

Topic Snapshot: Reception

Term 1: Me, Myself and I

Below you will find an outline of how the topic links to the EYFS curriculum (*blue text*), the key skills which link to effective learning and development (*black text*) and ideas for supporting pupils at home (*red text*).

Communication and Language

The children will explore books, songs, and rhymes about themselves, including topics like body parts, likes and dislikes, and feelings. Children will learn the importance of listening carefully and will participate in small group, one-to-one, and whole class discussions. Encourage your child to practice taking turns speaking and listening during conversations with you. Have conversations with your child about books to help them learn new vocabulary. Talk about the pictures in the books and ask your child what their favorite part is.



Literacy

We will give the children lots of opportunities to read and write

E.g. making lists, making cards, writing letters, writing name cards. Begin to write recognisable letters.

Read individual letters by saying the sound of them. The children will be bringing letter sheets home to practise reading and writing each sound as they learn them.

Writes own name.

At home, practise writing their name using lower case letters.



Maths

Children will be encouraged to count items during their play. Count objects to 10, and begin to count beyond 10. At home, you could count toys, food items, steps and look out for numbers around you. We will be using shapes to create pictures and explore patterns. Begin to spot shapes and patterns. Try to find shapes in the world around you and name them with your child.



Expressive Art and Design

Children will begin to represent their ideas through drawing and mark making. We will use different tools—pencils, crayons, wax and paint, to make different types of marks. Play with a wide range of materials and media. **At home, encourage your child to draw their ideas and things that they can see.**



Personal, social & Emotional Development

We will establish daily and weekly routines in reception class. We will spend lots of time working on key skills needed to become part of a team. Increasingly follows rules, understanding why they are important. **We will be developing independence in the toilet and when changing for PE.** Manage their own basic hygiene and personal needs. **At home, encourage your child to practise these key skills.**



Understanding the World

We will be talking about the people in our families and exploring our family tree. Talks about the lives of the people around them.

Spend some time creating your own family tree and bring your completed version in. We will bring in photos of ourselves as babies to share and discuss.

Notices similarities between our lives when we were babies and our lives now. **When you are out and about, you could talk about the different age groups that you see and what they are able to do.**



Physical development

The children will have fun in the hall, playing simple games and moving around. They will also use the adventure play equipment near the field (called the Trailblazer). They will also play with bikes, trikes, and other play-ground equipment. Confidently and safely uses a large range of equipment, inside and outside. **You could take your child to play outside in a park.**

Children will also take part in lots of activities including play dough, cutting, bead threading and handwriting to name but a few. Use a range of small tools, including scissors and paint brushes. **You could encourage your child to cut different lines and shapes, reminding them of how to be safe with scissors.**

Additional Information:

In the first few weeks, staff will conduct the required Reception Baseline Assessment. This is a short and practical check of your child's early communication, literacy, and math skills. You will receive more information about this soon.

Please don't worry – our teachers are very experienced, and your child will enjoy spending some one-on-one time with their teacher while participating in a fun activity.

Welcome to Reception

We're so pleased to have you and your child with us this year. Below are a few helpful reminders to keep things running smoothly and ensure everyone feels safe, settled, and supported.

- Our day runs from **8:45 AM to 3:15 PM**. Please arrive on time at both drop-off and pick-up to help your child feel calm and ready to learn.
- If someone different is collecting your child, or if your contact details change, please let a member of staff know or call the School Office.
- Please **label everything** with your child's name.
- **For this term please bring PE kits** (T-shirt, shorts or cuffed tracksuit bottoms) in a simple drawstring bag to stay in school and go home at the end of term. There is no need for daps.
- **Velcro shoes** are ideal to help children dress independently.
- For safety, **hooped earrings** are not permitted.
- Please send your child's **Book Bag in every day** so we can share reading books, letters, and special work.
- We welcome any conversations before or after drop off. If it's particularly important please contact the office to pass on a message or make an appointment to speak to us.
- We love having parent helpers! If you'd like to support in class or on trips, please speak to the office about completing a **DBS form**.
- Starting school is a big step—for children and grown-ups. If you have any worries, questions,, we're here for you.
- Parent Meetings will occur afterschool at 3.20 or 3.30pm. You will be contacted prior to the date to let you know when. We like to have regular meetings to share what the children have been learning and what their next steps will be. Let the office know if you cannot attend, and a new date and time can be arranged.

Warm wishes,

We would be very grateful if you could donate any of the following items for our Reception classes. Please make sure they are clean and in good condition:

- Good quality used toys (puzzles, building blocks, etc.)
- Dolls and doll accessories
- Prams and pushchairs
- Dress-up clothes and costumes.

Thank you for your help!

We hope that you all have a fantastic Term 1!

The Reception Team