





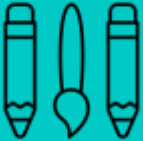


EYFS Curriculum Map 2025-2026

In EYFS, we follow the children's interests and as such the curriculum overview can be subject to change.		Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Curriculum Area	Theme & Topic	Marvelous Me What makes me special?	Sparkles and Spins What is a celebration?	It's Chilly Here Who lives in a house like this?	Ready, Steady, Grow How do things grow and change?	Our Wonderful World What makes our world wonderful?	What happens next?
	Brilliant Beginning	Discovery Showcase	A Celebratory Feast	A Mysterious Arrival	Creating a Class Allotment	Donisthorpe Airways	
	Epic Ending	EYFS Talent Show	Christmas Stay and Play		Plant Sale	Art Exhibition	
Communication & Language 	The development of children's spoken language underpins all seven areas of learning and development. Children's back-and-forth interactions from an early age form the foundations for language and cognitive development. The number and quality of the conversations they have with adults and peers throughout the day in a language-rich environment is crucial. By commenting on what children are interested in or doing, and echoing back what they say with new vocabulary added, practitioners will build children's language effectively. Reading frequently to children, and engaging them actively in stories, non-fiction, rhymes and poems, and then providing them with extensive opportunities to use and embed new words in a range of contexts, will give children the opportunity to thrive. Through conversation, story-telling and role play, where children share their ideas with support and modelling from their teacher, and sensitive questioning that invites them to elaborate, children become comfortable using a rich range of vocabulary and language structures						
	Listening, Attention & Understanding	Communication and Language is a key part of the EYFS Curriculum and is one of the prime areas of learning. Speaking, listening and understanding underpins each curriculum area through a combination of a language rich environment, explicitly taught lessons and interventions through interactions. On entry assessments are made to establish children's starting points and teaching and learning opportunities are planned from this. Some children will take part in nurture/social communication groups.					
	Speaking						
Personal, Social & Emotional Development  Alongside weekly explicit PSE lessons in this prime area of learning, children in EYFS are supported in developing their relationships with adults and peers, their self-regulation skills and their ability to manage their own emotions in a variety of social situations.	Children's personal, social and emotional development (PSED) is crucial for children to lead healthy and happy lives, and is fundamental to their cognitive development. Underpinning their personal development are the important attachments that shape their social world. Strong, warm and supportive relationships with adults enable children to learn how to understand their own feelings and those of others. Children should be supported to manage emotions, develop a positive sense of self, set themselves simple goals, have confidence in their own abilities, to persist and wait for what they want and direct attention as necessary. Through adult modelling and guidance, they will learn how to look after their bodies, including healthy eating, and manage personal needs independently. Through supported interaction with other children, they learn how to make good friendships, co-operate and resolve conflicts peaceably. These attributes will provide a secure platform from which children can achieve at school and in later life						
	Self-Regulation	EYFS follow the Whole School approach 'Everyone Belongs' over the year.					
	Managing Self						
	Building Relationships	On entry assessment Self-Regulation: Developing relationships with peers and adults. Understanding "The Donisthorpe Way" Exploring emotions. Building Relationships: Developing relationships with those in our class. Managing Self: Understanding expected behaviours. Learning about class rules.	Self-Regulation: Take on roles within the classroom. Exploring ways to manage tricky emotions. Building Relationships: Express their own opinion and understand it is okay to have a different opinion to their friends. Managing Self: Understand the importance of a healthy lifestyle and healthy food choices.	Self-Regulation: Start to regulate their emotions and control impulses. Give focused attention to what the teacher says. Building Relationships: Show sensitivity to the needs of others. Managing Self: Show confidence, independence, reliance and perseverance.			
Physical Development  Skills in this prime area will also be taught through explicit lessons or by modelling through continuous provision.	Physical activity is vital in children's all-round development, enabling them to pursue happy, healthy and active lives. Gross and fine motor experiences develop incrementally throughout early childhood, starting with sensory explorations and the development of a child's strength, co-ordination and positional awareness through tummy time, crawling and play movement with both objects and adults. By creating games and providing opportunities for play both indoors and outdoors, adults can support children to develop their core strength, stability, balance, spatial awareness, co-ordination and agility. Gross motor skills provide the foundation for developing healthy bodies and social and emotional well-being. Fine motor control and precision helps with hand-eye co-ordination, which is later linked to early literacy. Repeated and varied opportunities to explore and play with small world activities, puzzles, arts and crafts and the practice of using small tools, with feedback and support from adults, allow children to develop proficiency, control and confidence						
	Gross Motor Skills	Throughout the year, children have regular access to the outdoor area, trim trail, bikes, scooters and balance bikes to develop their core strength, stability, balance, spatial awareness, co-ordination and agility. We also incorporate yoga and mindfulness into our weekly timetable to promote healthy bodies and emotional well-being.					
	Fine Motor Skills	Pen Disco, Dough Disco and Oxford Handwriting is taught throughout the year to develop pencil control and letter formation. Patterns and formation are linked to the phonics teaching.	Use a comfortable pen grip with mark making/writing Using one handed equipment with developing control	Write some letters accurately with developing proficiency and control Using tools with control and developing precision	Form lower case and capital letters accurately with an efficient handwriting style Using tools competently, safely and confidently		

