

# Newcomen Primary School Nursery Curriculum Overview

## **Introduction**

"What a child can do today with assistance, she will be able to do by herself tomorrow." Lev Vygotsky

Welcome to the Early Years Foundation Stage which incorporates Nursery and Reception. This unique keystage represents the first steps in developing a love of life-long learning. Through stimulating and engaging environments, children have the opportunity to become independent and resilient learners.

We value and recognise you as your child's primary educator and look forward to forming a successful and genuine partnership that will support your child in reaching their full potential.

## **Communication and Language**

Your child will be part of a language-rich environment where they will have constant opportunities to engage in quality interactions and conversations. The children will enjoy learning to listen to their friends and develop an interest in what others have to say. Whilst having fun in role play areas linked to our topics, children will be developing a wide range of vocabulary and the ability to interact confidently with others.

## **Physical Development**

Creative playdough, cutting and threading activities will all be readily available everyday to support the development of fine motor skills. Through regular use of the outdoor area, we will practise balancing, climbing and spatial awareness. The children will enjoy riding different vehicles and playing with a range of equipment to strengthen their gross motor skills.

## **Personal, Social and Emotional Development**

This area of learning lies at the heart of everything your child will do at Newcomen nursery. It is fundamental to developing a positive sense of themselves and respect for others. Throughout the year, we will be talking about our emotions and how to self-regulate. Learning how to share and understanding how to be a kind friend will be the prime focus. We will spend time modelling positive relationships and how to work out situations during play. Role play areas such as the home corner offer the perfect place to develop such skills.

## **Literacy**

Developing a love of stories will be easy after spending time in nursery! Each week the book fairy delivers a new story with props to theme the week around. The children will have a wonderful time acting out the stories, talking about the characters and retelling events in the story. Singing songs and nursery rhymes will be part of everyday in nursery and the children will be playing games to help tune them into rhyming words. There will be many opportunities to develop early writing and encourage mark making. The children will be writing shopping lists and letters to their friends in different role play areas.

## **Mathematics**

The children will develop an understanding of number through interactive games and real life opportunities within role play. Singing finger rhymes is important in helping children to count in sequence and say the number names confidently. Counting groups of objects and being able to select a specific number of items will be part of our everyday learning. The children will be exploring a range of puzzles, blocks and shape sorters to talk about different shapes and begin looking at their properties.

## **Expressive Arts and Design**

Everyday, children will engage in imaginative play. This will develop the ability to incorporate stories in play using small world equipment including dolls' houses, castles and animal sets. Children are always enthusiastic about the chance to play musical instruments and explore a range of sounds as well as movement. We look forward to the wonderful creations the children will be making using a range of materials of their choice.

## **Understanding of the World**

Most of the children's time in nursery will be spent in the home corner as it relates directly to their own lives and experiences. This will provide opportunities to explore their understanding of the world. Children will gain an insight into the wider world through our topics. They will explore living things, natural environments and different countries.

## **Goals we hope to achieve**

- To develop speaking and listening skills to allow children to maintain attention during story time and activities.
- To develop speech and language skills and be able to speak in a clear voice.
- To learn how to play together and interact harmoniously, sharing and turn taking.
- To build up an awareness of sounds around us, with the ability to distinguish between sounds that we hear.
- To develop an awareness of rhyme. Being able to sing a range of nursery rhymes and make a rhyming pair.
- To hear initial sounds in familiar and simple words.
- To hear and say orally blended words e.g. c- a-t, d-o-g.
- To gain an understanding of numbers. Counting sets of objects saying one number name for each item and begin to recognise numbers saying their name.
- To enjoy a story, turning pages and talking about the pictures.
- To put on a coat and get changed for PE.

## **How can you help?**

- Share a book each day with your child to help develop interest and enjoyment in stories. Offer them opportunities to tell you the story using the pictures.
- Always talk to your child about their time at nursery each day. Encourage your child to talk whenever possible. Find opportunities to count, helping your child to say number names in order and count objects one at a time. Play games to develop awareness of sounds e.g. I spy. Encourage your child to dress themselves and use the toilet independently.
- Provide your child with opportunities to make marks on paper and begin early writing using a range of tools e.g. pencils, paint brushes. It is very important to allow your child to experience the use of scissors and play dough to develop their motor skills.

## **Information**

- Books bags to be brought to school on a Monday and will be sent back out on Thursday.
- Please put your child's name in all items of clothing.
- The children have snack together each day. If you would like to make a voluntary contribution, please bring 50p to school on a Monday.
- P.E kits will not be required until the summer term.
- The children are encouraged to bring items in for show and tell such as photographs, drawings, or a leaflet from a recent trip. We ask that toys are not brought to school.