

Discoverers 2

Curriculum Newsletter

Spring Term 2026



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

Curriculum Enrichment

Writing Curriculum Day – 5th March
Wellbeing Days:
10th February (Children's Mental Health)
20th March (Red Nose Day)

Festivals of the Month

January- Vasant Panchami
February-Chinese New Year
March- Eid al-Fitr

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: Developing pupils' abilities in sharing attention and taking turns during interaction with others

Topic: Under the Sea

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

Sensory Stories- Spring 1: 'First Winter' by Eric Carle; Spring 2- 'The Blue Abyss' by Joe White.

Pupils will listen to sensory stories based on the class topic of 'Under the Sea', focusing on their individual communication and interaction targets. Pupils will be encouraged to develop early communication and literacy skills and respond to sensory stimuli through sensory exploration. Experiences will include listening to the sound of waves on the beach, touching/holding shells and seaweed and looking at a variety of toy sea creatures.

In addition, pupils will take part in Intensive Interaction sessions to build core communication skills including eye contact, turn-taking and vocalisation. 'Under the Sea' themed activities such as scarf mirroring and wind sound play will support meaningful exchanges with familiar adults.

TACPAC-style sessions will further enhance sensory communication, focusing on expressing preferences and emotions through gestures, facial expressions, and vocalisations. Pupils will enjoy calming seasonal experiences like story massage, rainmaker sounds, and 'Under the Sea' activities.

All sessions are tailored to individual communication targets, fostering expressive, interactive and sensory-rich learning.

Motor Skills

Pupils will work on their individual Movement Plans. Alongside these personalised plans, pupils will be encouraged to explore movement through music and sensory experiences. As part of 'Festival of the Month', pupils will engage with music and dance inspired by a range of cultural and religious celebrations. They will be invited to join in with dance-style activities using props such as poi scarves, large fans, ribbons and decorated parasols, to encourage expressive movement and physical engagement.

Additionally, pupils will take part in sensory massage sessions, which support physical development through gentle stretching, reaching, rolling, and exploring different body positions. These sessions offer opportunities for pupils to experience massage while lying prone over wedges or reaching for sensory objects, promoting relaxation and body awareness.

Hydrotherapy/swim sessions – Swim sessions are scheduled for Thursday afternoons on a rota basis, however please ensure your child's swim kit is in school all week, as the time of their swim session may vary depending on the availability of the swimming pool.

Thinking Skills

Pupils will develop early thinking skills through music, technology, sensory exploration and creative play.

Music & Song: Pupils will explore songs and instrumental pieces such as 'A Sailor Went to Sea' and ocean-themed piano music. They will experiment with percussion instruments, responding to rhythm and sound, and begin to show preferences for particular instruments. Sessions will also encourage thinking skills and understanding cause and effect.

Technology & Computers: Pupils will use switches to activate sensory experiences linked to the sea, including ocean sounds, bubble tubes, fish projections, and bubble bursts.

Look & Listen Skills: Interactive sensory presentations featuring underwater sights and sounds will help pupils build visual tracking, scanning, and auditory awareness. Activities will promote anticipation and recognition of familiar stimuli.

Messy Play & Creative Activities: Pupils will enjoy tactile experiences through sea-themed crafts and messy play, such as creating jellyfish, exploring slimy spaghetti seas, and sensory bags, to support fine motor skills, creativity, and tolerance of different textures.

Special Music Sessions

In the first half of the term, pupils will take part in music workshops led by members of the CBSO, focusing on individual targets within the Under the Sea theme.

Music

Pupils will be exploring dynamics (loud and quiet sounds), with the theme of 'Under the Sea' as a focus for selecting suitable songs and musical material. They will become familiar with a range of fun songs about different sea creatures, as well as exploring soft/quiet sounds to reflect stillness/calm, and louder/more energetic music to depict rougher seas and the crashing waves.

PSHCE

Pupils will build key social and emotional skills through personalised and group activities that promote wellbeing, relationships and self-expression. The key focus will be around expressing feelings, supporting others, enjoyment and engagement. These topics will be embedded into the school day.

Art

With an Under the Sea focus, pupils will explore sensory materials and gain a tolerance for a variety of sensory stimuli. They will be encouraged to investigate properties of natural resources, such as hard/soft, rough/smooth. Activities will encourage the development of fine motor skills.