Medium Term Plan **Year Group:** Nursery **Term:** Autumn 2 (2026)

Learning Objectives

Key
Blue = Birth to 3 years
Green = 3 & 4 years

Enrichment activities/ WOW moments
Explore sound through listening walk, making shakers with different materials, tasting different/ new foods, Christmas

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Self-Regulation/ Managing Self/ Building Relationships:

Notice and ask questions about differences such as skin colour, types of hair, gender, special needs, disabilities and so on.

Develop friendships with other children.

Play with increasing confidence on their own and with other children, because they know their key person is nearby and available.

Talk about their feelings in more elaborated ways: "I'm sad because…"

Become more outgoing with unfamiliar people, in the safe context of their setting.

Show more confidence in new social situations.

Communication and Language

Listening, Attention and Understanding/ Speaking

Recognise and point to objects if asked about them.

Identify familiar objects and properties for practitioners when they are described. For example, Katie's coat, shiny apple, blue car.

Start to say how they are feeling using words as well as actions.

Understand and act on longer sentences like 'Make teddy jump.'

Understand simple questions about 'who', 'what' and 'where'.

Listen to simple stories and understand what is happening with the help of pictures.

Use longer sentences of 4-6 words.

Physical Development

Gross Motor Skills/ Fine Motor Skills:

Try a wider range of foods with different textures and tastes.

Clap and stamp to music.

Enjoy starting to kick, throw and catch balls.

Explore different materials and tools.

Be increasingly independent as they get dressed and undressed e.g. putting coats on and doing up zips.

Continue to develop their movement, balancing, riding (scooters, trikes and bikes.) and ball skills.

Use a comfortable grip with good control when holding pens and pencils.

Show a preference for a dominant hand

Theme
My Senses/ Celebrations

Literacy

Comprehension/ Reading/ Writing

Sing songs and say rhymes independently e.g. singing whilst playing.

Enjoy sharing books with an adult.

Pay attention and responds to the pictures or the words.

Repeat words and phrases from familiar stories.

Develop play around favourite stories using props.

Add some marks to their name that they give meaning to e.g. that says 'mummy'.

Enjoy drawing freely.

Notice some print, such as the first letter of their name, a bus or door number, or a familiar logo.

Understand that print can have different purposes.

Mathematics

Number/ Numerical Patterns

-Take part in finger rhymes, with numbers.
-Recognise one object (without counting).
-Show understanding of matching 1:1 practically, e.g. one cup, one saucer.
-Join in with physical counting activities.
-Recite numbers to five in number songs.
-Touch each object in a line up to two.
-Say one number for each object in order up to two.
-Give one object on request.
-Combine objects as part of play, e.g. stacking cups.
-Put objects inside others and take them out.
-Build with a range of resources.
-Complete simple inset puzzles.
-Notice patterns and arrange things in patterns.
-Classify by organising/sorting and arranging toys with increasing intent.
-React to changes of amount in a group of up to three objects, e.g. as part of number rhymes.
-Begin to represent number in a range of ways, e.g. using fingers, objects, pictures, up to three.

Understanding the World

Past and Present/ People, Culture and Communities/ The Natural Word

Explore natural materials indoors and outside.

Explore materials with different purposes.

Make connections between the features of their family and other families.

Use all their senses in hands-on exploration with similar and/or different properties.

Expressive Arts and Design

Creating with materials/ Being imaginative and Expressive

Start to make marks intentionally.

Enjoy and take part in action songs, such as 'Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star'.

Explore paint, using fingers and other parts of their bodies as well as brushes and other tools.

Express ideas and meanings through marks, and sometimes give meaning to the marks they make.

Explore a range of sound-makers and instruments and play them in different ways.

Explore different materials using their senses to investigate them.

Manipulate and play with different materials.

Use their imagination as they consider what they can do with different materials.

Identifies learning objectives for adult led activities and possible focus for planned child-initiated learning. Ensures coverage. Statements taken from Development Matters, September 2021

Cultural Capital:
Learn and perform to an audience the words and actions of a song, make a Christmas decoration, take part in a class party.