

Horizons Connect 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 students 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:

Supporting pupils to develop a sense of control over the world around them

Topic:

Our Blue Planet

How is my child's progress being recorded?

Each student 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 their achievements towards all of their targets.

Communication Skills

Sensory Story: 'Our Blue Planet'. Students will dive into the deep blue sea and discover a range of sea animals through sound, textures and movement. They will learn about pollution caused by plastics in the ocean and how it affects sea life. Through sensory experiences such as feeling sand, listening to ocean sounds and exploring water movement, students will experience the sights and sounds of the beach in an engaging and meaningful way.

TACPAC-Style Activities: Students will explore tactile objects and sensory massage activities linked to different aspects of their Blue Planet theme. These sessions will include exploring textures linked to the sea, such as smooth shells, soft fabrics and flowing materials, helping students to relax, engage and build awareness of their senses in a calm and enjoyable environment.

Sensory Drama: Students will be preparing for Sports Day through an exciting sensory drama lesson. They will take part in acting out different races, practising important routines such as wearing hats and applying sun cream. They will also become familiar with the sounds of the day, including the cheers and shouts of the crowd.

Throughout the sessions, students will be actively involved in the storytelling and encouraged to use their voices to express their likes and dislikes, helping to build confidence and communication skills in a fun and engaging way.

Motor Skills

Rebound and Hydrotherapy: Students will continue to work towards their personalised targets. They will attend the activities on a rota basis during their class movement sessions. Students will participate in a variety of activities that promote independence and movement.

Dance: Students will explore movement through music linked to their water theme. Songs inspired by the ocean, rain and waves will be used to encourage students to move in different ways, such as flowing, splashing and swaying. They will have opportunities to express themselves through movement, develop body awareness and enjoy responding to rhythm and sound in a fun and engaging way.

During Movement sessions, students will follow their individual movement plans to support their physical development and wellbeing. Activities will include the use of standing frames, the trike and stretching exercises. These sessions help to build strength, improve mobility and encourage independence.

Thinking Skills

Computing: Students will continue developing their independent thinking and communication skills using a range of accessible technology. This includes switches, Eyegaze, touch screens and sensory equipment, allowing all students to access activities in a way that suits their individual needs. Students will practice making choices, cause-and-effect skills and early problem-solving through interactive programs linked to their Blue Planet theme. Music, lights and visual stimuli related to the ocean, sea animals and water movement will support engagement and motivation. Students will also have opportunities to build their confidence using technology, improve their attention and anticipation skills, and develop greater independence when interacting with digital equipment. These experiences help prepare students for using technology in everyday life, communication and future environments.

PSHCE

In PSHE, students will explore topics linked to caring for the world around them. They will learn about looking after the environment, including keeping the oceans clean and reducing plastic waste. Students will also practice important life skills such as sharing, turn-taking and working together.

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. Through their class topic they will experience songs and instrumental music written to describe the sea and its wildlife, and combine sounds to create their own seascapes.

Community Inclusion

Students will have exciting opportunities to take their learning into the community by visiting locations where they can observe water and wildlife in real-life settings, including visiting Mary Stevens Park to explore the pond and look at the animals that live there, as well as Webbs Sensory Garden, where students will observe the flowing stream and spot small fish. These visits will help develop community awareness and connect classroom learning to real-world experiences.

Art

Students will explore creative activities linked to their topic. They will experiment with different materials such as paint, water and textured resources to create artwork inspired by the sea and beach. These activities will encourage creativity and sensory exploration.