



## Chadsgrove Curriculum Long Term Planning: Discoverers Curriculum Pathway

### Curriculum Intent

The Discoverers Curriculum Pathway is for pupils who learn through sensory experiences. It focuses on early communication, thinking and motor skills. Pupils learn through routines, sensory play and one-to-one interaction. The aim is to build awareness and encourage meaningful responses. Our Discoverers Curriculum Pathway builds towards pupils being able to confidently and consistently express preferences and to be able to exert autonomy in a variety of contexts, whatever their future life beyond school may be.

The Long Term Plan is delivered through the three focus areas of the Barrs Court Curriculum:

- Early Thinking Skills
- Early Communication Skills
- Early Motor Skills

Medium Term Plans are produced termly, which detail the intended learning in each of these three focus areas. In addition, meaningful outcomes are planned for pupils in the areas of:

- Cognition and Learning
- Communication and Interaction
- Sensory and Physical development
- Social and Emotional development

These outcomes are linked closely to pupils' Education, Health and Care Plans and their Individual Education Plans.

### Curriculum Implementation

Pupils with are provided with learning opportunities in each of the seven core strands of the EQUALS Pre-Formal curriculum:

- Communication and Social Relationships
- Sensory
- Physical
- Creative
- Self-Determination and Independence
- Cognition and Challenge
- Well-Being

The curriculum as a whole is designed to be inter-connected; strands are not separate from each other but learning occurs holistically, within a thematic approach to teaching.

Repetition is recognised as being an essential part of the Discoverers Curriculum Pathway, so that, with familiarisation, pupils can begin to anticipate, participate, communicate preferences and make requests.

Intensive Interaction, a part of communication, is also a central part of the curriculum. Other learning opportunities can be selected according to pupils' individual needs and preferences, and planned on a rolling programme according to the following themes:

	Discoverers Pathway Curriculum Summary of Themes					
	Autumn		Spring		Summer	
Discoverers 1	<i>Encouraging pupils to discover what they like and what they don't like</i>		<i>Encouraging pupils to explore interaction with familiar people</i>		<i>Encouraging pupils to show reactions to a range of stimuli</i>	
	2025	My Little Forest	2026	The Secret Garden	2026	Star of the show
	2026	Step Back in Time	2027	Around the World	2027	Habitats
	2027	Getting to know you	2028	People Who Help Us	2028	This is Me
	2028	Adventure Time	2029	Space	2029	In the Summer Time
Discoverers 2	<i>Developing pupils' means of expressing preferences</i>		<i>Developing pupils' abilities in sharing attention and taking turns during interaction with others</i>		<i>Developing pupils' responses and their ability to anticipate</i>	
	2025	A Sense of Autumn	2026	Under the Sea	2026	Down on the Farm
	2026	Traditional Tales	2027	Amazing Asia!	2027	Animals on Safari
	2027	My Favourite Things	2028	Aladdin's magical journey	2028	Let's go to the beach
	2028	On Our Travels	2029	Spring is Here!	2029	The Great Outdoors
Discoverers 3	<i>Enabling pupils to begin to make choices about activities, according to their individual abilities</i>		<i>Enabling pupils to understand how to communicate their feelings to others</i>		<i>Enabling pupils to become more aware of cause and effect</i>	
	2025	Magic Carpet Rides	2026	African Adventure!	2026	The Circus is in Town
	2026	Terrific transport	2027	Crazy Climates	2027	Cool Conservation
	2027	Because of You	2028	Let's Grow Together	2028	Rise and Shine
	2028	Wizards and Witches	2029	As the Snow Melts	2029	Alice in Wonderland
Discoverers 4	<i>Supporting pupils in recognising their own ability to gain attention and make requests</i>		<i>Supporting pupils in using their skills to interact with others in the wider community</i>		<i>Supporting pupils to develop a sense of control over the world around them</i>	
	2025	Our trip to Hogwarts	2026	Around the world	2026	Our blue planet
	2026	Through the Looking Glass	2027	Gap Year Adventure	2027	Carnival
	2027	The Magic of the Musicals	2028	Wonderful Wildlife	2028	The Grimm Brothers
	2028	Dreams	2029	Eurostar!	2029	Prehistoric

History  
Geography

Literature  
Fantasy

Community/PfA  
Natural World

Suggested learning opportunities, to be linked to termly themes (adapted from the EQUALS Pre-Formal Curriculum):

