



Welcome to the Autumn Term 1 E2 in Nursery!

Welcome to the first half term in Nursery. There is so much See below for further information about each subject.

During our **first half term, Autumn 1**, our main focus will be helping children to settle into their new Nursery environment, build positive relationships with familiar adults and other children, and become comfortable with our daily routines. As children begin their Nursery journey, we will provide lots of opportunities for them to explore, play, communicate and develop their confidence in a safe and nurturing environment.

Through **nursery rhymes, stories, songs, movement and practical play experiences**, children will begin to develop their independence, communication and language, physical skills and curiosity. We recognise that every child will settle at their own pace, so our first half term will provide plenty of time for children to become familiar with their new surroundings and the people who support them.

Below is some information about what we will be learning during our first half term.

Communication and Language – Stories, Songs and Nursery Rhymes

Communication and language will be a key focus throughout Autumn 1. As children settle into Nursery, we will provide lots of opportunities for them to listen, respond and develop their vocabulary through **songs, stories, nursery rhymes and play**.

Children will take part in simple communication games such as **‘What’s in the Box?’**, where they will explore familiar objects such as animals and vehicles. They will be encouraged to identify objects, match them to pictures and begin to use words, sounds, gestures and facial expressions to communicate what they see.

There will be a **big focus on nursery rhymes** throughout the half term. Children will enjoy singing familiar rhymes, joining in with actions, copying sounds and beginning to anticipate repeated words and phrases. These experiences will support children’s attention, listening, vocabulary and confidence in communicating with others.

Experiencing a Wide Range of Texts

Children will enjoy sharing and exploring a **wide range of age-appropriate texts**, including stories, picture books, rhymes and non-fiction texts. Stories such as ***Rosie’s Walk*** and ***Dear Zoo*** will provide opportunities to develop children’s enjoyment of books, listening and attention, vocabulary and understanding.

Children will be encouraged to explore books independently and with adults, talk about pictures, make sounds, join in with repeated parts and begin to develop an understanding that books and stories can be enjoyed in different ways.

Maths

Our maths learning will begin with **baseline assessments** to help us understand each child’s starting point and identify their individual next steps.

Children will develop their early mathematical understanding through practical play and everyday experiences. They will have opportunities to:

- Combine objects, such as stacking blocks and cups.
- Put objects inside others and take them out again.

- Take part in finger rhymes and songs involving numbers.
- Notice and react to changes in the amount of objects in a group of up to three.
- Begin to compare size and weight using gestures and simple language such as '**bigger**', '**little**', '**smaller**', '**high**', '**low**', '**tall**' and '**heavy**'.

Mathematical learning will be embedded throughout the provision, allowing children to explore these concepts naturally through play and everyday routines.

PSED – Settling In and Building Relationships

Our main priority during Autumn 1 will be supporting children to **settle into Nursery and feel safe, happy and secure**.

Children will begin to develop relationships with their key adults and other children while becoming familiar with the routines of the Nursery day. They will be supported to develop their independence, confidence and sense of belonging.

Through play and everyday experiences, children will begin to explore their feelings and learn how to communicate their needs. Adults will model positive interactions and support children to begin sharing, taking turns and playing alongside others.



PE

Children will be introduced to PE and begin to become familiar with the routines and expectations of physical activity sessions.

They will develop their **fundamental movement skills** through age-appropriate activities, exploring movements such as running, jumping, balancing, throwing and moving in different ways. Children will also begin to develop their spatial awareness, coordination and confidence when using equipment.

Alongside PE sessions, children will have opportunities throughout the day to move, climb, balance and explore different ways of using their bodies.



Fine Motor Development

Fine motor development will be an important part of our provision. Children will take part in activities such as **Dough Disco**, using dough to strengthen their hands and fingers while developing coordination and control.

Children will also enjoy **scarf dancing**, exploring movement, rhythm and different ways of moving their bodies while developing coordination and spatial awareness.

Expressive Arts and Design

Children will have opportunities to explore a wide range of **materials and creative experiences**. The focus will be on exploration and experimentation rather than creating a finished product.

Children will be encouraged to touch, feel, manipulate and investigate different materials, making choices about what they would like to use and how they would like to explore them.

Music, movement and songs will also form an important part of our provision, with children enjoying **nursery rhymes, singing, dancing and musical experiences** throughout the half term.

Through these experiences, children will begin to express themselves, explore their creativity and develop confidence in using different materials and forms of expression.