



Reception Curriculum 2026-27

Term	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Focus topics	What can we see? My Toys What do Christians believe?	How can we explore colour? Fruit salads My school Which times are special and why?	How can we create worlds? I am a farmer	Materials and mark making. Hatching ducklings. My village	3D shapes and materials. I am an explorer.	Using our bodies to make art. My world
WOW moments	Transition Swimming River schools. Harvest assembly	Christmas production River Schools VISIT FROM LOCAL EMERGENCY SERVICES	Easter egg rolling Visit to a farm	Ducklings hatching.	Beach trip.	School trip Sports day.
Key texts	Little Red (TTS)-Bethan Woolvin The Colour Monster (TTS)-Anna Llenas Room on the Broom (TTS)- Julia Donaldson Pumpkin Soup- Helen Cooper Poetry Free Verse Poem- Harvest Poetry Basket: Pointy Hat Chop Chop Wise Old Owl A Basket of Apples Breezy Weather Cup of Tea		Jack and the Beanstalk (TT)- After the Fall (TTS)- Dan Santat Lost and Found (TTS)- Oliver Jeffers A first book of Nature- Nicola Davies The Owl and the Pussy-Cat- Edward Lear Poetry Basket: Spring Wind Furry Furry Squirrel Hungry Birdies A Little Seed Stepping Stones Mrs Bluebird		Supertato (TTS)- Sue Hendra and Paul Linnet The Secret Elephant- Ellan Rankin The Koala that could (TTS)- Rachel Bright The Street Beneath My Feet- Charlotte Guillain Little People, Big Dreams Isabel Sanchez Vegara Poetry The magic Box- Kit Wright Poetry Basket: The Fox Monkey Babies Thunderstorm Five Little Owls If I Were So Very Small Under a Stone	
Literacy comprehension	Talk Through Stories Little Wandle Reading groups					
Literacy writing	Name writing Letter formation through phonics. Little Wandle Handwriting Mark making in response to topic lessons. Opportunities for writing in all provision areas. Create your own colour monster	Name Writing Spelling through phonics. Little Wandle Handwriting Write simple instructions for making soup- chop, cut, mix	Label key scenes from a traditional tale such as jack and the bean stalk. Little Wandle Handwriting Begin to write a simple sentence – Jack is up high. The bean grows. A harp sings.	Create a lost and found box. Label items. Little Wandle Handwriting Create lost posters for the ducks. Instructions for looking after ducks	Little Wandle Handwriting Sequence real life events – seed planting, plants growing. Instructions for looking after butterflies. Life cycles of butterflies – creating butterfly gardens and labelling areas/ creating signs.	Little Wandle Handwriting Fossil descriptions along side fossils in art.
Literacy word reading	Little wandle A1 Assessments in week 5. Week 1 s a t p Week 2 i n m d Week 3 g o c k i s Week 4 c k e u r l Week 5 h b f I the	Little wandle A2 Week 1 ff ll ss j put* pull* full* as Week 2 v w x y and has his her Week 3 z zz qu words with –s /s/ added at the end (hats sits) ch go no to into Week 4 sh th ng nk she push* he of Week 5 • words with –s /s/ added at the end (hats sits) • words ending in s /z/ (his) and with –s /z/ added at the end (bags) we me be	Little wandle SP1 Week 1 ai ee igh oa Week 2 oo oo ar or was you they Week 3 ur ow oi ear my by all Week 4 air er words with double letters: dd mm tt bb rr gg pp are sure pure Week 5 longer words	Little wandle SP2 Week 1 Review Phase 3: ai ee igh oa oo ar or ur oo ow oi ear Review all taught so far Week 2 Review Phase 3: er air Secure spelling words with double letters longer words Week 3 words with two or more digraphs Week 4 longer words words ending in –ing compound words Week 5 longer words words with s /z/ in the middle words with –s /s/ /z/ at the end words with –es /z/ at the end	Little Wandle SU1 Week 1 short vowels CVCC said so have like Week 2 short vowels CVCC CCVC some come love do Week 3 short vowels CCVCC CCCVC CCCVCC were here little says Week 4 longer words compound words there when what one Week 5 root words ending in: –ing, –ed /t/, –ed /id/ /ed/ –est out today	Little Wandle SU2 Week 1 long vowel sounds CVCC CCVC Review all taught so far Week 2 long vowel sounds CCVC CCCVC CCV CCVCC Secure spelling Week 3 Phase 4 words with –s /s/ at the end Phase 4 words with –s /z/ at the end Phase 4 words with –es /z/ at the end longer words Week 4 root words ending in: –ing, –ed /t/, –ed /id/ /ed/, –ed /d/ Week 5 root words ending in: –er, –est longer words



