

# OUR LEARNING YEAR 1 SUMMER 2026

This document provides an overview of the learning your child will engage in this term. It highlights their learning journey, core knowledge, and the key vocabulary they will encounter. It is a handy guide to support learning conversations with your child. What learning can they remember?

## Topic Concept: Our global community

As part of this topic children will learn about the world around us and our role and responsibilities within it

## Big Question:

### Who can save the planet?

We often explore this question through various approaches, such as reading books and engaging in debates about the theme

## Our 'Preparation Skills' will be:

Create  
Leadership  
Organise

## SCIENCE - Plants and seasonal change

- Seeds and bulbs grow into new plants and trees.
- Each plant has a unique bulb or seed from which it grows.
- Common flowering plants mostly have roots, a stem, leaves and flowers with petals.
- Deciduous trees are trees that shed their leaves once a year, usually during the season of autumn, when their leaves are mature, or fully grown.
- Evergreen plants are plants that never lose their leaves - they "stay green" all year long.
- Common trees have roots, a trunk, branches and leaves. Some will have flowers (blossom) and fruits.
- Garden plants are plants that are planted by humans.
- Wild plants grow in natural surroundings are not looked after by people.
- There are four seasons each with their own unique weather and day length. There is more daylight in the Summer.
- The four seasons are Spring, summer, Autumn and Winter.
- An experiment is a way to test an idea by trying something out and observing what happens.

During this term the children will learn the names of the specific parts of plants and trees. They will sort and classify them into groups, including garden and wild plants. Children will observe the growth of a range of plants over time. Children will continue to learn about the four seasons, including learning about changes to day length.

**Vocabulary:** seeds, plants, trees, bulbs, root, stem, leaf, leaves, petal, petals, pollen, blossom, flower, fruit, bud, dissect, trunk, branch, crown, bark, twig, deciduous, evergreen, classify, sort, celery, food colouring, predict, method, results, conclusion, sun, earth, daylight, shadow, autumn, winter, spring, summer.

## ART AND DESIGN - Seascapes

- Artists may draw and paint about real historical events and famous people.
- Printing can be used to put a design onto another surface or even fabric.
- A 'landscape' is usually a picture of the land, sea or sky where the paper or canvas is 'landscape'.
- A 'portrait' is usually a picture of a person or face, where the paper or canvas is vertical and tall.
- A 2d shape is a flat shape which has height and width but you can't turn it round or look behind it (no depth).
- A 3d shape is not flat. It has height, width and depth. You can pick it up and see all of its faces.
- A relief is a type of 3D art where shapes project out from a flat surface.
- Thick paint creates a different effect to watercolour paint.
- Relief printing is when you carve into a printing block that you then use to press onto paper and make a print.
- 'Transient art' is made from moveable pieces. It is a temporary piece of art, not permanent.
- Andy Goldsworthy and James Brunt are artists who create 'transient art'.

**Vocabulary:** Media, colour, reveal, artist, museum, history, wax resist, landscape, portrait, horizontal, horizon, space, spatulas, thick, create, seascape, effect, weaving, loom, warp, weft, vertical, large, pastel, blend, printing, monoprint, press print, relief print, poly tile, polystyrene, shape, design, simple, oil pastel, effects, wavy, collage, transient, permanent, temporary, photograph, watercolour

Children will be inspired by their history learning and [Grace and William Darling](#), William Adolphus Knell (1802-1875) painting and the illustrations from *The Lighthouse Keeper stories*. They will develop their line drawing skills to produce drawings that will be printed using poly tile relief mono printing. Children will create wax resist lighthouse images and work in groups to create large, abstract 3D relief stormy sea canvases using Mod Roc. These will be painted using thick, textured paint and watercolours. Children will learn about transient art and create their own works of art on the beach, inspired by James Brunt and Andy Goldsworthy.

## COMPUTING - Online safety, pictograms and spreadsheets

- A pictogram is a chart or graph which uses pictures/symbols to represent data
- A spreadsheet is a computer tool that helps organize, store, and calculate information in a table with rows and columns. It is useful for keeping track of numbers, lists, and data.
- Information can be stored in a spreadsheet where data is entered into cells
- Information can be saved so that it can be retrieved at a later date
- We can share information with others but should do so safely
- Passwords are private and understand what personal information is and should not be shared on or offline

*Children will continue to build on their learning about online safety and basic computer skills. Children will learn to organise and store information using pictograms and spreadsheets. Children will learn that information can be saved and then safely shared with others.*

**Vocabulary:** data, pictogram, visual, title, collect data, record results, compare, totals, spreadsheet, row, column, cell, delete, calculations, button, clip-art, image, move cell, lock cell, select, count tool, speak tool, value



## DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY - Textiles and sewing

- Clothes and textiles can be joined together with sewing.
- A running stitch is a line of small equal sized stitches that is created by an over and under action.
- An embellishment adds decoration to a finished product.
- Needles are sharp and can hurt if not used correctly.
- Part of the design process is evaluating your finished product.
- An evaluation allows us to understand what went well, what didn't work as well and what we can improve on next time.

