

Discoverers 1 Curriculum Newsletter Summer Term 2026



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

Curriculum Enrichment

Wellbeing Day:
11th May (Mental Health Awareness)

Creative Arts Week 15-19th June
Sports Week: 22-26th June

Festivals of the Month

April: Wesak
May: Pentecost
June: Martyrdom of Guru Arjan Dev
Sahib Ji
July: Asalha Puja Day

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 show reactions to a range of stimuli

Topic: The Star of the Show

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

Pupils will develop their communication, attention and interaction skills through a range of engaging, sensory-based activities within a consistent and supportive environment, centred around the theme of being the 'Star of the Show'. Daily routines, such as the morning welcome and reflection, help pupils build confidence, recognition and anticipation, encouraging pupils to respond to their name, take turns and begin to express their needs and preferences using a range of communication methods, including switches, symbols, signs and vocalisations. A weekly sensory story, 'The Circus is in Town!', will immerse pupils in a structured, multi-sensory experience where each of them takes centre stage. They will explore a range of motivating resources such as balls, drums, ribbons, colourful fabrics, sensory lights and sound-makers, encouraging them to show interest, develop anticipation and begin to understand cause and effect. Story Massage sessions will provide calming, repetitive storytelling opportunities, helping pupils develop body awareness and communicate preferences. TACPAC sessions further enhance communication through rhythm, touch and sound, encouraging pupils to explore, engage and respond in their own unique ways. Throughout the day, staff use an Intensive Interaction approach to build relationships, encourage pupils to communicate with through meaningful, shared experiences.

Motor Skills

Pupils will develop their gross and fine motor skills through a range of engaging, movement-based activities linked to their theme. Daily opportunities for movement and play will support pupils to build strength, stability, balance and overall body awareness. Individual physiotherapy programmes are embedded throughout the day, including the use of supportive equipment as well as active and passive stretches to promote comfort, flexibility, stamina and physical development. Pupils will be encouraged to take part in fun, purposeful movements inspired by circus roles, such as stretching, reaching, balancing and moving to music as dancers, jugglers and acrobats, developing coordination, spatial awareness and enjoyment of movement. Fine motor skills will be supported through sensory exploration using motivating resources such as textured objects, musical instruments and cause and effect toys, encouraging pupils to reach, grasp, hold and release. Hydrotherapy, Rebound Therapy and Soft Play provide valuable opportunities to further develop physical skills in supportive and stimulating environments. Pupils will explore movement in water, experience bouncing and balance activities, and engage in rolling, stretching and reaching. Across all activities, there is a strong focus on building confidence, independence and enjoyment, while supporting pupils to feel safe, regulated and successful.

Thinking Skills

This term, pupils will develop early thinking skills through engaging, sensory-based experiences. A key focus is on cause and effect, helping pupils understand that their actions can influence what happens around them. They will use switches, touch-screen devices and assistive technology to activate toys, sounds and visual effects, including joining in with storytelling by activating sound effects and key parts of the story. This supports active participation and a sense of control within shared learning experiences. Specialist technology, such as Eyegaze and sound-responsive systems, will further encourage pupils to explore how their movements and focus can create changes in sound, light and visuals. In the multisensory environment, interactive circus-themed scenes will respond to pupils' actions, building engagement and motivation. Sensology sessions will provide opportunities to explore materials such as water, sand, textured objects, lights and seasonal scents. Across all activities, learning is supported through the five areas of engagement: pupils will be encouraged to explore new stimuli, show realisation of their impact, develop anticipation of familiar routines, initiate actions and interactions, and build persistence by repeating actions to achieve desired outcomes.

Music

Pupils will be exploring tempo, with a focus on interaction skills when performing together. They will respond to fast and slow musical material, changing how they play and exploring both long and short sounds. Each pupil will share their favourite song, taking centre stage when enjoying it with their peers and therefore having their moment as the 'star of the show'!

PSHE

'The Rainbow Fish' story will help pupils explore feelings, friendships and what it means to share and be kind. Through sensory storytelling, pupils will experience sparkly, visual and tactile resources to support engagement and emotional understanding. Staff will model emotional language and support pupils to recognise and respond to different feelings in a safe and meaningful way.

Art

Pupils will develop communication, interaction, and choice making skills while experimenting with mark making, printing, and collage using a variety of materials, both individually and as part of a group. In the second half of the term, pupils will explore Summer themed activities, focussing on seasonal changes with colour, texture, and temperature.