Didsbury CE Primary School | Belonging Believing Becoming | Thrive CE Academy Trust

# Family Learning Guide

## Nursery | Autumn term

Settling in • me and my family • celebrations • exploring materials

**FIRST HALF-TERM**
Finding our feet: our classroom, families, stories and autumn.

**SECOND HALF-TERM**
Celebrations and science: Diwali, Christmas, magnets and floating or sinking.

A simple guide to what your child will be learning in Nursery this term, the key experiences they will enjoy and how you can support their learning at home.

## The Seven Areas of Learning

### Communication & Language

- We practise looking, listening and sitting together for short stories and carpet times, building towards around five minutes of focused listening.
- Children listen to familiar stories, join in with rhymes, learn everyday words and answer simple "who?", "what?" and "where?" questions.
- Adults model conversations, help children take turns and folese simple instructions.
- These early speaking and listening skills help children understand others and share their ideas.




### Mathematics

- We compare groups using "more", "fewer" and "the same", sing counting songs, spot repeats and begin to recognise groups of one, two or three without counting (subitising).
- In block play we explore Stage 2: arranging blocks in rows, stacking towers and repeating shapes.
- This develops early understanding of height, position, balance and patterns.




### Personal, Social & Emotional Development

- We learn classroom routines, find where our belongings go and build trusting friendships.
- Stories and play help us name feelings and use our calm space.
- We celebrate what makes families and people different, practise kind words and compliments, and begin to try simple breathing strategies when upset.

### Understanding the World

- We explore our school, meet people who help us and talk about our families and homes.
- We notice autumn changes and Harvest.
- Later, we test which objects float or sink in water, try magnets and compare natural objects.
- We learn about Diwali and Christmas and how families celebrate in different ways.



### Physical Development

- We ride trikes, balance and explore obstacle courses.
- In Scribble Club, children make large lines and circles using chunky crayons, pens and brushes.
- Many begin with a whole-hand or cylindrical pencil grip; rolling dough and making big arm movements help build strength.
- We practise straight lines and circles (Beery shapes), the movement patterns needed later for forming letters.



### Expressive Arts & Design

- We paint self-portraits, explore printing, collage and colour mixing, sing familiar rhymes and try instruments.
- Our Stage 2 block play starts with rows and towers, then we turn them into roads or small-world scenes with adult help.
- Repeating and rearranging blocks develops creativity and helps children communicate their ideas through building.



### Literacy

- Before learning individual letter sounds, we build phonological awareness: the ability to hear and play with sounds.
- In Autumn 1 children notice and copy environmental sounds through sound lotto, stories and rhymes; in Autumn 2 they distinguish instrument sounds, rhythms and missing rhyme words.
- We explore book covers, choose favourite stories and give meaning to our drawings in Scribble Club.



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# Our Reading & Rhyme Journey

Books, stories and songs

Our core texts are explored in more depth; supporting stories enrich our daily reading. We also revisit favourite books and rhymes throughout the year.

## Autumn 1

### CORE TEXTS



Goat Goes to Playgroup



The Family Book



Scribble, Scribble!



Rosie's Walk



The Little Red Hen



Brown Bear, What Do You See?



Happy to Be Me

### OTHER STORIES WE WILL SHARE

- Rabbit's Nap and Fox's Socks
- Doctor Maisy
- Owl Babies
- The Train Ride
- Hug
- Where's Spot
- All Through the Night

### NURSERY RHYMES

- Wind the Bobbin Up
- Twinkle Twinkle Little Star
- Do You Know the Muffin Man

## Autumn 2

### CORE TEXTS



Jack and the Beanstalk



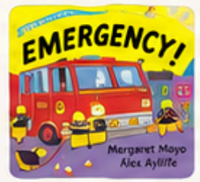
Kipper's Birthday



We're Going on a Bear Hunt



Dear Santa



Emergency!



The Hospital Dog



Peace at Last

### OTHER STORIES WE WILL SHARE

- Wow! Said the Owl
- First Festivals: Diwali
- Monkey and Me
- Alfie's Christmas
- The Snowman
- Monkey Puzzle
- The Smeds and the Smoos

### NURSERY RHYMES

- Down at the Station
- The Grand Old Duke of York
- The Wheels on the Bus

**A LITTLE IDEA FOR HOME** Talk about people your child knows, sing the term's rhymes together and try "Will it float or sink?" at bath time.



*Our curriculum is flexible: experiences may be adapted or revisited to match children's interests and needs.*