 <p>Literacy</p> <p>At Donisthorpe, we follow the Sounds-Write Phonics programme. It is a highly synthetic approach to teach children to read and spell through blending, segmenting and phoneme manipulation. We also have adopted a whole school approach to reading delivering fluency and extended reading lessons – these are taught at an appropriate level for EYFS</p>	<p>It is crucial for children to develop a life-long love of reading. Reading consists of two dimensions: language comprehension and word reading. Language comprehension (necessary for both reading and writing) starts from birth. It only develops when adults talk with children about the world around them and the books (stories and non-fiction) they read with them, and enjoy rhymes, poems and songs together. Skilled word reading, taught later, involves both the speedy working out of the pronunciation of unfamiliar printed words (decoding) and the speedy recognition of familiar printed words. Writing involves transcription (spelling and handwriting) and composition (articulating ideas and structuring them in speech, before writing).</p>						
	Comprehension Taught during reading sessions each week	Pinocchio Little Red Hen	Elves & the Shoemaker The Gingerbread Man	Three Billy Goats Gruff Goldilocks and the Three Bears	Jack & the Beanstalk The Ugly Duckling	Hansel and Gretel Rapunzel	Children's Choice
	Word Reading	Read CVC words with code knowledge: a/i/m/s/t/n/p/o/b/c/g/h/d/f/v/e/k/l/r/u/ Read short phrases with taught code knowledge and CEWs		CVC and CCVC/CVCC words with previous code knowledge plus: j/w/z/x/y/ff/ll/ss/zz Read short phrases and sentences with taught code knowledge and CEWs		CCVCC, CVCCC, CCCVC and digraph words previous code knowledge plus: sh/ch/th/ck/wh/ng/qu/ai/ee/igh/oa/or Read sentences with taught code knowledge and CEWs	
	Common Exception Words are taught throughout the year matched to the phonics programme and reading scheme.						
	Writing	Breaking speech into words Mark making for meaning Writing CVC words and simple phrases		Writing for different purposes Writing CVC and CCVC/CVCC words Write simple phrases and sentences		Writing for different purposes Writing CCVCC, CVCCC, CCCVC and digraph words Write sentences using capital letters and full stops	
Sounds-Write	Initial Code Unit 1 – 6 CVC		Initial Code Unit 7 – 9 CVC and CCVC/CVCC		Initial Code Unit 10 - 11 onwards CCVCC, CVCCC, CCCVC and digraphs		
 <p>Mathematics</p>	<p>Developing a strong grounding in number is essential so that all children develop the necessary building blocks to excel mathematically. Children should be able to count confidently, develop a deep understanding of the numbers to 10, the relationships between them and the patterns within those numbers. By providing frequent and varied opportunities to build and apply this understanding - such as using manipulatives, including small pebbles and tens frames for organising counting - children will develop a secure base of knowledge and vocabulary from which mastery of mathematics is built. In addition, it is important that the curriculum includes rich opportunities for children to develop their spatial reasoning skills across all areas of mathematics including shape, space and measures. It is important that children develop positive attitudes and interests in mathematics, look for patterns and relationships, spot connections, 'have a go', talk to adults and peers about what they notice and not be afraid to make mistakes.</p>						
	Number	Getting to know you Match, sort and compare Talk about measure and patterns It's me 1, 2, 3 Circles and triangles		Alive in 5 Mass and capacity Growing 6, 7, 8 Length, height and time Building 9 and 10 Explore 3D shapes		To 20 and beyond How many now? Manipulate, compose and decompose Sharing and grouping Visualise, build and map Make connections	
	Numerical Patterns	1, 2, 3, 4, 5 Shapes with 4 sides					
 <p>Understanding the World</p>	<p>Understanding the world involves guiding children to make sense of their physical world and their community. The frequency and range of children's personal experiences increases their knowledge and sense of the world around them – from visiting parks, libraries and museums to meeting important members of society such as police officers, nurses and firefighters. In addition, listening to a broad selection of stories, non-fiction, rhymes and poems will foster their understanding of our culturally, socially, technologically and ecologically diverse world. As well as building important knowledge, this extends their familiarity with words that support understanding across domains. Enriching and widening children's vocabulary will support later reading comprehension.</p>						
	Past and Present	Compare now to when we were younger	Remembrance Day Bonfire Night	Donisthorpe in the past The Royal Family	Exploring food from the past	The world in the past	Compare self now to the start of the year
	People, Culture and Communities	<p>RE themes throughout the year: Where do we belong? What stories are special and why? Which people are special and why? What places are special and why? What times are special and why?</p>					
	My school community/ exploring Donisthorpe	Exploring London Diwali Christmas Hanukkah	Exploring Greenland Houses and homes Chinese New Year Pancake Day	Easter Ramadan	Hot & cold places 7 wonders of the world	Special people: moving to Y1 Eid	

