

10US

## Curriculum Newsletter

### Autumn Term 2023



### Our Values...

**Welcoming**   **Teamwork**  
**Friendship**   **Trust**  
**Independence**   **Fun!**

'Humanities' is our whole school curriculum priority for the Autumn Term.

A Humanities Curriculum Day will take place this term for the whole school, with lots of exciting activities planned which will focus on History, Geography, RE and British Values.

### Festivals of the Month

**September:** Sukkot  
**October:** Dussehra  
**November:** Diwali  
**December:** Christmas

### EHCP Targets

All of our pupils will be working towards the targets in their EHC Plans in all of their lessons.

The activities we do in class will focus on different aspects of these targets, which include:

**Communication and Interaction**

**Cognition and Learning**

**Sensory and Physical Skills**

**Social, Emotional and Mental Health needs**

**Theme:** Enabling pupils to become more aware of cause and effect

**Topic:** 'Because of You'

### How is my child's progress being recorded?

Each pupil works towards their individual targets, which are assessed on a weekly basis and recorded using the Engagement Model, in the areas of Exploration, Realisation, Anticipation, Persistence and Initiation.

Their overall progress is measured using the 'Routes for Learning' assessment framework, using video evidence to capture pupils' achievements towards all of their targets.

### Communication Skills

**Sensory stories:** This term's story, 'Little Blue and Little Yellow', by Leo Lionni, is themed around friendship, knowledge and identity, having hope, showing kindness and courage and recognizing your own and others' identity and individuality. The story will include opportunities for pupils to use switches to control Powerpoint slides to tell the story and also to add sound effects focusing on emotions/feelings within the story. The story will contain repetitive elements and pupils will be encouraged to join in using actions, symbols representing emotions and vocalisation.

Pupils will work on their individual communication targets through their **Intensive Interaction sessions**. They will be given opportunities to develop the Fundamentals of Communication, including use of eye contact, turn taking, sharing attention and using vocalisations.

**TACPAC style communication sessions:** Using TACPAC inspired activities, pupils will be encouraged to respond to stimuli linked to the theme 'Because of You', by using facial expression, gesture or vocalisation to express like/dislike or to request more/no more. Sessions will include using relaxing music and images, with a range of sensory stimuli which our pupils enjoy.

### Motor Skills

**Sherbourne Dance**– Pupils will be encouraged to move creatively to different pieces of music through a sequence of sensory experiences using actions, rhythm and props.

**Multi-Sensory Room sessions:** Pupils will be encouraged to interact with the resources in the Multi-Sensory Room, including the interactive 'Magic Carpet', the Bubble Tube, fan and Light and Sound Floor. Pupils will be supported to choose activities according to their individual abilities. They will be supported to roll, walk with the support of an adult or use functional equipment to encourage them to reach out for objects and stimuli.

**Rebound Therapy:** Pupils will be given the opportunity to access Rebound Therapy on a weekly basis, alongside working on their movement plans. Sessions will concentrate on helping to improve movement, balance, tone, fitness and communication skills. Pupils will benefit from increased sensory integration, spatial awareness, increased confidence in movement and improved posture. They will also have the opportunity to develop their communication and social skills and their independent movement.

**Hydrotherapy:** Pupils will have regular opportunities to access the school Hydrotherapy Pool.

Pupils will also have access to the Sensory Garden and outside track.

### Music

With a focus on beat and changes in tempo, pupils will explore a range of activities in which they are encouraged to make choices individually. This will involve choosing an instrument, a particular song or how they wish for a piece to be performed (eg. fast, slow, loud or quiet). They will become familiar with a range of contrasting songs from well-known musicals, and explore these further in their Sensology sessions (in class) that will take place on alternate weeks.

### Art

Pupils will experience a range of activities which will encourage them to explore the theme 'Because of You'. They will start each lesson with a hand massage, to prepare them for using their fine motor skills. They will then be offered the chance to make choices about colours and materials to use to create their own individual pieces of art work linked to the theme.

### PSHE

Pupils will be encouraged to develop their skills in the following areas: Health and Wellbeing - Feelings, Relationships - Helping Others and Positive Mental Health

### Thinking Skills

Pupils will work on their individual thinking skills targets. Pupils will have the opportunity to use computer programmes such as 'Big Bang' and 'Target and Touch', accessed via both switches and the touch screen computer to develop cause and effect skills. Some pupils will also use the Eyegaze computer. Pupils will use technology to control Powerpoint presentations, such as switches or the touch screen computer. These will activate a variety of images, sounds and videos linked to our class topic and pupils will be encouraged to use their visual and auditory skills to engage and show responses and anticipation.

#### **Look and Listen Skills:**

Pupils will focus on 'colour' and 'sequence'.

#### **Sensology:**

A range of stimuli will be used to awaken the five senses. Sensology will be based around colour, emotions/feelings, Autumn/Winter and the Festivals of the Month, and will incorporate the use of textures, tastes, sounds, smells and visual aids as prompts and cues.

**Sensory Recipes:** Pupils will be encouraged to explore foods which have been chosen to link to our topic, incorporating colours, emotions/feelings and characteristics, creating recipes to enable the pupils to develop anticipation, investigation, awareness and preferences.