School began. It arrived in the UK in 1993 and has grown from strength to strength since then.

The process helps and facilitates more than knowledge-gathering, it helps learners develop socially, emotionally, spiritually, physically and intellectually. It creates a safe, non-judgemental nurturing environment for learners to try stuff out and take risks. Forest School inspires a deep and meaningful connection to the world and an understanding of how a learner fits within it. Our approach to risk means that learners constantly expand on their abilities by solving real-world issues, building self-belief and resilience. We believe that risk is more than just potential for physical harm, but a more holistic thing, there are risks in everything we do, and we grow by overcoming them. Forest School therefore, helps participants to become, healthy, resilient, creative and independent learners.

There is lots of research out there to support the outcomes of Forest School, but we know that it isn't just the educational outcomes and research that matter, our learners and leaders love it too!

What is quality Forest School?

Quality Forest School is delivery which holds to all six key principles that shape and govern the Forest School ethos. There are many forms of outdoor education and all have enormous value, however, Forest School is unique in its reach, delivery and effect.

These six principles are:

- 1. Forest School is a long-term process of regular sessions, rather than one-off or infrequent visits; the cycle of planning, observation, adaptation and review links each session.
- 2. Forest School takes place in a woodland or natural environment to support the development of a lifelong relationship between the learner and the natural world.
- 3. Forest School uses a range of learner-centred processes to create a community for being, development and learning.
- 4. Forest School aims to promote the holistic development of all involved, fostering resilient, confident, independent and creative learners.
- 5. Forest School offers learners the opportunity to take supported risks appropriate to the environment and to themselves.
- 6. Forest School is run by qualified Forest School practitioners, who continuously maintain and develop their professional practice.

It is only when we see the 6 principles working together do we truly see the value of Forest School. Underpinning our principles are some positive core beliefs. These can be summarised as, learners are all:

- equal, unique and valuable
- competent to explore & discover
- entitled to experience appropriate risk and challenge
- entitled to choose, and to initiate and drive their own learning and development
- entitled to experience regular success
- entitled to develop positive relationships with themselves and other people
- entitled to develop a strong, positive relationship with their natural world

Forest School's learner-centred approach interweaves with the ever-changing moods and marvels, potential and challenges of the natural world through the seasons to fill every Forest School session and programme with discovery and difference. Making each session and every experience a valuable one.

Parents are requested to send their children to school on Forest School days with a bag containing the following named items:

- Wellington boots
- Waterproof jacket (with hood)
- Waterproof trousers
- In cold weather, hat, gloves, scarves
- In warm weather a long sleeved T-shirt

We are able to provide all of the above if necessary.



Relationships and PSHE Education





PSHE Education (Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education) is a planned programme of learning through which children and young people acquire the knowledge, understanding and skills they need to successfully manage their lives – now and in the future. As part of a whole-school approach, PSHE Education develops the qualities and attributes pupils need to thrive as individuals, family members and members of society. What do schools have to teach in PSHE Education? According to the National Curriculum, every school needs to have a broad and balanced curriculum that:

- promotes the spiritual, moral, social, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils at the school;
- prepares pupils at the school for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of later life;
- promotes British values.

What is Jigsaw, the mindful approach to PSHE, and how does it work?

Jigsaw is a whole-school approach and embodies a positive philosophy and creative teaching and learning activities to nurture children's development as compassionate and well-rounded human beings as well as building their capacity to learn. Jigsaw is a comprehensive and completely original PSHE Education programme (lesson plans and teaching resources) for the whole primary school from ages 3-11. Written by teachers and grounded in sound psychology, it also includes all the statutory requirements for Relationships and Health Education.

Jigsaw has two main aims for all children:

- To build their capacity for learning
- To equip them for life Jigsaw brings together PSHE Education, compulsory Relationships and Health Education, emotional literacy, mindfulness, social skills and spiritual development.

It is designed as a whole school approach, with all year groups working on the same theme (Puzzle) at the same time at their own level. There are six Puzzles (half-term units of work) and each year group is taught one lesson per week. All lessons are delivered in an age and stage-appropriate way so that they meet children's needs.

Each Puzzle starts with an introductory assembly, generating a whole school focus for adults and children alike. There is also a Weekly Celebration that highlights a theme from that week's lesson across the school encouraging children to live that learning in their behaviour and attitudes.

What will Jigsaw teach my child?

The overview below summarises the content in each of Jigsaw's units of work (Puzzles):

Being Me In My World covers a wide range of topics, including a sense of belonging, welcoming others and being part of a school community, a wider community, and a global community; it also looks at children's rights and responsibilities, working and socialising with others, and pupil voice.

Celebrating Difference focuses on similarities and differences and teaches about diversity, such as disability, racism, power, friendships, and conflict; children learn to accept everyone's right to 'difference', and most year groups explore the concept of 'normality'. Anti-bullying is an important aspect of this Puzzle. Dreams and Goals aims to help children think about their hopes and dreams, their goals for success, what their personal strengths are, and how to overcome challenges, using team-work skills and tasks. There is also a focus on enterprise and fundraising. Children learn about experiencing and managing feelings of pride, ambition, disappointment, success; and they get to share their aspirations, the dreams and goals of others in different cultures/countries, and their dreams for their community and the world.

