

# Autumn Term 1 Overview—Willow Class—Year R—2024/25

## Communication and Language

Communication and Language will play a very big part in the children's curriculum and daily activities. Using clear and concise language and developing and building on vocabulary is essential for all other learning.

The children will be encouraged to develop their speech through play activities, adult's role modelling and turn-taking in conversations.

During the first term the children will begin to develop their concentration skills through focused activities and listening times.

In our everyday activities the children will develop understanding.

You can help at home by developing conversation, playing games that involve periods of concentration and developing vocabulary through books and experiences.

## Understanding of the World

We have so many opportunities for the children to explore and investigate in their everyday provision, from magnets to magnifying glasses, bodies, materials and more. The children will be encouraged to be curious and ask lots of questions!

In particular this term we will be looking closely at 'plants', the children will be able to talk about how plants grow and what is needed for healthy growth. They will learn to name parts of the plant and to talk about the structure. We will be exploring the world around us through forest school opportunities.

The children will learn how we all belong to our families and our communities in RE sessions.

## Literacy

**Key Text: The Tin Forest** by Helen Ward and Wayne Anderson

**Reading:** The children will be enjoying this wonderful story, learning to talk about the text, anticipate what might happen next and recall parts of the story.

**Writing:** Through daily phonics and writing opportunities, the children will be learning to make letter-like formations and write initial sounds in words.

**Phonics:**

During daily phonics sessions the children will begin to learn all of the set 1 sounds and begin to link sounds to letters.

All children will begin to read, write and say set 1 sounds.

## R.E..

**Focus:** Being special: where do we belong?

By the end of this unit, children will be able to talk about having a sense of belonging, talk about religious or non-religious groups that themselves or others belong to and gain knowledge about how families welcome babies into the world. They will also gain some understanding of symbols.

## Quest: People who help us (Nurses)

**In this learning questwe will be working alongside KS1 who will be learning all about Florence Nightingale. We are going to focus on identifying 'now' and 'then' as well as learning about the role of nurses. We will have a visit from a nurse and enjoy taking part in role play.**

## Music

**Focus: Me!**

In this unit the children will learn to sing nursery rhymes and action songs. As part of this learning the children will listen and appraise music, sing along, move their bodies, learn to play some classroom instruments and build up to performing to others.

## Expressive Arts and Design

The children will be encouraged to use the Creation Station to create their own artwork, learn how to use the many resources, including different ways of joining. They will have opportunities for role play, telling stories in the small world area and dancing and singing on the stage. This term we will be learning about the work of some famous artists such as Claude Monet and Vincent Van Gogh.

## Personal, Social and Emotional Development

This term will be all about settling in and getting to know each other. We will be building relationships with adults and peers and getting used to our new environment.

During play the children will have the opportunity to develop confidence in skills, seek help where needed and become independent.

Social skills will be important when joining in with other children, learning how to turn-take and share and cooperate with others.

We will support the children to self-regulate and look after their own personal hygiene needs. We will be working with the children to develop independence in personal hygiene, accessing snacks and learning to put on wellies, coats and shoes independently.

In PSHE sessions the children will begin with 'Being Me in My World'.

## Maths

During the first few weeks time will be spent getting to know the children and finding out about their prior maths knowledge. Our Early Years children will then begin by matching and comparing objects, using language to talk about things that are the same and different. During this unit we will be using lots of different objects to sort. Following on from this they will have the opportunity to learn about simple repeating patterns and talk about size. This will include working around mass and capacity.

## Physical Development

**In P.E. lessons :**

**Focus: Personal Skills** In this unit, children will have the opportunity to, through a range of activities and sports, develop their personal skills in PE. Over the unit, they will be focusing upon: working on simple tasks independently, follow instructions and practicing safely, keeping going when not succeeding and asking for help.

**Fine Motor Skills**

We will be using the garden space to develop large motor skills using the wheeled toys, upper body strength though building with loose parts, balancing and controlling the hoops, ropes and other equipment.

There will also be lots of opportunities to develop fine motor skills through activities such as woodwork, cutting, threading, painting and small construction. We will also be focusing on pencil hold and learning to control a pencil effectively.