

Reception Curriculum Overview

Summer term 2026

Classes RF, RM, RW



The summer term is upon us! The children have made excellent progress in their learning. A big thank you to all the parents for their support last term.

We are sure this excellent progress will continue as they begin their journey towards year 1.

Transition to year 1

The Reception timetable will remain the same for first half of the summer term. The children will continue to have whole class topic, phonics, maths and story/singing sessions, with small group adult led and free-flow activities in between these times.

During the second half of the summer term, we will be preparing the children for the transition to year 1. The children will be spending more time in their base classrooms, and they will be expected to participate in teacher-directed activities, as a whole class, for short periods of time. The children will still have the opportunity to choose their own activities during free-flow time and they will have daily access to the outdoor classroom.

PE lessons

We will be starting PE lessons after the May half term. A separate letter will be sent home to inform you about the PE kit required nearer the time.

The Early Learning Goals

As explained during the February parent consultations, we will be assessing your child against the Early Learning Goals in June. These set out expectations for the end of the Reception year and help prepare your child for the learning in Year 1.

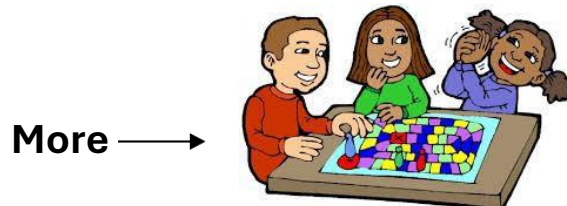
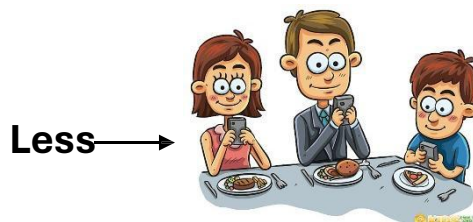
The support you give your child at home is extremely important and will enable their progress towards these goals.

Home Learning

We will continue to send out home learning activities each week, along with suggested activities on Tapestry to help your child achieve the Early Learning Goals. It is important for you to take some time to help your child with these activities. We have found the children who have completed their home learning on a regular basis are more likely to achieve the Early Learning Goals.

It has been lovely to see Tapestry observations and examples of work your children have been creating at home. Thank you to those parents who have made the effort.

As always, please remember, less TV/tablet/smartphone time and more talking time!



Skills and learning we will be focusing on indoors and outdoors

Characteristics of Learning

- Being confident in finding tools, materials and resources they need for a particular project or idea.
- Talking about / reviewing what they've done if things haven't worked first time.
- Developing 'intrinsic motivation': achieving things for themselves as opposed to adult praise.
- Concentrating on activities for longer periods of time without being easily distracted.
- Persisting with an activity, even if they find it difficult.



Communication and Language

- Listening attentively and respond to what they hear with relevant questions, comments and actions.
- Using new vocabulary in different contexts.
- Listening to and talking about selected non-fiction to develop a deep familiarity with new knowledge and vocabulary.
- Participate in small group, class and one-to-one discussions, offering their own ideas, using recently introduced vocabulary.
- Express their ideas and feelings about their experiences using full sentences, including use of past, present and future tenses.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

- Being confident to try new activities and show independence, resilience and perseverance in the face of challenge.
- Explaining the reasons for rules, know right from wrong and try to behave accordingly.
- Making healthy food choices and dressing/undressing by themselves for PE.
- Show sensitivity to their own and to others' needs.



Physical Development

Gross motor skills:

- Confidently and skillfully use a range of large and small apparatus indoors and outside.
- Develop the overall body strength, co-ordination, balance and agility needed to engage successfully in PE lessons. i.e. ball skills, dance, gymnastics, games



Fine motor skills:

- Use a range of small tools with increasing control, including scissors and cutlery.
- Showing more accuracy and care when drawing.
- Forming letters correctly using an effective pencil grip.



Literacy

Reading

- Reading simple phrases and sentences made up of words with known letter-sound correspondences and reading some tricky words.
- Re-reading books to build up their confidence in word reading, their fluency and their understanding and enjoyment.
- Being able to talk about what they have read and what has been read to them.

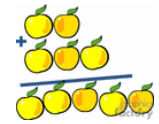


Writing

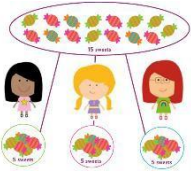
- Spelling words by identifying the sounds and then writing the sound with letter/s.
- Writing simple phrases and sentences that can be read by others.



Maths



- Understanding number bonds up to 10.
- Adding and subtracting using fingers, objects, Numicon, pictorial representations (tens frames, part, part, whole)



- Understanding doubling up to 10.
- Halving and sharing equal quantities within 10.
- Verbally counting beyond 20, understanding teen numbers.
- Writing numerals 0-10

Understanding of the World

- Recognising some similarities and differences between life in this country and life in other countries.
- Knowing some similarities and differences between different religious and cultural communities in this country.
- Exploring the natural world around them, making observations of animals, plants, seasons and the changing states of matter.



Expressive Arts and Design



- Singing songs, making music and dancing and experimenting with ways of changing them. Performing to an audience.
- Exploring a variety of materials, tools and techniques, experimenting with colour, design, texture, form and function.
- Representing their own ideas, thoughts and feelings through design and technology, art, music, dance, role play and stories.



Other Information

- Please make sure you read the parents notices and weekly key words situated by your child's class entrance door.
- Please take time to look at your child's online **Tapestry** Journal and send a reply if possible. If you cannot access your account, please tell a member of staff as soon as possible.
- Please check your child's book bag **every day** for important letters and new reading/library books.
- Please regularly check Arbor and the school website for information such as school letters, newsletters, events etc. <https://www.colindale.barnet.sch.uk>

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

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

The Reception Team