Healthy Me covers two main areas of health: Emotional/mental health (relaxation, being safe, friendships, mental health skills, body image, relationships with food, managing stress) and Physical health (eating a balanced diet, physical activity, rest and relaxation, keeping clean, drugs and alcohol, being safe, first aid). Most of the statutory content for Health Education (DfE) is contained within this Puzzle.

Relationships starts with building a respectful relationship with self and covers topics including families, friendships, pets and animals, and love and loss. A vital part of this Puzzle is about safeguarding and keeping children safe; this links to online safety and social networking. Children learn how to deal with conflict, build assertiveness skills, and identify their own strengths and strategies for building self-esteem and resilience. They explore roles and responsibilities in families and friendship groups, and consider stereotypes.

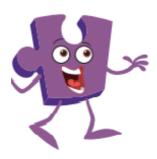
Changing Me deals with change of many types, in KS1 growing from young to old,

What else is included?

There are numerous additional aspects of the Jigsaw Programme to enhance the learning experience, including the Jigsaw Friends (jigsaw-shaped soft toys used as

teaching aids), Jigsaw Chimes and Jigsaw Jerrie Cats (used to help and encourage calming and mindfulness practice). Every Jigsaw lesson includes mindfulness practice.

Mindfulness is being able to observe your own thoughts and feelings as they happen, in the present moment, applying no judgement. Jigsaw teaches children to understand their thoughts and feelings through the Calm Me time exercises (using the Jigsaw Chime) and Pause Points (using Jigsaw Jerrie Cat). This helps to develop their awareness, and their capacity to be mindful human beings. Learning is thus enhanced as emotions and behaviour are self-regulated.





iSafe - Protective Behaviours



Children returning to school after any period of extended home learning such as COVID 19 will work through the **JIGSAW recovery Package**. Lessons focus on:

- Welcome back to school including a temporary Jigsaw Charter to support respect for personal space (social distancing), hygiene, etc.
- Belonging and feeling safe at school
- Reconnecting with friends at school
- The Coronavirus explained and keeping safe and well
- Managing worries, fears and anxieties
- Being positive and looking forward to learning
- Gratitude and appreciation
- Loss and bereavement

Our comprehensive **iSAFE Programme** teaches the children that they have a right to feel safe all of the time & that nothing is awful or so small that they can't talk to someone about it. The iSAFE Programme sessions are as follows:

Session 1 The right to feel safe Session 2 Early Warning Signs

Session 3 Recognising Feeling Unsafe Session 4 Recognising Good Friends

Session 5 Being Safe Around the Home
Session 6 We are all Unique and Special

Session 7 Race

Session 8 Religions and Celebrations

Session 9 Differently Abled

Session 10 eSafety

Session 11 Keeping Our Bodies Safe

Session 12 Dealing with Bullies/Good Mental Health

60

Session 12 Dealing with Bullies/Good Mental Health

Useful APPS for EYFS Children

Hairy Letters

Hairy Phonics 1, 2, 3

Twinkl Phonics – all phases

Forest Phonics

Nosy Crow Books

My Story

RM Easimaths

Maths Age 4-6

Popmath

Little Digits

Bugs and Numbers

Bee-Bot

Daisy the Dinosaur



Useful Websites for EYFS Parents

Book Trust <u>www.booktrust.org.uk/resources</u>

Book Trust gets children and families reading with resources to support reading of all ages to develop the skills that will improve opportunities in life.

On the same website http://www.bookstart.org.uk/

Join the Book Bear Club http://www.bookstart.org.uk/bookstart-bear-club/

Children's Food Trust http://childrensfoodtrust.org.uk/wp/childrens-food-trust/early-years/ A range of advice and information ensure a balanced diet in early years.

Communication Trust <u>www.thecommunicationtrust.org.uk</u>

EYFS http://www.thecommunicationtrust.org.uk/early-years/

Small Talk - For parents of children aged 0-5 to show where children are likely to be with their communication at a certain age.

Top Tips Leaflet - 10 top tips to help parents or professionals develop children and young people's communication skills.

Through the eyes of a child - Four films full of useful advice on how parents can encourage their child to talk and interact with them.

Misunderstood - Information for those who want to find out more about supporting children and young people with speech, language and communication needs.

Listen up - Resources to encourage listening, understanding, interaction and play.

Summer Talk - Games and activities that support families to encourage children's communication skills when they are out and about this summer.

Raa Raa the Noisy Lion – An EYFS pack that has been created to support the new Cbeebies programme, Raa Raa the Noisy Lion.

Other Ways of Speaking - Looks at the different ways we communicate, especially those used by children whose speech is difficult to understand or have no speech.

Families in the Foundation Years <u>www.foundationyears.org.uk/parents</u>

Outline of information available to parents to help in making choices and plans. Links are also provided to other websites to offer you more information if you need it. This site is designed to help you work your way through the information and support on offer to help your child get off to a great start in life.