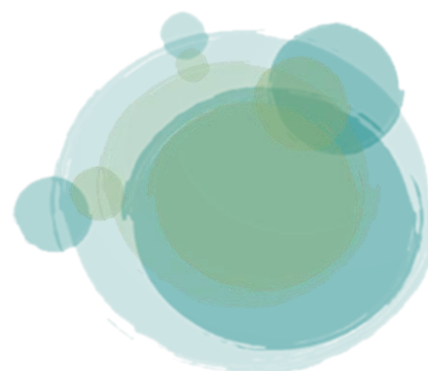
<u>Cognition and Learning</u>	<u>Communication and Interaction</u>	<u>Sensory and Physical development</u>	<u>Social and Emotional development</u>
<p>Sensory Exploration/Messy Play/'Sensology': using all 7 senses, which includes proprioception and vestibular senses.</p> <p>Sensory Cookery/Messy Food Play: pupils to be involved in the process of exploring ingredients rather than aiming to make a finished product.</p> <p>Technology: use of 'cause and effect' computer software, iPad apps, Eye Gaze technology.</p> <p>Art: pupils to be involved in the process of exploring materials, rather than the quality of finished work.</p> <p>Music: using rhythm, giving all pupils the means to access sounds e.g. through switches where appropriate, Sounds of Intent, Musical Interaction.</p>	<p>Intensive Interaction: at least one regular timetabled slot per week.</p> <p>Sensory Stories: a story should be repeated in exactly the same way each week, for at least one term.</p> <p>TACPAC: commercially produced packs are available, or these can be personalised to match a particular theme.</p> <p>Communication Cues: Objects of Reference, Touch Cues, Sound and Smell Cues, Symbols and Photographs (where appropriate), Signing, Routines.</p>	<p>Positional changes: at least two position changes built into the timetable each day.</p> <p>Movement to Music</p> <p>Massage</p> <p>Sherbourne Developmental Movement</p> <p>MOVE</p> <p>Rebound Therapy</p> <p>Hydrotherapy</p> <p>All pupils should have daily opportunities to work towards their physiotherapy programmes.</p>	<p>Inclusive Community Awareness: regular opportunities to access the outside world, including visiting their local community. Visiting the same place each week for at least one term.</p> <p>Routines: consistent routines, including arriving at and leaving school, lunchtimes, break times, assemblies, the start and end of the day, the start and end of lessons.</p> <p>Personal Care: pupils should be given the opportunity to develop their independent eating and drinking skills, snack times should be built into timetables and sufficient time given for practicing skills. Pupils should be encouraged to take as much control as possible during their personal care times.</p>

### Religious Education

Pupils follow elements of the Worcestershire Agreed Syllabus for RE, as outlined in the RE Long Term Plan, as well as participating in the whole school initiative 'Festival of the Month'.

### PSHCE and RSE

As part of their holistic curriculum, pupils on the Discoverers Pathway will access meaningful content from the 'Encountering' stage of the PSHE Association Planning Framework for Pupils with SEND.



## Curriculum Impact

Pupils' progress is assessed using Routes for Learning, which is an assessment tool specifically designed for pupils with PMLD.

Each pupil follows a range of pathways through the 'Routemap'.

Individual targets are set for each pupil in the areas of Cognition and Learning, Communication and Interaction, Sensory and Physical development and Social and Emotional development. These targets are set in line with their EHCP Outcomes, as well as linking closely to the numbered steps on their current Band of Routes for Learning, where appropriate.

Some pupils in Discoverers 4 may also be working towards the OCR Accredited course 'Life and Living Skills'.

Pupils' progress towards meeting their targets is recorded using the Engagement Model, which allows small steps of progress to be recorded in the areas of exploration, realisation, anticipation, persistence and initiation.

The Engagement Model is used as part of pupils' formative assessment; future lesson planning is guided by pupils' individual assessment records.

Videos are used to evidence this progress; these are saved as PowerPoint Presentations ('Learning Evidence Files').

The school's online SOLAR site is used to record pupils' progress against Routes for Learning each term, which evidences teachers' summative assessment. Data is collected which enables progress to be tracked and interventions to be put in place where necessary to ensure that all pupils reach their full potential.

As pupils progress through the school, the assessment process will allow a clearer picture of their future goals to emerge. This means that pupils can then be supported to work towards an appropriate pathway for their future beyond school, with clearly defined aims. These may include preparing pupils for the next stage in their education, such as by following an accredited course, or supporting pupils in taking their place in community life, ensuring that they have the means to communicate their needs and preferences to those around them.