	The Natural World	My school environment Seasonal change: autumn Growing: carrots	Hibernation and migration Decay: pumpkin Planting: daffodil bulbs Freezing & thawing	Exploring materials Freezing and thawing Growth Seasonal change: winter	Seasonal change: spring Lifecycles: tadpoles	Seasonal change: summer Plant care: sunflowers Decay: sunflowers Floating and sinking	Shadows Heating and cooling Materials: designing and making	
The development of children's artistic and cultural awareness supports their imagination and creativity. It is important that children have regular opportunities to engage with the arts, enabling them to explore and play with a wide range of media and materials. The quality and variety of what children see, hear and participate in is crucial for developing their understanding, self-expression, vocabulary and ability to communicate through the arts. The frequency, repetition and depth of their experiences are fundamental to their progress in interpreting and appreciating what they hear, respond to and observe								
Expressive Arts & Design 	Creating with Materials	Paint: load a paintbrush carefully. Use paint with care. Drawing: hold and grip a pencil and draw a simple line Materials: exploring different materials Loose parts art family members and portraits	Paint: use a paintbrush with increasing control. Drawing: create zig-zag and wavy lines with a pencil. Explore ways to make lines thicker/thinner. Materials: create with different materials and have some awareness of different joining techniques. Artist Focus – Wassily Kandinsky	Paint: explore colour mixing/ making shades and tints. Drawing: explore drawing using different materials e.g., crayons, felt pens and pastels Materials: join different materials together in a variety of ways (temporary and permanent)	Paint: colour mix with purpose e.g. using the primary colours to make secondary colours. Drawing: draw using increasing control. Draw from observation and imagination. Printing: make a simple printing block. Artist Focus - Karen Lederer	Paint: colour mix with purpose e.g. using the primary colours to make secondary colours. Drawing: shade areas and shapes as neatly and carefully as they can. Materials: Safely use and explore a variety of materials. Create with purpose in mind. Printing: make a simple printing block. Artist Focus – Edward Tinga Tinga	Paint: explore painting with a variety of brushes/ tools. Drawing: make detailed observational drawings. Textiles: explore threading.	
	Being Imaginative and Expressive	EYFS follow the Leicestershire Music Scheme for work for music. The scheme has core knowledge and skills with Musical Activities that embed pulse, rhythm and pitch, explore voices and classroom instruments. There is a permanent home corner in the classroom that has topical and seasonal enchantments throughout the year						
		Half Termly Traditional Tale						
		EYFS learn a new song each week.						
		Introduction to home corner Introduction to Storytelling area Introduction to Traditional Tales area Songs and rhymes Role play of first-hand experiences	Nursery rhymes Christmas songs Hannukkah songs	Nursery rhymes Theme based storytelling	Nursery rhymes and song with performance time Theme based storytelling	Nursery rhymes and song with performance time Theme based storytelling	Nursery rhymes and song with performance time Theme based storytelling	