Family Information Centre <u>finder.familyandchildcaretrust.org</u>

Information on services available to parents - Your local Family Information Service (FIS) provides a range of information for parents from details of local childcare and early years provision to family activities in your area.

katecairns.com <u>www.fivetothrive.org.uk/resources</u>

Five to thrive - Printed guides, posters, pop-up banners and a range of age-specific supplements are all available to support the implementation of five to thrive.

Literacy Trust http://www.literacytrust.org.uk/early_years

Early Words Together is a targeted, literacy peer education programme for families with children aged two to five that empowers parents to support their child's early learning.

National Numeracy <u>www.nationalnumeracy.org.uk</u>

http://www.nationalnumeracy.org.uk/what-do-we-offer-eys-primary

How does what parents say about maths affect their children? Falkirk Council Education Services have created a video with some great suggestions for everyday maths activities.

Help Your Child With Numeracy - Age Range 3-7. Clear descriptions of the ways in which maths is taught in schools today, as well as examples of the kinds of calculations children will learn at different ages.

Parents in Touch www.parentsintouch.co.uk

How to help your under 5 year old. Resources to help with maths, phonics, handwriting and English.

Play England <u>www.playengland.org.uk/resources.aspx</u> Resources to ensure that parents have access to a wide-range of research, good practice and guidance to support them to increase children's freedom to play.

Start4Life www.nhs.uk/start4life

Support throughout pregnancy and as your child grows. All the help and advice you need during pregnancy, birth and parenthood for mums, dads, family and friends.

Family Days Out

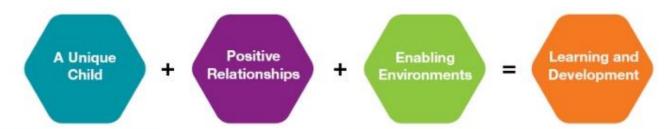
http://www.dayoutwiththekids.co.uk/search.php?county=northamptonshire http://www.visitnorthamptonshire.co.uk/outandabout/

Early Years Foundation Stage Documentation https://www.gov.uk/early-years-foundation-stage

http://www.foundationyears.org.uk/



The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) Curriculum



Every child is a unique child who is constantly learning and can be resilient, capable, confident and self-assured.

Practitioners

- understand and observe each child's development and learning, assess progress, plan for next steps
- support bables and children to develop a positive sense of their own identity and culture
- identify any need for additional support
- · keep children safe
- value and respect all children and families equally

Children learn to be strong and independent through positive relationships.

Positive relationships are

- warm and loving, and foster a sense of belonging
- sensitive and responsive to the child's needs, feelings and interests
- supportive of the child's own efforts and independence
- consistent in setting clear boundaries
- stimulating
- built on key person relationships in early years settings

Children learn and develop well in enabling environments, in which their experiences respond to their individual needs and there is a strong partnership between practitioners and parents and carers.

Enabling Environments

- · value all people
- · value learning

They offer

- stimulating resources, relevant to all the children's cultures and communities
- rich learning opportunities through play and playful teaching
- support for children to take risks and explore

Children develop and learn in different ways. The framework covers the education and care of all children in early years provision, including children with special educational needs and disabilities.

Practitioners teach children by ensuring challenging, playful opportunities across the prime and specific areas of learning and development.

They foster the characteristics of effective early learning

- Playing and exploring
- Active learning
- Creating and thinking critically

The EYFS curriculum is broken down into seven specific areas of learning:

- 1. Communication and language
- 2. Physical development
- 3. Personal, social and emotional development (PSE)
- 4. Literacy
- 5. Mathematics
- 6. Understanding the world
- 7. Expressive arts and design

Within each of these areas, there are specific Early Learning Goals – for example, in the case of Communication and language, these are Listening and attention, Understanding, and Speaking.



A Typical EYFS Journey

The revised age bands used to judge the attainment and progress of your child are:

- 1. Birth to three
- 2. 3 and 4 years old: Nursery
- 3. 4 and 5 years old: Reception

If a child is demonstrating <u>a few / some</u> of the elements of an age-band (having shown competence in the previous age-band) this child is <u>entering</u> that age-band.

If a child is demonstrating <u>many</u> of the elements of an age-band, this child is <u>developing</u> within that age-band.

If a child is demonstrating <u>most</u> of the elements of an age-band, this child is <u>secure</u> in that age-band.

EYFS Curriculum and Assessment

Our Reception Curriculum is supported by the Development Matters document which was relaunched in September 2020. Development Matters is broken down into three age descriptors birth to three, three and four year olds and four and five year olds.

The level of development children should be expected to have attained by the end of the EYFS is defined by the Early Learning Goals. Assessment is ongoing throughout the EYFS, but the official EYFS Profile for each child is completed in the final term of year R. Your child will be assessed against the Early Learning Goals and given an overall grading based on the following descriptors.

- **Emerging**: your child is working below the expected level
- **Expected**: your child is working at the level expected for their age
- **Exceeding**: your child is working above the expected level

Your child will be awarded either emerging, expected or exceeding for each of the EYFS areas of learning. On leaving Early Years at the end of year R, a child is considered to have a 'good level of development' if they have achieved at least the expected level in the Early Learning Goals in all aspects of PSE, Physical development, Communication and language, Literacy and Mathematics. It is expected that most children at the end of EYFS will attain a good level of development, this demonstrates that they are 'school ready'. They will have developed the key skills needed to make a good start in the next stage of their education.

