

Nursery Curriculum Overview

Autumn term 2025

This curriculum overview gives information about what your child will be learning this term. We really value the help that you can give your child with their learning and self-help skills. Please spend time helping your child practise and improve the following skills, this will help them become more independent:

- dress/undress themselves – especially coats
- use the toilet properly, flushing the toilet and washing and drying their hands
- use a tissue to wipe their own nose and to throw the tissue into the bin
- tidy up their own toys

Talk Time

Talk is crucial at nursery and spending more time talking with your child will help them in so many ways. They will be able to ask adults for help more easily, make more friendships and talk about their experiences.

Reducing the time spent watching television and/or playing on a tablet will help your child develop better speaking and listening skills.

Skills we will be focusing on, indoors and outdoors

Communication and Language

- Listening to instructions and following them
- Enjoying interactive stories and songs
- Joining in with repetitive rhymes
- Recalling events from their day or a simple story
- Understanding a range of action words: jump, hop
- Using new words learned as part of the topic work to help extend their vocabulary.



Personal, Social and Emotional Development

- To separate from their main carer independently
- To select and use resources correctly, initially with help
- To be interested in others' play and start to join in



- To begin to be aware of own feelings and express their own feelings such as sad, happy, cross, scared, worried
- Show an understanding of and cooperate with nursery routines and rules

You can help at home by talking about how you and your child might feel at certain times. Talking about sharing and looking after things will help them become more independent.

Physical Development

- Be independent in self-care e.g., going to the toilet, putting on coat, shoes and clothes



- To become increasingly independent when eating and drinking snack, or lunch if they stay all day
- To develop their gross motor movement skills e.g. balancing, climbing up or down and using different ball skills such as kicking and throwing



- Be able to run carefully, avoiding obstacles
- Use a comfortable grip with increasing control when holding pens and pencils.
- Draw lines and circles using gross and fine motor (large arm muscle) movements, to help develop writing skills – ribbon twirling is great for this!

You can help by encouraging your child to be independent when dressing themselves, going to the toilet, eating and drinking, giving praise for their achievements. Encourage them to draw with a variety of mark making tools e.g chalk, crayons.

Literacy

This term we will focus on helping children ‘tune in’ to and create different types of sounds: animal sounds plus the sounds around us, inside and outside.

- Helping your child to say and learn nursery rhymes, not just listening to them on a tablet or phone. This will help to develop their phonological awareness.
- Understand that print has meaning in books and the world around us – point to shop signs such as ASDA, Morrisons and others.
- Explore how to make marks with different tools e.g., fingers in sand, paintbrushes, sticks, pencil, pen etc.
- When your child ‘draws’ something, ask them to tell you what they have done. This will help them to give meaning to their marks e.g. They may say, ‘this is mummy, this is my house, and this says my name’

You can help at home by modelling reading and writing e.g., magazines, reading recipes, shop logos and signs. You can also model how to write by making a shopping list together, writing birthday cards or filling out forms.

Mathematics

This term we will focus on numbers and counting – to embed good number knowledge up to 5. We will also teach children new, maths vocabulary – ‘amount, total, altogether, count’

- To recite numbers in the correct order, up to and beyond 5 – applying this to nursery routines
- Count sets of up to 5 objects, saying a number for each item, in order: 1,2,3,4,5
- To learn that the final number said when counting a set of items is the number label for that set
- To develop mathematical vocabulary e.g., shape, size, quantity words

You can help at home by saying numbers with your child, singing number rhymes and counting out objects together such as: How many cars have you got? How many plates do we need today? Compare different sizes, such as: Who is the tallest in our house? Which sock is shorter?



Understanding the World



- Begin to know their own life story by learning about the lives of family members. Shows an interest in looking at photos of themselves and families.
- Begin to recognise some similarities in different cultural, religious and community events such as family, food, fireworks, parties, celebrations, showing kindness etc
- Talk about seasonal changes they see on the way to and from nursery e.g colours of Autumn, bare trees.
- Explore how things work e.g., jigsaw puzzles, models, vehicles.
- Begin to talk about different materials used in art activities

You can help at home by talking to your child about your family, looking at photos of parents when they were children.

Talk about different materials and textures around the house and begin to describe them e.g. soft, smooth, bumpy.

Visit the park to look at the natural environment and seasonal changes.

Expressive Arts and Design



- Beginning to make-believe by pretending using small world resources and dressing up clothes
- Explore different sounds made by a range of musical instruments
- Explore different art materials and techniques, to help them develop their ideas about how to use them and what to make.
- Begin to draw shapes and lines to represent objects and name what they have drawn.

At home, encourage your child to use their own ideas in their imaginative play and join in to help them extend their imagination and storytelling. Provide lots of opportunities for drawing, painting, making models, singing and dancing.

Other Information

Your child's Tapestry journal is online <https://tapestryjournal.com/>. Please take time to look at the observations. Do let us know if you have problems logging on.

You can also add photos to Tapestry, to let us know of any exciting experiences your child has had.

At times we may communicate with you via email and through **Tapestry Memos**, please check these regularly.

We will send Arbor messages out to parents with important information. Please make sure the school office has your up-to-date mobile phone number.

If you need to discuss any issues regarding your child, please speak to their keyworker first or the class teacher, Mrs Walsh. If you cannot speak directly to a member of staff, the best way to contact us is via email: office@colindale.barnetmail.net

Please enter your child's name and class into the subject line.

We are looking forward to having a productive and enjoyable year with you and your child.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact us.

The Nursery Team:

Mrs J Walsh (Class Teacher)
Mrs P Patel, Mrs J Warren (Nursery Nurses)
Mrs Teodoro Ramos (Teaching Assistant)
Mrs Hurn (EYFS Leader)