### Vocabulary:

Textiles, sew, sewing, running stitch, print, thread, materials, needle, embroidery, weft, embellished, beads, contrast, wave, product, evaluate, improve, change, weave, threaded, fabric, lacing, board

*Linked to their learning in art and design, children will design and print a tote bag or t shirt, linked to environmental conservation (World Earth Day/World Oceans Day etc). Children will print an image in art and then use sewing to attach decorations. Children will continue to have the opportunity to deconstruct/explore - design - make and evaluate their products. They will make links to the real world and find out about making clothes and how decorations etc are attached*



## GEOGRAPHY - Our city, houses and homes

- There are four countries in the UK called England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales. The capitals are London, Dublin, Edinburgh and Cardiff.
- England is one of 4 countries in the UK.
- London is the capital city of England.
- A settlement is an area in which people live, e.g. a village, town, city.
- The settlement that we live in is called the Southend-on-Sea City.
- A city is a large or important town.
- Physical features are things that are in the natural environment such as a beach, cliff, coast, forest, hill, mountain, sea.
- There are physical features in Southend City, such as the Estuary, beaches and woods.
- Human features are things that have been built by humans, including a city, town, village, factory, farm, house, office.
- There are human features in Southend including houses and homes, roads, airport, theme park, museum and shops.

*Children will continue to explore the wider environment around them. Children will explore the houses, homes and buildings of the local area. They will understand that where they live and that every where in the world has its own unique address. Children will think about the City of Southend and its features, including the urban areas and countryside. They will look at Southend in relation to other areas in the UK and the world that they know about.*

**Vocabulary:** England, London, Europe, Northern Hemisphere, Equator, landmark, ocean, bay, settlements, Southend, North Sea, physical features, airport, pier, Adventure Island, theme park, Sealife Centre, beach, train station, woods, Palace Theatre, Cliffs Pavilion, high street, tourist poster, advertising, English Channel, town, countryside, city, village, settlement, rural, urban, coast, farmland, river, main road





### **HISTORY - Grace Darling and her legacy**

- Historians ask historical questions to find out about the past.
- We can find out about the past by using historical sources.
- Photographs and paintings can be sources of information about the past.
- Grace Darling became a national heroine after risking her life to save the stranded survivors of the wrecked steamship Forfarshire in 1838.
- Grace received recognition for her brave actions and received medals and rewards.
- Grace's story has inspired many works of art, including paintings and poetry.
- A legacy refers to a lasting impact and the way a person will be remembered for generations to come.



*Continuing children's learning about life in Victorian times, the children will learn about Grace Darling's story and her lasting legacy. The children will make links with what they know about our seaside community and the RNLI and Grace's story. The children's learning will also be linked in their art and design learning journey.*

### **Vocabulary:**

Historical questions, past, present, then, now, modern day, sources, information, famous, legacy, Victorian era, history, historical, past, lighthouse, shipwreck, survivors, capsized, rescue, memorial, RNLI, memorabilia, fact file.

### **MUSIC - Improvisation and composition**

- To improvise means to make something up on the spot, or figure it out as you go. We can improvise in music.
- To compose in music means to decide which notes to play.
- Musicians compose their own music by deciding what order and how to play each note.
- Pulse is the steady beat of music.
- Long and short sounds put together create rhythm
- When sounds get higher or lower their pitch changes.
- Timbre (Pronounced Tam-ber) is the quality of a musical note. It is what makes a musical note sound different from another one, e.g. brassy, clear, sharp.

*In this unit of work children will continue to focus on learning to play a tuned instrument (glockenspiel) using the notes C, D and E. Children will explore a variety of music and genres and compare these to the song 'Round and Round' which they will learn to sing, accompany with the glockenspiel/handbells, improvise to and then compose their own accompaniment using simple notation. Children will learn about the interrelated dimensions of music with a particular focus on rhythm, pitch, pulse and timbre.*

**Vocabulary:** Glockenspiel, beater, mallet, notes, bar, beat, rhythm, pulse, steady beat, rhythm, long, short, sounds, pitch, high, low, tempo, speed, fast, slow

### **PE - Athletics and Sports Day**

- Athletics is a sport that includes running, jumping, and throwing. It is all about being fast, strong, and skilled in different events.
- Warming up the body ensures that exercise and sports do not cause injury.
- Cooling down ensures the heart rate is back to pre-exercise levels and keeps us feeling well.
- To jump correctly, legs should be shoulder width apart, bent knees, bottom pushed back and arms swinging.
- Landing safely means bending our legs and having our arms stretched out in front to balance.
- To sprint safely means running on the balls of the feet, driving the knees and arms, positioning the torso correctly and keeping the head still.
- Endurance means to run at a pace you can maintain for a long period.
- Walking means to move at a regular pace.
- Jogging means to run at a steady, gentle pace.
- Sprinting means to run at top speed for a short distance.