The Early Learning Goals are detailed below and will support you in assessing where your children are. Please do remember that the descriptors below will only be used to support our overall judgements at the **end of Reception.**

Early Learning Goals

Communication and Language

ELG: Listening, Attention and Understanding

Children at the expected level of development will:

- Listen attentively and respond to what they hear with relevant questions, comments and actions when being read to and during whole class discussions and small group interactions;
- Make comments about what they have heard and ask questions to clarify their understanding;
- Hold conversation when engaged in back-and-forth exchanges with their teacher and peers.

ELG: Speaking

Children at the expected level of development will:

- Participate in small group, class and one-to-one discussions, offering their own ideas, using recently introduced vocabulary
- Offer explanations for why things might happen, making use of recently introduced vocabulary from stories, non-fiction, rhymes and poems when appropriate
- Express their ideas and feelings about their experiences using full sentences, including use of past, present and future tenses and making use of conjunctions, with modelling and support from their teacher.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

ELG: Self-Regulation

Children at the expected level of development will:

- Show an understanding of their own feelings and those of others, and begin to regulate their behaviour accordingly;
- Set and work towards simple goals, being able to wait for what they want and control their immediate impulses when appropriate;
- Give focused attention to what the teacher says, responding appropriately even when engaged in activity, and show an ability to follow instructions involving several ideas or actions.

ELG: Managing Self

Children at the expected level of development will:

- Be confident to try new activities and show independence, resilience and perseverance in the face of challenge;
- Explain the reasons for rules, know right from wrong and try to behave accordingly;
- Manage their own basic hygiene and personal needs, including dressing, going to the toilet and understanding the importance of healthy food choice

ELG: Building Relationships

Children at the expected level of development will:

- Work and play cooperatively and take turns with others;
- Form positive attachments to adults and friendships with peers;
- Show sensitivity to their own and to others' needs.

Physical Development

ELG: Gross Motor Skills

Children at the expected level of development will:

- -Negotiate space and obstacles safely, with consideration for themselves and others;-
- Demonstrate strength, balance and coordination when playing;
- -Move energetically, such as running, jumping, dancing, hopping, skipping and climbing.

ELG: Fine Motor Skills

Children at the expected level of development will:

- Hold a pencil effectively in preparation for fluent writing
- Use the tripod grip in almost all cases;
- Use a range of small tools, including scissors, paint brushes and cutlery;
- Begin to show accuracy and care when drawing.

Literacy

ELG: Comprehension

Children at the expected level of development will:

- Demonstrate understanding of what has been read to them by retelling stories and narratives using their own words and recently introduced vocabulary;
- Anticipate where appropriate key events in stories;
- Use and understand recently introduced vocabulary during discussions about stories, non-fiction, rhymes and poems and during role-play.

ELG: Word Reading

Children at the expected level of development will:

- Say a sound for each letter in the alphabet and at least 10 digraphs;
- Read words consistent with their phonic knowledge by sound-blending;
- Read aloud simple sentences and books that are consistent with their phonic knowledge, including some common exception words.

ELG: Writing

Children at the expected level of development will:

- Write recognisable letters, most of which are correctly formed;
- Spell words by identifying sounds in them and representing the sounds with a letter or letters:
- Write simple phrases and sentences that can be read by others.

Mathematics

ELG: Number

Children at the expected level of development will:

- Have a deep understanding of number to 10, including the composition of each number:
- Subitise (recognise quantities without counting) up to 5;
- Automatically recall (without reference to rhymes, counting or other aids) number bonds up to 5 (including subtraction facts) and some number bonds to 10, including double facts.

ELG: Numerical Patterns

Children at the expected level of development will:

- Verbally count beyond 20, recognising the pattern of the counting system;
- Compare quantities up to 10 in different contexts, recognising when one quantity is greater than, less than or the same as the other quantity;
- Explore and represent patterns within numbers up to 10, including evens and odds, double facts and how quantities can be distributed equally.

Understanding the World

ELG: Past and Present

Children at the expected level of development will:

- Talk about the lives of the people around them and their roles in society;
- Know some similarities and differences between things in the past and now, drawing on their experiences and what has been read in class;
- Understand the past through settings, characters and events encountered in books read in class and storytelling.

ELG: People, Culture and Communities

Children at the expected level of development will:

- Describe their immediate environment using knowledge from observation, discussion, stories, non-fiction texts and maps;
- Know some similarities and differences between different religious and cultural communities in this country, drawing on their experiences and what has been read in class;
- Explain some similarities and differences between life in this country and life in other countries, drawing on knowledge from stories, non-fiction texts and when appropriate maps.

ELG: The Natural World

Children at the expected level of development will:

- Explore the natural world around them, making observations and drawing pictures of animals and plants;

- Know some similarities and differences between the natural world around them and contrasting environments, drawing on their experiences and what has been read in class;
- Understand some important processes and changes in the natural world around them, including the seasons and changing states of matter.

