

Communication and Language

The staff model good communication skills throughout the day by talking to the children, asking them questions and giving instructions. The children are encouraged to talk in a small group and to make their needs clear through speech and gestures. The children will also learn some familiar words related to concepts such as 'big' through word aware. Listening games and turn taking activities also help support this area of learning.

Physical Development

The children will be encouraged to be as independent as possible and will learn about going to the toilet and washing their hands, personal hygiene and healthy eating. They will be encouraged to dress themselves and put their own coat on.

The children are provided with many opportunities for movement both indoors and outdoors, we have a range of bikes, scooters, climbing equipment and a weekly gross-motor session (PE).

Personal, Social & Emotional Development

During the first half term, the children will become more confident to leave their parents and carers and go into nursery happily. Our key-worker system will provide your child with a safe, secure and familiar adult to build a relationship within the early days. It is very important that your child feels safe and happy; we will read lots of books about settling into nursery and want to make them feel as relaxed as possible.

Literacy

We will be reading some of our favourite stories and learning traditional nursery rhymes, which will encourage the children to join in with repeated and familiar phrases. The children will look at books independently, beginning to recognise and discuss illustrations and familiar print within the environment. The children will engage in a range of mark making experiences in order to prepare their fingers for writing! They will enjoy drawing, painting, threading, play dough and much more.



The Federation of Abbey Infant & Junior School Curriculum Map for Year Nursery 2025-2026 - Autumn term

For specific class information see: [Class Pages](#)

For dates see: [Calendar](#)

For information Year group related – email: YN@abbey.sandwell.sch.uk



Our topics are 'Amazing Me' And 'Celebrations'

This topic is split into 'All about me' and 'Celebrations'. During the first half term, we will focus on settling the children into their new surroundings; during this time we will talk to the children about their families, their likes, interests and experiences. This is a great way to start the new academic year as we all get to know each other and the children build excellent relationships with their peers and teachers.

During the topic 'Celebrations', we will find out about different cultural and traditional celebrations such as Diwali, Bonfire night and Christmas. We will also talk about familiar events such as Birthdays and Weddings.

Mathematics

The children will begin to recognise numbers, patterns and shapes in the environment. They will become familiar with the structure of the day through using a visual timetable and discussions about what happens next. The children will use Numicon as apparatus for counting. We will sing lots of number songs and have plenty of opportunities for Maths through indoor and outdoor learning.

Understanding the World

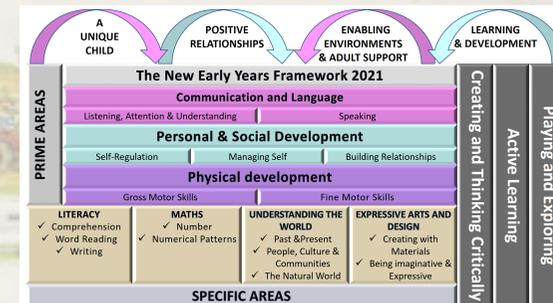
Amazing Me is a lovely topic to start the year off; we will talk about similarities and differences between the children and their families, draw self-portraits and learn about different parts of the body. During the Celebrations topic, we will talk about different cultures, beliefs and practices. We celebrate and respect different religions and cultures and will find out about the children's personal experiences.

Expressive Arts and Design

The children will be provided with lots of opportunities to explore a range of creative materials such as paint, play dough, foam and collage. We will name parts of our bodies through song and experiment with a range of movements through music. We will be learning a nursery rhyme each week, play musical instruments, sing and dance. Our role play area is a home which encourages children to explore, use their imagination, dress up and act out different roles.

Characteristics of effective teaching and learning

The children are encouraged to be independent and think of ways to solve problems for themselves. We encourage the children to keep trying when they find tasks difficult and to feel proud of themselves when they achieve their goals. The children are given lots of opportunities to work as a team and make decisions together.



Phonics & early reading

Early phonics in Nursery is all about developing their listening skills. This is achieved through activities such as going on a sound walk, identifying everyday sounds in the environment, listening to rhymes and joining in with nursery rhymes.

We read stories daily and ask the children to choose a book they would like to hear.

Life skills, soft skills and bucket list experiences

For life skills, children will practise dressing themselves by putting on their coats independently and getting dressed up in the role play area. They will be encouraged to maintain personal hygiene by practising the skill of washing hands and knowing the importance of being clean.

Children will experience some fun activities from the **bucket list**, such as an Autumn fun day, a Bhangra dancing workshop and a Christmas trip to Ash End Farm. These have been carefully planned to enhance the curriculum.

Soft skills are skills that are embedded in every day routines and through Child Initiated Learning. This will include making decisions, leadership, creativity, being a good team player, accepting responsibility and developing communicating skills.