

Discoverers 1 Curriculum Newsletter Autumn Term 2025



Our Values...
Welcoming Teamwork
Friendship Trust
Independence Fun!

Curriculum Enrichment

Multi-Cultural Day – 17th October
Enterprise Day – 19th November

Festivals of the Month

September- Rosh Hashanah
October- Simchat Torah
November- Diwali
December –Christmas

EHCP Targets

All of the 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: Encouraging pupils to express their likes and dislikes

Topic: My Little Forest

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

Circle Time Routines- Pupils will have the opportunity to develop fundamental communication skills during daily communication routines. This term the class puppet 'Betty' will be used to gain pupils attention and they will be encouraged to express their likes and dislikes using their total communication strategies. Pupils will also have the opportunity to use assistive technology to communicate their choices and preferences and some pupils will be developing their awareness of symbols, signs and pictures.

Sensory Story- Pupils will be encouraged to use their available senses and total communication strategies to explore a range of sensory props, materials and resources that are linked to the story of 'The Three Little Pigs'. The story will be repeated each week and adaptations will be made on an individual basis in order to respond to pupil's engagement for learning in the areas of exploration, realisation, anticipation, initiation and persistence. Staff will record and respond to pupils likes and dislikes.

Intensive Interaction and TACPAC- These sessions allow pupils to work on their individual communication targets and develop skills such as use of eye contact, facial expression, turn taking, sharing attention, sharing space, enjoying another person's company, using vocalisations and developing concentration and attention span.

Motor Skills

HEART- As pupils arrive in class they will have the opportunity to start their school day with HEART (Healthy, Engaged And Regulated Transitions to learning). This supports pupils to process their transition to school, access specialist equipment so that they can maintain their posture and maximise their physical abilities so that they are comfortable and ready to learn.

Gross Motor Skills- Pupils will have daily opportunities to follow their individual movement programs in class, set by their physiotherapist. This may include using standing frames, walking frames, benches for sitting and standing and a range of passive/active stretches. Staff will encourage pupils to stretch, reach and move their bodies in many fun activities throughout the day including exploring movement to music during 'Festival of the Month'.

Fine Motor Skills- Pupils will have opportunities to engage with sensory messy play linked to an Autumn forest theme, which will encourage them to move their hands and fingers in different ways.

Pupils will have one-to-one support to work on their personal targets while having fun in **Rebound**, **Soft Play** and during **Hydrotherapy** sessions.

Thinking Skills

ICT and Assistive Technology- Inclusive equipment such as interactive touch screens, switches, Eye Gaze and Sound Beam will support pupils to develop their awareness of cause and effect and understanding about how their actions can have an impact on their environment. Staff will support and encourage pupils to select and explore animation, songs and music linked to an Autumn forest and the 'Festival of the Month'; staff will observe and record their likes/dislikes and engagement.

Sensology- Pupils will have opportunities to awaken and stimulate their senses to gain a deeper understanding of their sensory system, so that they can learn how to regulate their emotions and become ready to learn. Pupils will be encouraged to explore sensory resources linked to Autumn and staff will observe their reactions and interactions, encouraging them to express their likes/dislikes and preferences.

Sensory Play- Pupils will use their available senses and total communication strategies to explore arts and crafts, tactile, sensory and messy play activities, whilst working on their personal targets. Pupils will explore Autumn, forests and resources linked to the class story 'The Three Little Pigs', which will heighten their sensory experiences and bring learning to life.

Music

Pupils will explore the theme of a forest through songs, music-making, listening and creative activities. Using the forest as inspiration, they will discover how different instrumental sounds can represent animals, natural elements and changes in the seasons. They will experience contrasting combinations of sounds, by playing individually and as part of a group, with activities encouraging them to discover their musical likes and dislikes.

PSHE

Pupils will have the opportunity to experience sensory yoga this term, which aims to support their mental health and well-being. Pupils will be encouraged to relax and be mindful while being supported to experience a range of yoga positions. A fun animal theme will be used to engage pupils and music cues will encourage them to stretch, move and become more aware of their own bodies.

Art

Pupils will create a range of woodland themed art and will have the opportunity to explore the sensory garden, collecting Autumn leaves, twigs and pinecones. The pupils will use these to create their own unique collages, sun catchers, mobiles and woodland animal creations.