Expressive Arts and Design

ELG: Creating with Materials

Children at the expected level of development will:

- Safely use and explore a variety of materials, tools and techniques, experimenting with colour, design, texture, form and function;
- Share their creations, explaining the process they have used;
- Make use of props and materials when role playing characters in narratives and stories.

ELG: Being Imaginative and Expressive

Children at the expected level of development will:

- Invent, adapt and recount narratives and stories with peers and their teacher;
- Sing a range of well-known nursery rhymes and songs;
- -Perform songs, rhymes, poems and stories with others, and when appropriate try to move in time with music.

Development Matters 2020

Development Matters sets out the pathways of children's development in broad ages and stages. We use Development Matters to support us in designing our curriculum. The document helps us to ensure that the curriculum we have designed supports the child in developing the skills to reach the next stage in their development. It is based around the seven areas of learning as with the Early Learning Goals.

Key Skills Overviews

The following pages will help you understand your child's development through their early years.

EYFS Key Skills Overview			
Communication and Language			
Birth to three	Nursery: 3 and 4 year olds	Reception: 4 and 5 year olds	
Turn towards familiar sounds. They are also startled by loud noises and accurately locate the source of a familiar person's voice, such as their key person or	Enjoy listening to longer stories and can remember much of what happens. Pay attention to more than one thing at a	Understand how to listen carefully and why listening is important	
a parent.	time, which can be difficult.	Learn new vocabulary.	
Gaze at faces, copying facial expressions and movements like sticking out their tongue.	Use a wider range of vocabulary. Understand a question or instruction	Use new vocabulary through the day	
Make eye contact for longer periods. Watch someone's face as they talk.	that has two parts, such as: "Get your coat and wait at the door". Understand 'why'	Ask questions to find out more and to check they understand what has	
Copy what adults do, taking 'turns' in conversations (through babbling) and activities.	questions, like: "Why do you think the caterpillar got so fat?"	been said to them. Articulate their ideas and thoughts in well-	
Try to copy adult speech and lip movements. Enjoy singing, music	Sing a large repertoire of songs. Knows many	formed sentences	
and toys that make sounds. Recognise and are calmed by a familiar and friendly voice. Listen	rhymes, be able to talk about familiar books, and be able to tell a long story	Connect one idea or action to another using a range of connectives.	
and respond to a simple instruction.	Develop their communication, but may continue to have	Describe events in some detail.	
Make sounds to get attention in different ways (for example, crying when hungry or unhappy, making gurgling sounds, laughing, cooing or babbling). Babble, using sounds like 'baba', 'mamama'. Use gestures like waving and pointing to communicate.	problems with irregular tenses and plurals, such as 'runned' for 'ran', 'swimmed' for 'swam'. Develop their pronunciation but may have problems saying: -some sounds: r, j, th, ch, and sh - multi-syllabic	Use talk to help work out problems and organise thinking and activities, and to explain how things work and why they might happen	
Reach or point to something they want while making sounds. Copy your gestures and words	words such as 'pterodactyl', 'planetarium' or 'hippopotamus'.	Develop social phrases. Engage in storytimes.	
Constantly babble and use single words during play. Use intonation, pitch and changing volume when 'talking'.	Use longer sentences of four to six words.	Listen to and talk about stories to build familiarity and understanding.	

Understand single words in context – 'cup', 'milk', 'daddy'. Understand frequently used words such as 'all gone', 'no' and 'bye-bye'.

multi-syllabic words such as 'banana' and 'compute

Listen to simple stories and understand what is happening, with the help of the pictures.

Identify familiar objects and properties for practitioners when they are described: for example: 'Katie's coat', 'blue car', 'shiny apple'. Understand and act on longer sentences like 'make teddy jump' or 'find your coat'.

Understand simple questions about 'who', 'what' and 'where' (but generally not 'why').

Be able to express a point of view and to debate when they disagree with an adult or a friend, using words as well as actions. Start a conversation with an adult or a friend and continue it for many turns. Use talk to organise themselves and their play: "Let's go on a bus... you sit there... I'll be the driver."

Retell the story, once they have developed a deep familiarity with the text; some as exact repetition and some in their own words.

Use new vocabulary in different contexts

Listen carefully to rhymes and songs, paying attention to how they sound.

Learn rhymes, poems and songs.

Engage in non-fiction books.

Listen to and talk about selected nonfiction to develop a deep familiarity with new knowledge and vocabulary.