### **Vocabulary:**

Warm up, cool down, jump, bent, athletics, sprint, torso, position, agility, start, endurance, speed, lap, race, walking, jogging, sprinting, land, bend, safely, technique, balance, left, right, forwards, backwards.

*Children will be introduced to athletics by looking at the fundamental movements of running and jumping and develop their confidence and competence in these skills. The children's attention will be drawn to the effects of physical activity on their bodies and how to correctly use their body to perform movements. Children will have opportunities to work independently and as different groups and teams. Children will participate in competitive sports at our Sports Days giving them an opportunity to showcase their developing control, balance and agility.*





## PSHE - Health and Wellbeing: Physical Health and Mental Wellbeing;

### Growing and Changing

- A balanced diet means eating different types of food in the right amounts to stay healthy and strong.
- Exercise, drinking water, eating healthy foods and getting plenty of sleep are things I can do to keep myself healthy.
- Exercise is part of a healthy lifestyle and I know how it can affect my body and my mind.
- Personal hygiene is the way we care for our body to keep it clean and healthy, e.g. washing, brushing teeth and bathing.
- The sun can cause damage to my skin but there are things I can do to protect it like using SPF and seeking shade.
- There are lots of things that make me special and unique, and nobody is exactly the same.
- Everyone has mental health and my feelings are part of that.
- Some things have age restrictions to keep me safe, including the internet/games and apps.
- Transition means change and can cause people to feel different feelings and emotions.

### Vocabulary:

Healthy, eatwell, food groups, carbohydrates, protein, fruits, vegetables, exercise, active, physical, heart-rate, breathing, muscles, resting, mind, sleep, feelings, emotions, recognise, angry, scared, brave, excited, embarrassed, confused, sleepy, surprised, worried, sad, happy, role-play, managed feelings, breathing techniques, calming, age restrictions, permission, personal details, changes, transition, prepare, mood, hygiene, clean, brush, wash, shampoo, hydrated, rays, burn, unique, special, qualities.

*Children will learn about a healthy and balanced diet and how they can independently take care of their basic needs, such as showering and brushing their teeth. Children will also identify those whose job it is to help keep them healthy and their role in the community. Children will also learn about sun safety and revisit the PANTS rules. Children will have the opportunity to think about what makes them unique alongside their own personal likes and dislikes. Children will also revisit and build on their learning about feelings and rules with a focus on why rules are in place. There will also be time spent on transitioning the children to the next stage of their journey in the infant school.*



## RE - What does it mean to belong to a faith community?

- Belonging is a sense of fitting in or feeling like you are an important member of a group.
- Having a faith or religion can make people feel a sense of belonging because they are part of a big family that loves and cares for each other.
- A religious symbol is a special sign or object that reminds people of their faith and what they believe in.
- People can feel a sense of belonging without a faith by building strong relationships, joining communities, and sharing values with others.
- Religious stories help people feel like they belong because they teach good lessons, bring people together, and make them feel safe and guided.
- Different faiths have different ceremonies for welcoming children into that faith.
- Different religions have unique ways of celebrating weddings, and each one includes special traditions and rituals.

*Children will explore what it means to belong and consider the groups and communities that they belong to. Children will consider what it means to belong to a faith community by learning about the practices of Christians and Muslims and other faiths. Children will explore different elements of these religions, and think about how sharing beliefs can help people to feel like they belong. Friends and families will be invited into school to share how they celebrate and practice their faith.*



### Vocabulary:

Faith, God, belonging, community, Christianity, Judaism, believe, practice, worship, Catholic, Protestant, Orthodox, Jesus, teachings, Bible, holy, Trinity, church, prayer, Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism, Sikhism, baptism, truth, welcome, Christening, dedication, holy water, font, Hindus, symbol, sacrifice, gratitude, service, compassion, Muslim, Allah, Arabic, mosque, Quran, Pillars, Crescent moon, calligraphy, prosperity, ceremony, vow, Humanist, unity, handfasting, commitment, traditions.

