



Progression step 1 – 2025-26

Topic	All about me	Our Wonderful World	Once upon a time	Animal adventures	Home sweet home	To infinity and beyond
My inspiration	Set up a 'mirror station' with different types of mirrors (e.g., funhouse mirrors) for pupils to explore their reflections.	Den building at Danbury Lakes	Dress-up day where pupils come as their favourite storybook characters. Storytelling session with puppets and sensory props related to the story.	Petting zoo visit or bring in small animals for pupils to touch and interact with	Build a sensory model of a house using different materials (e.g., cardboard, fabric, foam).	Create a 'space station' in the classroom with sensory activities related to space exploration.
My voice	Introductions, choosing class reps, understanding pupil voice	Eco-projects, recycling, nature walks	Pupils to share their personal stories, experiences, and ideas for change	Caring for animals, playground and classroom safety	Local helpers, charity work, school pride	End-of-year review, what went well, hopes for next year
My community	Visit to a Local Community Centre (POP Essex) Take a trip to a local community centre or family hub where learners can explore different activities and meet people who support the community. Life Skills Focus: Communicating with new people	Visit to a Garden Centre Visit a Garden Centre to learn about looking after the planet and how we can help. Life Skills Focus: - Environmental awareness - Following instructions in a new setting	Bus Reading Visit from local bus company. Explore a local library or bookshop where learners can listen to stories, choose books, and meet librarians. Life Skills Focus: - Choosing and handling books - Listening and turn-taking	Visit to a Rescue Farm (Brentwood) Take a sensory-friendly trip to a petting farm or animal rescue centre to learn about caring for animals. Life Skills Focus: - Gentle handling and empathy - Following safety rules	Visit to a Café or Supermarket Visit a local café or supermarket where learners can practise ordering food, using money, or helping with shopping. Life Skills Focus: - Money handling and choice-making - Social interaction and manners	Visit to a Planetarium Explore a science museum or planetarium with sensory exhibits and space-themed activities. Life Skills Focus: - Exploring new environments - Engaging in sensory learning



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	•Exploring personal interests •Understanding roles in the community	•Asking questions and showing curiosity	• Navigating a public space	•Asking for help or information	•Independence in a public setting	•Asking questions and sharing excitement
British Values	Democracy Children vote on class activities or storybooks. Rule of Law Discuss classroom rules and why they are important. Individual Liberty Encourage children to make choices in their play and learning. Mutual Respect Teach children to listen to each other and share. Tolerance Explore different family structures and traditions.	Democracy Children vote on which country or environment to explore. Rule of Law Discuss environmental rules and why they matter. Individual Liberty Encourage children to express their thoughts on nature. Mutual Respect Teach respect for different cultures and environments. Tolerance Explore diverse traditions and practices around the world.	Democracy Children vote on which fairy tale to read. Rule of Law Discuss the rules characters follow in stories. Individual Liberty Encourage creative expression through storytelling. Mutual Respect Teach respect for different characters and their choices. Tolerance Explore moral lessons in fairy tales.	Democracy Children vote on which animal to learn about. Rule of Law Discuss rules for caring for animals. Individual Liberty Encourage children to share their favourite animals. Mutual Respect Teach respect for all living creatures. Tolerance Explore how different cultures view animals.	Democracy Children vote on activities related to homes. Rule of Law Discuss rules that keep homes safe. Individual Liberty Encourage children to share what makes their home special. Mutual Respect Teach respect for different types of homes. Tolerance Explore homes from different cultures.	Democracy Children vote on space-related activities. Rule of Law Discuss rules for astronauts and space exploration. Individual Liberty Encourage children to imagine and create their own space stories. Mutual Respect Teach respect for different ideas about space. Tolerance Explore diverse beliefs about the universe.