Physical Development			
Birth to three	Nursery: 3 and 4 year olds	Reception: 4 and 5 year olds	
Lift their head while lying on their front. Push their chest up with	Continue to develop their movement, balancing, riding (scooters, trikes and bikes) and ball skills.	Revise and refine the fundamental movement skills they have already acquired: rolling - crawling	
straight arms.	Go up steps and stairs, or	- walking - jumping - running - hopping -	
Roll over: from front to back, then back to front.	climb up apparatus, using alternate feet. S	skipping – climbing Progress towards a more	
Enjoy moving when outdoors and inside	Skip, hop, stand on one leg and hold a pose for a game like musical statues.	fluent style of moving, with developing control and grace.	
Sit without support.	Use large-muscle	Develop the overall body	
Begin to crawl in different ways and directions.	movements to wave flags and streamers, paint and make marks.	strength, co-ordination, balance and agility needed to engage	
Pull themselves upright and bouncing in preparation for walking	Start taking part in some group activities which they make up for	successfully with future physical education sessions and other physical disciplines including	
Reach out for objects as coordination develops.	themselves, or in teams. Increasingly be able to	dance, gymnastics, sport and swimming.	
Eat finger food and develop likes and dislikes.	use and remember sequences and patterns of movements which are	Develop their small motor skills so that they can use a range of tools	
Try a wider range of foods with different tastes and textures.	related to music and rhythm	competently, safely and confidently. Suggested tools: pencils for drawing	
Lift objects up to suck them. Pass things from one hand to the other.	Match their developing physical skills to tasks and activities in the setting. For example, they decide	and writing, paintbrushes, scissors, knives, forks and spoons.	
Let go of things and hand them to another person, or drop them	whether to crawl, walk or run across a plank, depending on its length and width.	Use their core muscle strength to achieve a good posture when sitting at a table or sitting on the floor.	
Gradually gain control of their whole body through continual practice of large movements, such as waving, kicking, rolling, crawling and	Choose the right resources to carry out their own plan. For example, choosing a spade to enlarge a small	Combine different movements with ease and fluency.	
walking. Clap and stamp to music.	hole they dug with a trowel.	Confidently and safely use a range of large and small apparatus indoors and outside, alone and in a	

Fit themselves into spaces, like tunnels, dens and large boxes, and move around in them.

Enjoy starting to kick, throw and catch balls. Build independently with a range of appropriate resources.

Begin to walk independently – choosing appropriate props to support at first.

Walk, run, jump and climb – and start to use the stairs independently.

As soon as children are able, encourage 'active travel' to and from the setting – for example, walking, scooter or bike. Spin, roll and independently use ropes and swings (for example, tyre swings).

Sit on a push-along wheeled toy, use a scooter or ride a tricycle.

Develop manipulation and control. Explore different materials and tools.

Use large and small motor skills to do things independently, for example manage buttons and zips, and pour drinks.

Show an increasing desire to be independent, such as wanting to feed themselves and dress or undress

Learn to use the toilet with help, and then independently. Collaborate with others to manage large items, such as moving a long plank safely, carrying large hollow blocks.

Use one-handed tools and equipment, for example, making snips in paper with scissors.
Use a comfortable grip with good control when holding pens and pencils.

Start eating independently and learning how to use a knife and fork.

Show a preference for a dominant hand.

Be increasingly independent as they get dressed and undressed, for example, putting coats on and doing up zips.

Be increasingly independent in meeting their own care needs, e.g. brushing teeth, using the toilet, washing and drying their hands thoroughly.

Make healthy choices about food, drink, activity and toothbrushing

group. Develop overall body-strength, balance, co-ordination and agility.

Further develop and refine a range of ball skills including: throwing, catching, kicking, passing, batting, and aiming.

Develop confidence, competence, precision and accuracy when engaging in activities that involve a ball.

Develop the foundations of a handwriting style which is fast, accurate and efficient.

Know and talk about the different factors that support their overall health and wellbeing: regular physical activity healthy eating toothbrushing sensible amounts of 'screen time' having a good sleep routine

Further develop the skills they need to manage the school day successfully: lining up and queuing mealtimes personal hygiene

being a safe pedestrian

Literacy			
Birth to three	Nursery: 3 and 4 year	Reception: 4 and 5 year	
	olds	olds	
Enjoy songs and rhymes,	Understand the five	Read individual letters by	
tuning in and paying attention.	key concepts about print:	saying the sounds for them.	
Join in with songs and rhymes,	- print has meaning	Blend sounds into words, so	
copying sounds, rhythms, tunes	- print can have	that they can read short	
and tempo.	different purposes	words made up of known	
Say some of the words in songs	- we read English text	letter– sound correspondences.	
and rhymes.	from left to right and	·	
,	from top to bottom	Read some letter groups	
Copy finger movements and other gestures.	- the names of the different parts of a	that each represent one sound and say sounds for	
Offici gestores.	book	them.	
Sing songs and say rhymes	-page sequencing		
independently, for example,		Read a few common exception words matched	
singing whilst playing.	Develop their	to the school's phonic	
Enjoy sharing books with an	phonological	programme.	
adult.	awareness, so that they can:		
Pay attention and respond to	- spot and suggest	Read simple phrases and sentences made up of	
the pictures or the words.	rhymes	words with known letter–	
Have favourite books and seek	- count or clap	sound correspondences	
them out, to share with an	syllables in a word –	and, where necessary, a	
adult, with another child, or to	- recognise words with	few exception words.	
look at alone.	the same initial sound, such as money and	Re-read these books to	
Repeat words and phrases	mother	build up their confidence	
from familiar stories.		in word reading, their	
Ask questions about the book.	Engage in extended	fluency and their understanding and	
Make comments and shares	conversations about	enjoyment.	
their own ideas.	stories, learning new	, ,	
Develop play around favourite	vocabulary.	Form lower-case and capital letters correctly.	
stories using props.	Use some of their print		
	and letter knowledge	Spell words by identifying	
Notice some print, such as the first letter of their name, a bus	in their early writing.	the sounds and then writing the sound with	
or door number, or a familiar	For example: writing a	letter/s	
logo.	pretend shopping list		
	that starts at the top of the page; writing	Write short sentences with words with known sound-	
Enjoy drawing freely.	'm' for mummy	letter correspondences	
Add some marks to their	,	using a capital letter and	
drawings, which they give	Write some or all of	full stop.	
meaning to. For example:	their name.	Re-read what they have	
"That says mummy."	Write some letters	written to check that it	
Make marks on their picture to	accurately	makes sense.	
stand for their name.	3.333.3.31		

