

# Willow Class

## Curriculum Overview

### Summer 2026



#### This term's themes:

### 'Minibeasts' and 'Fabulous Friends!'

We will be exploring these themes through stories and play. Much of our learning will be led by the children's interests and ideas.

Children will be encouraged to make choices as to the activities they select as well as working with adults on their personal developmental targets.

Each child will have a key adult who will support and monitor progress. The key adults will help children to settle into Willow Class and learn daily routines.

#### **Communication and Language**

Children will widen the range of language they understand and can express through daily interactions with key adults. They will learn to engage in more complex conversations through role play activities.

Children will have opportunities to engage with less familiar visitors in a safe environment.

We will use rhymes to explore and experiment with sounds and language. Our focus rhymes this term are 'Incey, Wincey Spider', '1,2,3,4,5, Once I caught a fish alive', 'Jack and Jill' and 'Ring-a-ring-a roses'.

#### Reminders:

- Morning session is 9.00am -12.00pm and afternoon session is 12.00pm – 3.00pm.
- If your child is going to be absent, please inform the school office before the session.
- Label **all** items of clothing, water bottles and anything else your child brings to nursery.
- Avoid sending in valuable items or toys your child is very attached to.
- Children staying for the full day will need a packed lunch. We encourage healthy eating and lunches must not include anything containing nuts due to allergies.
- With the exception of small stud earrings, jewellery should not be worn to nursery for safety reasons.
- A learning letter will be sent to parents via email each week with reminders and to let parents know what children have been learning.

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

Children will have opportunities to experience new situations through exploring the wider school site. Drama workshops and a visit from 'Little City' will support children to be confident in unfamiliar social circumstances whilst being supported by adults they know well.

Children will develop their ability to play co-operatively with their peers; building friendships, sharing and finding solutions to conflicts.

### **Physical Development**

Children will be developing the skills needed to play group games in our weekly GetSet4PE session.

Equipment and apparatus will also be provided during continuous provision to practise using large muscle movements.

Small motor control will be developed through cutting, threading, modelling, play dough manipulation etc. Children due to join Reception classes in September will also have a weekly swimming session.

### **Maths**

Children will begin to understand that the last number reached when counting a small set of objects tells you how many there are in total.

They will create and describe patterns. They will talk about properties of familiar shapes.

Children will begin to link numerals and amounts and will continue to develop fast recognition of 1, 2 and 3 objects.

We will continue to use the White Rose scheme of work.

### **Literacy**

Children will develop their phonological skills during a daily Foundations for phonics session.

They will engage in conversations about familiar stories. Our focus books this term are 'The Hungry Caterpillar', 'Let's take a walk', 'Kindness makes us strong' and 'Hello Friend'.

Children will use overwriting and then copying to begin to form the letters and write their names.

### **Expressive Arts and Design**

Children will begin to express their feelings and emotions through pictures and using musical instruments. They will explore colour mixing.

They will begin to develop complex stories using small world equipment like animal sets, dolls and dolls houses and larger scale role play.

Children will practise and perform an assembly for their parents and friends.

### **Understanding the World**

Children will develop positive attitudes about the differences between people by thinking about what makes us all special.

Children will explore natural materials, indoors and outside.

They will observe the life cycle of a caterpillar through watching and talking about our class caterpillars. We will also consider how we can look after animals through visits from Amber the dog.