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School Values	Kindness Recognises kind actions in stories and real life Uses kind words with prompting	Belonging Identifies groups they belong to (family, class) Enjoys shared routines and rituals	Believing Expresses hopes and dreams Believes in others' abilities	Achieving Completes tasks with support Celebrates own and others' achievements	Respect Recognises personal space and uses polite words with adult support Shares resources and listens to others during group activities with guidance	Accountability Follows simple class routines and accepts adult guidance when reminded Takes responsibility for personal items and begins to understand the impact of actions
Literacy and communication	Recognise and respond to their own name and familiar words Begin to use words and symbols to express needs and preferences Listen to and join in with simple songs, rhymes, and stories Explore mark-making as a form of communication Begin to understand that print carries meaning (e.g., name labels)	Develop vocabulary related to nature and the senses Listen to and respond to descriptive language (e.g., 'cold,' 'wet,' 'green') Engage with simple non-fiction texts (e.g., picture books about animals or weather) Use pictures and symbols to communicate observations	Listen to and recall familiar stories with support Join in with repeated phrases and actions Recognise characters and settings in simple stories Use props or role-play to retell parts of a story Begin to create their own simple narratives through play or drawing	Learn and use animal names and sounds Match pictures to words or symbols (e.g., cat, dog, cow) Listen to animal-themed rhymes and stories Use descriptive words (e.g., furry, big, fast) Begin to group animals by features (e.g., pets, wild animals)	Recognise and name familiar people and places Use language to describe daily routines (e.g., bath, bed, breakfast) Listen to stories about families and homes Use visual schedules or storyboards to sequence daily events	Learn and use simple space-related vocabulary (e.g., moon, star, rocket) Listen to imaginative stories and respond with actions or drawings Ask simple questions (e.g., 'What's that?' 'Where is it going?') Use imaginative play to explore new ideas



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		Begin to sequence events (e.g., planting a seed, watching it grow)			Begin to write or draw about their home life	Begin to create their own space-themed stories or pictures
Mathematics and Numeracy	Recognise and use numbers related to self (e.g., age, birthday) Begin to compare height, weight, and size (e.g., taller/shorter) Sequence daily routines (e.g., morning, lunch, bedtime) Explore positional language (e.g., in front, behind) Use simple tallying (e.g., favourite colour or food)	Recognise and create patterns using natural objects (e.g., leaves, stones) Count and sort objects found outdoors Use language of quantity (e.g., more, less, same) Begin to measure using non-standard units (e.g., how many sticks long?) Explore time through seasons and weather changes	Sequence events in a story (beginning, middle, end) Recognise and name basic 2D shapes in illustrations Use ordinal numbers (first, second, third) in storytelling Count characters or objects in a story Explore size and comparison through fairy tale themes (e.g., Goldilocks)	Count animals and group by type (e.g., pets, wild, farm) Use pictograms or simple charts to show favourite animals Compare animal sizes and speeds Explore patterns in animal markings (e.g., stripes, spots) Use positional language in animal habitats (e.g., under, over, next to)	Recognise numbers in the home (e.g., door numbers, clocks) Use simple coins in role-play (e.g., shopping corner) Sequence home routines (e.g., brushing teeth, bedtime) Match objects to rooms (e.g., spoon in kitchen) Explore capacity and volume in water play (e.g., full, empty)	Use directional language (e.g., up, down, left, right) Estimate and count stars, planets, or space objects Explore size and distance (e.g., big rocket, far away planet) Create repeating patterns with stars or shapes Sequence a space journey using simple steps
Expressive arts	Self-portraits using various media (crayons, paint, collage)	Nature-inspired art (leaf rubbings, flower paintings)	Illustrating favourite stories and fairy tales	Animal masks Creating animal habitats using mixed media	Drawing and painting homes and buildings	Space-themed art (planets, stars, rockets)



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	Exploring colours and shapes to represent emotions Creating family and friends portraits Singing songs about self and family Exploring sounds and rhythms using body percussion Creating simple musical patterns with instruments	Creating landscapes using different textures Exploring environmental art and recycling materials Learning songs about nature and the environment Using natural objects to create sounds Exploring musical storytelling about the world	Creating puppets and props for storytelling Exploring different artistic styles from various cultures Singing traditional and folk songs Using instruments to create sound effects for stories Exploring musical narratives and character themes	Exploring patterns and textures in animal art Learning songs about animals Using instruments to mimic animal sounds Creating musical stories about animal adventures	Creating models of homes using various materials Exploring architectural styles and designs Singing songs about home and family Exploring sounds and rhythms found at home Creating musical compositions inspired by home life	Creating futuristic landscapes and cities Exploring abstract art inspired by space Learning songs about space and exploration Using electronic sounds to create space music Creating musical compositions inspired by the universe
Health and Wellbeing (PSHE)	Recognise and express emotions Identify personal strengths and interests Develop self-awareness and self-esteem Understand personal boundaries and respect for others	Explore feelings about the environment Develop empathy for living things Understand the importance of caring for the world	Identify emotions in stories and characters Discuss relationships and friendships in stories Understand the concept of right and wrong	Recognise and express feelings about animals Develop empathy and care for animals Understand safety around animals Learn about different animal	Identify feelings about home and family Develop understanding of family roles and relationships Understand personal safety at home	Explore feelings about the future and aspirations Develop understanding of personal goals Understand the importance of perseverance and resilience



