

# Key areas of development for your child

## Communication Skills

Conveying a feeling, intention or message, and receiving these messages (expressive and receptive).

Strategies used include:

- Eye contact
- Facial expressions
- Choice making
- Key Word Sign
- Boardmaker symbols
- Picture Exchange Communication System
- Aided Language Displays
- Vocalising
- Speech

## Fine Motor Skills

Use of small muscles, specifically hands and fingers, to pick up small objects. Strategies used include:

- Exploration of objects, e.g. holding a spoon
- Manipulation of objects, e.g. turning pages in a book
- Drawing, e.g. using a crayon
- Cutting
- Posting
- Threading

## Gross Motor Skills

Use of larger muscles. Strategies used include:

- Walking
- Running
- Jumping- trampoline
- Skipping
- Stairs
- Balancing
- Ball skills
- Bike riding
- Climbing
- Physiotherapy
- Outdoor play sessions

## Cognitive Skills

Learning to solve problems.

Strategies used include:

- Memory, e.g. recalling information
- Choosing between options
- Generalisation of skills
- Concept development
- Basic number and letter skills
- Mat time activities
- Role and imaginative play

## Social Skills

Interact appropriately with others.

Strategies used include:

- Awareness of others
- Turn taking
- Working in small groups
- Games with others
- Outdoor and indoor play sessions

## Emotional Skills

Dealing with, managing, expressing and controlling emotional states, including anger, sadness, excitement, anxiety and happiness. Strategies used include:

- Feelings
- Expressing needs and wants in a calm manner
- Displaying empathy
- Managing anger and frustration
- Overcoming shyness

## Independence Skills

Participating in age appropriate daily living skills. Strategies used include:

- Eating
- Drinking
- Toileting
- Dressing
- Grooming
- Being aware of danger

## Sensory Development

How your body perceives information about the world. Strategies used include:

- Auditory (hearing)
- Tactile (touch)
- Proprioception (body position)
- Vestibular (movement, gravity and balance)
- Visual (vision)