

Communication and Language

Our role play areas are set up as home corners and will be changed to link with the different celebrations. This encourages imaginative language and the confidence for children to act out their chosen roles. Children are learning traditional rhymes and songs to learn new words and their meaning. The children will also learn some words related to concepts, starting more simply with words they may already know such as 'cold'.



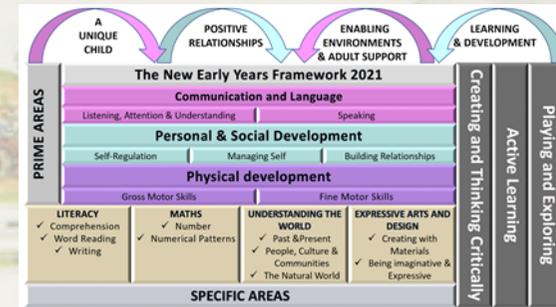
The Federation of Abbey Infant & Junior School Curriculum Map for Reception 2025-2026 - Autumn term



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

For dates see: [Calendar](#)

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



Physical Development

In P.E. children will be using story to practise large and small movements, making them aware of the space around them, including jumping, hopping and skipping. They will be developing fine motor skills through different activities such as using Playdough, threading and using pegs and pegboards. Children will also be working on pen and pencil control and developing correct grip.

This term, children will start Forest School on a rotational basis on a Friday where they will be able to explore the outdoor Forest area. Our PE days are Wednesday and Thursday.

Our topic is All About Me!

Through this topic we will be talking about ourselves, family and community. We will then make links to our own experiences and celebrations.

This topic is designed to encourage children to build relationships with others, learn about similarities and differences between themselves and others and to respect and celebrate thoughts, experiences and beliefs. Children will be creating work inspired by Autumn and we will have a 'Celebration of Differences' day, where we celebrate individuality, share our likes, dislikes and family experiences. We will also be going on a trip to the farm to see Santa.

Phonics & early reading

Children will be learning new letter sounds every week. They will be encouraged to identify sounds in words and will segment, blend and read CVC words (e.g. p-i-n, f-i-n) and tricky words during daily phonics sessions. They will have the opportunity to apply this knowledge during 'Child Initiated Learning'. They will be encouraged to talk about what is happening in the illustrations of books and to talk about a theme in the story, talk about the characters and describe the beginning, middle and end of a story.

Personal, Social & Emotional Development

Children will learn class rules, becoming aware of routine and boundaries. Opportunities will be given during 'child Initiated learning' activities where team work and independence will be encouraged.

Children's ability to take turns and share will continue to be developed. Circle time activities will allow children to express how they feel and share experiences. This will all help children to develop self-regulation.

Mathematics

Children will be looking at ways to represent numbers from 1-5 including the different ways 5 is made up; e.g. 2 and 3. They will also be practising counting to 10 and learning number rhymes. Children also explore numbers with Numicon, counters and tens frames. They will be learning new vocabulary to describe the position of an object and name and describe shapes.

Understanding the World

Children will be using their box brought in from home to talk about people and experiences special to them. Children will be able to observe and make comments about nature and living things during outdoor learning. The role play area will be set up as a kitchen for imaginative play. The children will have the opportunity to take part in Forest School this term where they will be able to explore the natural world around them and understand the effect of changing seasons.

Life skills, soft skills and bucket list experiences

Life Skills will be encouraged through experiences such as learning how to dress themselves independently during 'Child Initiated play', P.E. and Forest School. It includes personal hygiene, where children practise self-care, the skill of washing hands and knowing the importance of being clean and using the toilet independently and hygienically.

Literacy

Our 'Talk for Writing' uses language, pictures and actions to help children remember and learn each story or poem. Our poem 'All of Me' helps children develop a sense of rhyme, rhythm and alliteration. The story of 'Harry and the Dinosaurs Have a Happy Birthday' will enable children to relate to something they have experienced themselves and provide writing opportunities for mark making and letter formation.

Expressive Arts and Design

In our music sessions, the children will be learning to keep a steady beat and using body parts to make sounds. Later in the term, children will be learning songs for our Christmas performance. Children will be exploring different textures and colours by painting paper plate self-portraits, designing a firework display and making models with junk modelling resources.

Children will be learning about the work of Andrew Goldsworthy and Frida Kahlo and creating their own work based on these artists.

Characteristics of effective teaching and learning

Through playing and exploring, children will investigate and experience new things and develop the confidence to have a go. Through active learning, children will develop the ability to concentrate and persevere when encountering difficulties and celebrate and enjoy their achievements. Through creating and thinking critically, children will develop their own ideas, make links between their ideas and develop strategies to complete tasks.

Children will be giving us ideas of what they would like to put on their **bucket list** (experiences that make learning memorable and fun), and taking part in activities such as a Bhangra Dancing Workshop.

Soft skills are skills that are embedded in every day child initiated learning and this will include making decisions, leadership, creativity, being a good team player, turn taking, sharing, accepting responsibility and developing communication skills.