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		Learn about community roles and responsibilities	Develop problem-solving skills through storytelling	habitats and their importance	Learn about healthy routines and habits	Learn about safety in different environments
Health and Wellbeing (PE)	Explore basic movements; develop confidence in moving safely. Sports/Activities Fundamental Movement Skills (running, hopping, crawling), Yoga for kids, Simple dance	Move in different ways; respond to environmental prompts. Sports/Activities Nature walks with movement games, Simple athletics (running, jumping), Parachute games	Respond creatively to story prompts; link simple movements. Sports/Activities Story-themed dance, Action songs, Basic gymnastics (rolling, crawling)	Explore animal-inspired movements; develop agility and coordination. Sports/Activities Animal movement circuits (jump like a frog, crawl like a bear), Tag games, Throw and catch balloons	Develop cooperative play and simple ball skills. Sports/Activities Rolling and passing balls, Benchball basics, Parachute games	Show perseverance in simple challenges; explore space-themed movement. Sports/Activities Space obstacle courses, Jump and reach games, Simple relay races
Humanities	Understanding personal history and family Exploring personal identity and culture Recognizing important people in our lives	Exploring different environments and habitats Understanding weather and seasons Learning about different countries and cultures	Introduction to historical events and figures Understanding the concept of past and present Exploring myths, legends, and stories from different cultures	Learning about different animals and their habitats Understanding the needs of living things Exploring the concept of conservation and caring for animals	Understanding different types of homes and buildings Exploring local community and landmarks Learning about safety and roles within the community	Introduction to space and the solar system Understanding the concept of exploration and discovery Learning about famous explorers and their journeys
Science and Technology	Explore the human body and its basic functions.	Observe and describe weather patterns.	Explore materials and their properties	Identify and classify different animals.	Explore materials used in building homes.	Use technology to create digital



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	Identify and name body parts. Understand the five senses and their uses. Use simple tools and technology to explore personal interests. Create digital self-portraits using basic drawing software. Learn to use a camera to take pictures of themselves and friends.	Explore different types of plants and animals in the local environment. Understand the concept of habitats and how animals adapt. Use technology to record weather observations. Create digital presentations about local plants and animals. Learn to use mapping software to explore the local area.	through fairy tale settings. Understand basic concepts of force and motion. Investigate light and shadows in story contexts. Use technology to create digital storybooks. Learn to use simple animation software to bring stories to life. Create sound effects and recordings for storytelling.	Understand animal life cycles and habitats. Explore the concept of food chains and ecosystems. Use technology to create digital animal fact files. Learn to use video recording equipment to document animal behaviours. Create interactive presentations about animal adventures.	Understand the concept of energy and how it is used in homes. Investigate household plants and their care. Use technology to design digital models of homes. Learn to use basic coding to create smart home simulations. Create digital artwork representing different types of homes.	models of the solar system. Learn to use simulation software to explore space travel. Create digital artwork representing space and planets. Use technology to create digital models of the solar system. Learn to use simulation software to explore space travel. Create digital artwork representing space and planets.
Cooking	Wash hands with soap and water. Cover mouth when coughing or sneezing.	Keep the table clean. Ask a grown-up for help with sharp or hot things.	Keep fingers away from sharp edges. Stay away from the stove when it's hot.	Use a small sieve to sift flour or sugar. Use a rolling pin to flatten dough with help.	Wash hands with soap and water. Keep the table clean.	Present food on the plate with help. Experiment with different ingredients and techniques with guidance.



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	Use a spoon to stir ingredients together. Use a butter knife to spread butter or jam on bread.	Use a peeler to peel soft fruits and vegetables with help. Use a spoon to scoop ingredients into a bowl.	Experiment with different ingredients and techniques with guidance.		Use measuring cups to measure ingredients with help. Measure and mix ingredients to help bake simple treats like cookies with help.	
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