

Bothal Primary School  
Little Learners Curriculum Overview 2019 - 20

In Little Learners our environment and activities are planned around the interests and needs of the children. We heavily plan in the moment and take the children’s lead on play and exploration. We observe carefully and enhance the learning environment and provision whenever needed. Teaching is then carefully planned around this.

Some of the environment and activities are planned around a story or rhyme that has been introduced by adults or that the children are interested in at that particular time.

To keep up to date with the story book or rhymes of the week, please see this displayed on the parent information board as you enter nursery or ask a member of staff.

Learning is planned to meet the age related objectives of the Early Years Foundation Stage framework and ensures that we provide a broad and balanced curriculum. The activities and independent learning opportunities are tailored to fit in with the theme of the week but heavily on children’s interests. Opportunities are provided for children to investigate and learn together.

Please see below the key learning that will take place each term.

**In the Autumn term the children will be learning**

Personal, Social and Emotional Development	This term focuses on settling into Little Learners, separating from main carers and forming relationships with new key workers, meeting new friends and learning new routines and boundaries within a new environment. We will be promoting turn taking and treating our friends with kindness.
Communication and Language	Throughout the year, we use Launch Pad for Literacy as our approach in order to identify speech, language and other developmental needs as soon as possible and to embed specific skill-based intervention into daily practice and Quality First Teaching. We build up routines and opportunities to develop language and listening skills; this will include one to one and small group play based activities, singing and music time using instruments and props. We will begin to build upon sharing stories together, focusing on repetition of familiar phrases. Focus songs will include; Ring a ring of roses, Baa baa black sheep, Incy Wincy spider, 2 little dicky birds, Hey diddle diddle, Row row row your boat, I’m a little teapot, Twinkle twinkle little star/Christmas star.

	Focus stories will include; Owl Babies, Dear Santa.
Physical Development	This term we will focus on both gross and fine motor skills. Introducing activities and resources that strengthen up our muscles in preparation for mark making. We will be promoting independence, including opportunities to drink from a beaker with no lid.
Mathematics	This term we begin to develop an awareness of number names through action rhymes and songs that relate to our experiences of numbers. We are encouraged to use number names during play scenarios; Our Key Workers model how to say them in sequence. We learn to categorise objects, for example, putting all the teddy bears together or teddies and cars in separate piles. We explore size and learn words associated with size, such as 'big' and 'small'. We explore shape through inset boards and puzzles and by building our own structures and models.

**In the Spring term the children will be learning**

Personal, Social and Emotional Development	This term we will continue to learn that some things are shared and some things belong to others using small group games, puppets and stories. We will promote pretend play using all areas of the classroom and introduce games to help us play cooperatively together with both adults and children.
Communication and Language	We will focus on familiar stories and rhymes and introduce new texts. We will introduce more props that children can use and play more focused listening games in small groups. Focus stories will include; Balloon, Crunching munching caterpillar and Spot's Easter.
Physical Development	We will focus on both gross and fine motor skills. Continuing to develop activities and resources that strengthen muscles in preparation for mark making, providing tools which enable children to begin using the tripod pencil grip. Opportunities to further develop gross motor skills include climbing, kicking balls and squatting.
Mathematics	This term, we will be looking at shape through adult modelling of vocabulary and building structures with bricks and talking about them. We will introduce the vocabulary of size and begin to sort groups of objects. Through our number rhymes and action songs we will begin to develop understanding that everything, including actions, can be counted.

**In the Summer term the children will be learning**

Personal, Social and Emotional Development	<p>For those children that are leaving Little Learners and the end of term we will begin the transition process, talking about change.</p> <p>We will continue to develop pretend play using all areas of the classroom and introduce games to help us play cooperatively together.</p>
Communication and Language	<p>Opportunities to develop language and listening skills; this will include small group work with listening games.</p> <p>We will use familiar rhymes and stories to develop understanding of action words and who, what where questions.</p> <p>Focus stories will include; The train ride and The very lazy ladybird.</p>
Physical Development	<p>We further develop our fine and gross motor skills through a variety of activities and opportunities.</p> <p>Where appropriate, we will support toilet training and will gradually introduce opportunities to gain further independence in self-care for all children.</p>
Mathematics	<p>We further develop our familiarity with the number sequence, using it with increasing independence. We will create our own patterns when playing with objects and when mark making and will identify and talk about patterns we can see around us.</p>