Mathematics		
Birth to three	Nursery: 3 and 4 year olds	Reception: 4 and 5 year olds
Combine objects like stacking blocks and cups.	Develop fast recognition of up to 3 objects, without	Count objects, actions and sounds.
Put objects inside others and take them out again.	having to count them individually ('subitising').	Subitise. Show small quantities in familiar
Take part in finger rhymes with numbers.	Recite numbers past 5.	patterns (for example, dice) and
React to changes of amount in a group of up to three	Say one number for each item in order: 1,2,3,4,5.	random arrangements.
items.	Know that the last number reached when counting a	Link the number symbol (numeral)
Compare amounts, saying 'lots', 'more' or 'same'.	small set of objects tells you how many there are in total ('cardinal principle').	with its cardinal number value.
Develop counting-like behaviour, such as making	Show 'finger numbers' up to	Count beyond ten.
sounds, pointing or saying some numbers in sequence.	5.	Compare numbers.
Count in everyday contexts, sometimes skipping numbers - '1-2-3-5.'	Link numerals and amounts: for example, showing the right number of objects to match the numeral, up to 5.	Understand the 'one more than/one less than' relationship
Climb and squeeze themselves into different types of spaces.	Experiment with their own symbols and marks as well as numerals.	between consecutive numbers.
Build with a range of resources.	Solve real world mathematical problems with	Explore the composition of numbers to 10.
Complete inset puzzles. Compare sizes, weights etc. using gesture and language - 'bigger/little/smaller',	numbers up to 5. Compare quantities using language: 'more than', 'fewer than'.	Automatically recall number bonds for numbers 0–10.
'high/low', 'tall', 'heavy'. Notice patterns and arrange	Talk about and explore 2D and 3D shapes (for example, circles, rectangles, triangles	Select, rotate and manipulate shapes in order to develop
things in patterns.	and cuboids) using informal and mathematical language: 'sides', 'corners';	spatial reasoning skills.
	'straight', 'flat', 'round'.	Compose and decompose shapes
	Understand position through words alone – for example,	so that children recognise a shape can have other

"The bag is under the table," – with no pointing.

Describe a familiar route.

Discuss routes and locations, using words like 'in front of' and 'behind'.

Make comparisons between objects relating to size, length, weight and capacity.

Select shapes appropriately: flat surfaces for building, a triangular prism for a roof etc.

Combine shapes to make new ones - an arch, a bigger triangle etc.

Talk about and identify the patterns around them. For example: stripes on clothes, designs on rugs and wallpaper. Use informal language like 'pointy', 'spotty', 'blobs' etc.

Extend and create ABAB patterns – stick, leaf, stick, leaf.

Notice and correct an error in a repeating pattern.

Begin to describe a sequence of events, real or fictional, using words such as 'first', 'then...'

shapes within it, just as numbers can.

Continue, copy and create repeating patterns.

Compare length, weight and capacity.

Understanding the world.			
Birth to three	Nursery: 3 and 4 year olds	Reception: 4 and 5 year olds	
Repeat actions that have an	Use all their senses in handson exploration of natural materials.	Talk about members of their immediate family and community.	
effect. Explore	Explore collections of materials with similar and/or different properties.	Name and describe people who are familiar to them.	
materials with different properties.	Talk about what they see, using a wide vocabulary.	Comment on images of familiar situations in the past.	
Explore natural materials, indoors and outside.	Begin to make sense of their own life-story and family's history.	Compare and contrast characters from stories, including figures from the past.	
Explore and respond to	Show interest in different occupations.	Draw information from a simple map.	
different natural	Explore how things work.	Understand that some places are special to members of	
phenomena in their setting and on trips.	Plant seeds and care for growing plants.	their community. Recognise that people have	
Make connections	Understand the key features of the life cycle of a plant and an animal.	different beliefs and celebrate special times in different ways.	
between the features of their family and other families.	Begin to understand the need to respect and care for the natural environment and all living things	Recognise some similarities and differences between life in this country and life in other countries.	
Notice differences	Explore and talk about different forces they can feel.	Explore the natural world around them.	
between people.	Talk about the differences between materials and	Describe what they see, hear and feel whilst outside.	
	changes they notice.	Recognise some environments that are different to the one in	
	Continue developing positive attitudes about the differences between people.	which they live. Understand the effect of	
	Know that there are different countries in the world and talk about the differences they have experienced or seen in photos.	changing seasons on the natural world around them.	