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Mathematics	Match, sort and compare. Measure and patterns. 1,2,3	Circles and triangles. 1,2,3,4,5 Shapes with 4 sides.	Alive in 5 Mass and capacity 6,7,8	Length, height and time. 9,10 3D shapes	To 20 and beyond How many now? Manipulate, compose and decompose.	Sharing and grouping. Visualise build and map. Make connections
Communication and language	Introduce check in and check out circles. Answering the register with good morning. Greeting for visitors – hello, how are you? Poetry basket. Perform as a class during whole school assembly. Harvest songs	Christmas songs. Christmas play. Poetry basket. Talk through stories. Whole school assemblies performances in groups. Solo poetry performances in class.	Poetry basket Singing assemblies Solo performances in class of songs and poetry.	Poetry basket Singing assemblies. Reading written work out in assembly.	Poetry basket Singing assemblies. Reading written work out in assembly.	Poetry basket Singing assemblies. Reading written work out in assembly. Applying for the steering group. Becoming an ambassador.
Past and present	Toys in living memory. What toys did you like when you were a baby? What toys have you grown out of? Timeline of toys. Asking family about your own past. Parents to send in photos of children as babies playing with a toy. Vocabulary Past, present, future, change, timeline, order, suitable, favourite, parents, grandparents, baby.	Remembrance day. Who can you remember and how do you remember people who aren't here anymore? Vocabulary War, soldier, poppy, remember, remembrance, memorial, grave.	Why should we remember Florence nightingale and mary seacole? People who help us. Doctors Have you been to a hospital before? Vocabulary Doctor, nurse, police officer, fire fighter, hospital, police station, fire station, help, compassion, jobs, 999, hero.		Who was captain cook? Where were you born and where's the furthest place you have been. Find out where captain cook went and what he might have seen. Vocabulary Explore, explorer, world, globe, Earth, journey, voyage, ship, adventure,	
People cultures and communities	Introductions to staff in the school. Meeting reading buddies from Heather class. Introduction to play leaders. Draw a simple map of the school. Vocabulary Jobs, responsibility, responsible, friends, helpers, staff,	Understand the roles of staff in school. People who help use visit from local emergency worker. Which times are special and why? Christmas Vocabulary Special, sacred, holy, celebrate, celebration, family	What is special about our world? Vocabulary Unique, special, awe and wonder,	Which people are special and why? Vocabulary Family, friends, celebrity, heroes, reasons,	Which places are special and why? Visit to a place of worship. Vocabulary Worship, God, church, mosque, temple, synagogue, special, private,	
The natural word	Signs of autumn Observational drawings. River schools Leaf man art work collage. Vocabulary Autumn, changes, seasons, (local plants found on walks),	Everyday materials Find and name materials. Use rubbings and printings to explore different materials. Vocabulary Hard, soft, rough, smooth, wet, dry, plastic, metal, wood	Insect hotels linked to art. Vocabulary (local insects) home, habitat, materials, natural, manmade	Getting ducklings to hatch. Signs of spring. Observational drawings and notes. Vocabulary Hatch, chick, growing, bird, egg, incubator,	Caterpillars to butterflies/ Signs of summer. Vocabulary chrysalis, changes, growing, wings, transform	Contrasting locations to Leaeholm. Making homes for leaeholm and people in contrasting locations.
Personal, social and emotional development	Sign class, playground and lunch charters. See a restorative circle in action and the 5 questions asked. Choose trusted adults. Getting dressed for swimming Vocabulary Rules, lunch, circle, turn taking, trust, trusted.	Learn first articles of the rights of a child. Healthy eating fruit salad. Getting dressed for river schools	Personal hygiene, hand washing linked to farm trip.	Caring for others- looking after ducks. Reinforcing rules for looking after them.	Showing emotions, colour monster and potato faces.	Representing and sharing emotions through colour, shape and movement.
Physical development	Introduction to playground equipment and how to use it. Finger gym set up in continuous provision. Whole class PE lessons. Guided Marking making supported by teachers. River schools Swimming lessons.	Whole class PE Daily handwriting LW. Using scissors and small tools. Playdough making. Paint mixing station. Developing tripod pencil grip. River schools	Whole class PE Daily handwriting lessons LW. Use of construction equipment in garden. – Crates, tubes, boards reintroduce after winter. Using scissors and small tools to create with intent.	Whole class PE Throwing and Daily handwriting lessons LW. River schools Making fruit salad.	Whole class PE Daily handwriting lessons LW. River schools Swimming lessons Drawing plans before creating.	Whole class PE Daily handwriting lessons LW. River schools Weaving and threading.



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	Vocabulary Muscle, start, stop, run, jump, throw, catch	Daily handwriting lessons LW. Vocabulary Tripod, straight, turn, duck, stretch	River schools Vocabulary High, low, near, far, under, over, through, around.	Vocabulary Cut, slice, chop, mix, poke	Vocabulary Fast, slow, steady, straight, zig-zag, curve, direction.	
Creating with materials	Circles and spirals Access art what can we see – observational drawings, circles, collecting arranging and recording. Vocabulary Cut, stick, fold, join, build	Access art how can we explore colour. Creating a colour sketch book using fabric to make the book. Rubbings with wax crayons. Create your own colour t-shirt. Vocabulary Paint, print, decorate	Access art how can we create worlds. Using cardboard cutting and sticking. Making props for a teddy. Insect hotels. Flaps and folds paper world. Vocabulary Smooth, bumpy, rough, soft, shiny	Painting without a brush. Painting with string Drawing to music. Collage an imaginary landscape. Painting onto natural objects.	Making potato heads using clay/plastacine Creating roller repeating patterns. Creating a clay pen. Vocabulary Clay, glue, playdoh, scissors, scalpel	Dressing as a fossil using large fabric. Hand a foot prints. Drawing and dancing.
Being imaginative and expressive	Poetry basket Maing sounds in different ways. MUSIC CURRICULUM	Song of celebration. Listening to and responding to songs from different cultures. Learning Christmas songs.	Finding the beat. Create actions to well known poems, nursery rhymes and songs.	Musical stories. Create sound effects to match mood and scene. Listen to music that creates different moods.	Transport and music. Learning simple songs and performing them. Linked to kapow transport theme.	Tuned and untuned instruments. Orchastras and the 4 music instrument groups.