Nursery Curriculum Overview 2026-2027

G Nursery	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Themes	Who am I?	Ourselves	Stories for us	People who help us	Growing- How we change?	The world around us
Guided questions	What is my name? Who is my friend? What is my teacher's name? Am I am boy or girl? Do you want to play with me?	What do I like? What don't I like? Who is my family? Can I share how I am feeling? Can I play with you?	Who reads to you? Do you have books at home? How do I hold a book? Who can you see? What is happening?	Who helps you? What do they wear? How do they help you? Where do they work? What do they drive/use?	What things grow? Do I grow? How do you know you are growing? Where does food come from?	Where do I go to school? Where do I live? Where do the animals live? Where do you go with your family? What is the weather?
Key Vocabulary	Good morning Good afternoon nursery teacher happy sad hello /goodbye friend	family celebrate party food clothes colours	book title author pages writing pictures characters setting	home school care emergency respect help job	growing different age little/small big/large change	explore animals dead / alive habitats seasons sea land planet earth
Significant people	Me My teachers	My family King Charles	Illustrator Eric Carle Librarian Ms. Fuller	Dr Ranj Get well soon Office Staff at Curwen	JB Gill Down on the farm Chef Lisa	David Attenborough Andy's adventures Reception teachers
Big Outcome	Settle in Nursery Welcome to Nursery display	Class assembly – Guru Nanak Christmas Nativity	Explore reading open day – Parent Workshop	Carnival	Growing a bean Life cycles	Sports Day Transition
Educational Visits	Nursery	Curwen Library In house Theatre	Plaistow library	People who help us visits	Park visit Picnic in the park	London Aquarium

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Communication and Language	- Enjoy rhythmic patterns in rhymes and stories - Listen with interest - Responds to simple instructions	- Listen with interest - Understands more complex sentences - Develops pretend play	- Holds a conversation - Learns new words rapidly - Understand simple questions about 'who', 'what' and 'where'	- Listen to others in a small group - Maintain concentration - Identify familiar objects and properties when they are described	- Talk about past events, objects and people important to them - Responds to comments, questions or actions	- Use talk to organise themselves and their play - Use a wider range of vocabulary - Pay attention to more than one thing at a time
Physical Development	- Personal space and awareness in new environments - Take part in activities which they make up themselves PE: Music and movement	- Awareness of safety - Enjoy moving when outdoors and inside PE: Music and movement	- Build confidence in movement - Building control in fine motor skills PE: Dance/Gymnastics	- Increase control and skills in movement - Show a preference for a dominant hand PE: Dance/Gymnastics	- Start taking part in some group activities which they make up for themselves, or in teams PE: Multi Skills/ Target Throwing	- Move skilfully and negotiate space - Use one handed tools effectively PE: Sports Days skills
Personal, Social and Emotional Development	- Separating from main carer - Settling in at school - Play alongside others - Help with clothing	- Express preferences and decisions - Selects and use activities - Independent self-care	- Interested in others play - Forms special relationships - Engage with others through gestures, gaze and talk	- Seeks out others to share experiences - Play with increasing confidence on their own and with other children	- Initiate play by offering cues - Demonstrate friendly behaviour - Remember rules without needing an adult to remind them	- Confident to talk to others - Be aware of own feelings, turn take and share resources - Dress with help
Literacy	Promote a love of reading Story time - Enjoy drawing freely	Promote a love of reading Story time - Distinguish between marks	Promote a love of reading Story time - Mark making using tripod grip	Promote a love of reading Story time - Give meaning to marks	Phonics- RWI Story time - Use marking making tools effectively - Letter formations	Phonics- RWI Story time - Letter formations
Mathematics	- Build with a range of resources - Develop counting like behaviour	- Explores and complete inset puzzles - Organise and categorise objects	-Begins to make comparisons between quantities - Use language of size	- Knows that a group can change when things are added or taken away - Interest in shapes and space	- Use some number names, recite in order and recognise numerals - Create and experiments with symbols and marks	- Use positional language - Awareness of shapes and similarities - Match numeral and quantity

Understanding the World	- Enjoys small world objects - Remembers where objects belong	- Notices detailed features of their environment - Beginning to have own friends	- Comment about aspects of their familiar world - Talk about what they see, using a wide vocabulary	- Show an interest in the lives of people who are familiar to them - Talk about significant events	- Know some things that make them unique - Use all their senses in hands-on exploration of natural materials	- Join in with family customs - Talk about past and present events
Expressive Art and Design	- Explores different media and materials - Creates movement in response to music	-Engages in imaginative role play -Experiments with blocks, colours and marks	- Begin to move rhythmically and explore sounds - Use available resources to support role play	- Respond to music - Explore colour - Explore rhythms	- Use movement to express yourself - Use tools for a purpose	- Remember and sing entire songs -Use props to support role play - Build stories around toys