Expressive Art and Design		
Birth to three	Nursery: 3 and 4 year olds	Reception: 4 and 5 year olds
Show attention to sounds and music. Respond emotionally and physically to music when it changes.	Take part in simple pretend play, using an object to represent something else even though they are not similar.	Explore, use and refine a variety of artistic effects to express their ideas and feelings.
Move and dance to music. Anticipate phrases and actions in rhymes and songs, like 'Peepo'. Explore their voices and enjoy making sounds. Join in with songs and rhymes, making some sounds. Make rhythmical and repetitive	Begin to develop complex stories using small world equipment like animal sets, dolls and dolls houses etc. Make imaginative and complex 'small worlds' with blocks and construction kits, such as a city with different buildings and a park.	Return to and build on their previous learning, refining ideas and developing their ability to represent them. Create collaboratively, sharing ideas, resources and skills
Explore a range of sound makers and instruments and play them in different ways. Notice patterns with strong contrasts and be attracted by patterns resembling the human face. Start to make marks intentionally. Explore paint, using fingers and other parts of their badies as well.	Explore different materials freely, in order to develop their ideas about how to use them and what to make. Develop their own ideas and then decide which materials to use to express them. Join different materials and explore different textures	Listen attentively, move to and talk about music, expressing their feelings and responses. Watch and talk about dance and performance art, expressing their feelings and responses.
other parts of their bodies as well as brushes and other tools. Express ideas and feelings through making marks, and sometimes give a meaning to the marks they make. Enjoy and take part in action songs, such as 'Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star'. Start to develop pretend play, pretending that one object	create closed shapes with continuous lines, and begin to use these shapes to represent objects. Draw with increasing complexity and detail, such as representing a face with a circle and including details.	Sing in a group or on their own, increasingly matching the pitch and following the melody. Develop storylines in their pretend play.

represents another. For example, a child holds a wooden block to her ear and pretends it's a phone.

Explore different materials, using all their senses to investigate them. Manipulate and play with different materials.

Use their imagination as they consider what they can do with different materials.

Make simple models which express their ideas.

Use drawing to represent ideas like movement or loud noises.

Show different emotions in their drawings and paintings, like happiness, sadness, fear etc.

Explore colour and colourmixing.

Show different emotions in their drawings – happiness, sadness, fear etc Listen with increased attention to sounds.

Respond to what they have heard, expressing their thoughts and feelings.

Remember and sing entire songs.

Sing the pitch of a tone sung by another person ('pitch match'). Sing the melodic shape (moving melody, such as up and down, down and up) of familiar songs.

Create their own songs, or improvise a song around one they know

Play instruments with increasing control to express their feelings and ideas.

Explore and engage in music making and dance, performing solo or in groups.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development		
Birth to three	Nursery: 3 and 4 year olds	Reception: 4 and 5 year olds
Find ways to calm themselves, through being calmed and comforted by their key person	Select and use activities and resources, with help	See themselves as a valuable individual.
Establish their sense of self.	when needed. This helps them to achieve a goal they have	Build constructive and respectful relationships.
Express preferences and decisions. They also try new things and start establishing their	chosen, or one which is suggested to them.	Express their feelings and consider the feelings of others.
Engage with others through	Develop their sense of responsibility and membership of a	Show resilience and perseverance in the
gestures, gaze and talk	community.	face of challenge.
Use that engagement to achieve a goal. For example, gesture towards their cup to say they want a drink.	Become more outgoing with unfamiliar people, in the safe context of	Identify and moderate their own feelings socially and emotionally.
Find ways of managing transitions, for example from their parent to their key person.	Show more confidence in new social situations.	Think about the perspectives of others.
Thrive as they develop self assurance.	Play with one or more other children, extending and	Manage their own needs.
Look back as they crawl or walk away from their key person. Look	elaborating play ideas.	
for clues about how to respond to something interesting.	Find solutions to conflicts and rivalries. For example,	
Play with increasing confidence on their own and with other children, because they know	accepting that not everyone can be Spider-Man in the	
their key person is nearby and available.	game, and suggesting other ideas.	
Feel confident when taken out around the local neighbourhood, and enjoy exploring new places with their key person	Increasingly follow rules, understanding why they are important. Remember rules without needing	
Feel strong enough to express a range of emotions.	an adult to remind them	
Grow in independence, rejecting help ("me do it"). Sometimes this		

leads to feelings of frustration and tantrums.

Begin to show 'effortful control'. For example, waiting for a turn and resisting the strong impulse to grab what they want or push their way to the front.

Be increasingly able to talk about and manage their emotions.

Notice and ask questions about differences, such as skin colour, types of hair, gender, special needs and disabilities, and so on.

Develop friendships with other children.

Safely explore emotions beyond their normal range through play and stories.

Talk about their feelings in more elaborated ways: "I'm sad because..." or "I love it when ...".

Develop appropriate ways of being assertive.

Talk with others to solve conflicts.

Talk about their feelings using words like 'happy', 'sad', 'angry' or 'worried'.

Understand gradually how others might be feeling.