

Discoverers 3 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: Enabling pupils to begin to make choices about activities, according to their individual abilities)

Topic: Magic Carpet Rides (The World Around us)

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

Storytelling: During the stories 'Autumn Forest Adventure' and 'Skellig', pupils will be encouraged to indicate whether they are enjoying the storytelling activities, using their total communication strategies. They will work towards their communication targets, for example staff will pause during part of the storytelling experience and wait for a pupil to indicate whether they would like 'more', 'something 'different' or to 'choose'. Technology will be used to increase communication opportunities: pupils will use switches to control PowerPoint slides to tell the story and also to add sound effects focusing on the magic within the stories. Stories will contain repetitive elements: pupils will be encouraged to join in using actions, symbols representing emotions and vocalisation. Multi-sensory engagement will be encouraged through smell, sound, texture and gentle movement.

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

TACPAC inspired activities: Pupils will be encouraged to respond to each Autumn themed activity, 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 stimuli which pupils find enjoyable.

Motor Skills

Hydrotherapy/Physiotherapy swim sessions: These will take place on Monday afternoons. Physio swim sessions will be in 6-week blocks and will be for identified pupils.

Liquid Listening: On a rota basis, pupils will engage in Musical Hydrotherapy an innovative therapy combining listening to sound inside the water alongside aquatic body therapy techniques to relax body and mind, inspire movement, stretching, vocalisation, stillness, reduce agitation and enhance wellbeing.

Rebound Therapy: Sessions will concentrate on helping to improve movement, balance, tone, fitness and communication skills. Pupils will benefit from increased sensory integration, spatial awareness, confidence in movement, improved posture, communication and social skills and improved quality of life and independence (particularly for those pupils who are Preparing for Adulthood).

Gross Motor Skills (Classroom/Outside): Opportunities will be provided to access the Sensory Garden, track, Soft Play and Forest School. Pupils will have access to the Tricycle as well as following their individual Movement Plans.

Lunchtime club for this term will be 'Glow in the dark games'.

Thinking Skills

Pupils will work on their individual Thinking Skills targets. They 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 and making choices. They will also have the opportunity to explore 'Grid' on the Eyegaze to explore communication and facilitate pupil voice.

Fun experiments: Pupils will explore experiments linked to their topic, which tie into themes, scenes or characters from the books while teaching basic Scientific and Mathematical principles.

ICT: Pupils will use technology to control PowerPoint presentations, via switches or the touch screen computer. These will activate a variety of images, sounds and videos linked to their class topics and pupils will be encouraged to use their visual and auditory skills to engage and show responses and anticipation.

Sensory Recipes: Pupils will be encouraged to explore food based around the Festival of the Month to activate their senses, including tasting activities (for those who can).

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.

Music

Pupils will explore the excitement of a magic carpet ride through songs, music-making, listening and creative activities. Using parts of a journey as inspiration, they will discover how different instrumental sounds can represent taking off, flying through the skies, stopping in magical lands and the stillness of a starry night. They will experience contrasting combinations of sounds, by playing individually and as part of a group.

PSHCE

Daily 'Reflection Time' activities will enable pupils to encounter responding to stimuli about their personal strengths, whilst their personal care routines will enable them to develop their body awareness and self-image. Classical and contemporary pieces of music associated with Autumn will be used to evoke pupils' emotions and feelings.

Forest School

Pupils will experience outdoor learning linked to the season of Autumn, with engaging activities in the Forest School area. These lessons will take place on Wednesday mornings; please send in suitable clothing for outdoor activities so that pupils can enjoy taking part.