

Birth to three - babies, toddlers and young children will be learning to:

- Turn towards familiar sounds. They are also startled by loud noises and accurately locate the source of a familiar person's voice, such as their key person or a parent.
- Gaze at faces, copying facial expressions and movements like sticking out their tongue. Make eye contact for longer periods.
- Watch someone's face as they talk.
- Copy what adults do, taking 'turns' in conversations (through babbling) and activities. Try to copy adult speech and lip movements.
- Enjoy singing, music and toys that make sounds.
- Recognise and are calmed by a familiar and friendly voice.
- Listen and respond to a simple instruction.

★ Observation Checkpoint

Around 6 months, does the baby respond to familiar voices, turn to their own name and 'take turns' in conversations with babbling?

Around 12 months, does the baby 'take turns' by babbling and using single words? Does the baby point to things and use gestures to show things to adults and share interests?

Around 18 months, is the toddler listening and responding to a simple instruction like: "Adam, put on your shoes?"

- Make sounds to get attention in different ways (for example, crying when hungry or unhappy, making gurgling sounds, laughing, cooing or babbling).
- Babble, using sounds like 'ba- ba', 'mamama'.
- Use gestures like waving and pointing to communicate.

- Reach or point to something they want while making sounds.
- Copy your gestures and words.
- Constantly babble and use single words during play.
- Use intonation, pitch and changing volume when 'talking'.

★ Observation Checkpoint

Is the baby using speech sounds (babbling) to communicate with adults?

Around 12 months: is the baby beginning to use single words like mummum, dada, tete (teddy)?

Around 15 months, can the baby say around 10 words (they may not all be clear)?

Around 18 months, is the toddler using a range of adult like speech patterns (jargon) and at least 20 clear words?

- Reach or point to something they want while making sounds.
- Copy your gestures and words.
- Constantly babble and use single words during play.
- Use intonation, pitch and changing volume when 'talking'.
- Understand single words in context – 'cup', 'milk', 'daddy'.
- Understand frequently used words such as 'all gone', 'no' and 'bye-bye'.

★ Observation Checkpoint

Around 12 months, can the baby choose between 2 objects: "Do you want the ball or the car?"

- Understand simple instructions like "give to mummy" or "stop".
- Recognise and point to objects if asked about them.

★ Observation Checkpoint

Around 18 months, does the toddler understand lots of different single words and some two-word phrases, such as "give me" or "shoes on"?

- Generally focus on an activity of their own choice and find it difficult to be directed by an adult.
- Listen to other people's talk with interest, but can easily be distracted by other things.
- Can become frustrated when they can't make themselves understood.
- Start to say how they are feeling, using words as well as actions.

Birth to three - babies, toddlers and young children will be learning to:

- Start to develop conversation, often jumping from topic to topic.
- Develop pretend play: 'putting the baby to sleep' or 'driving the car to the shops'.

★ Observation Checkpoint

By around 2 years old, is the child showing an interest in what other children are playing and sometimes joins in?

By around 3 years old, can the child shift from one task to another if you get their attention. Using the child's name can help: "Jason, can you stop now? We're tidying up."

- Use the speech sounds p, b, m, w.
- Are usually still learning to pronounce:
 - l/r/w/y - s/sh/ch/dz/j
 - f/th - multi-syllabic words such as 'banana' and 'computer'

★ Observation Checkpoint

Towards their second birthday, can the child use up to 50 words?

Is the child beginning to put two or three words together: "more milk"?

Is the child frequently asking questions, such as the names of people and objects?

Towards their third birthday, can the child use around 300 words? These words include descriptive language. They include words for time (for example, 'now' and 'later'), space (for example, 'over there') and function (for example, they can tell you a sponge is for washing).

Is the child linking up to 5 words together?

Is the child using pronouns ('me', 'him', 'she'), and using plurals and prepositions ('in', 'on', 'under') - these may not always be used correctly to start with.

Can the child follow instructions with three key words like: "Can you wash dolly's face?"

- Listen to simple stories and understand what is happening, with the help of the pictures.
- Identify familiar objects and properties for practitioners when they are described. For example: 'Katie's coat', 'blue car', 'shiny apple'.
- Understand and act on longer sentences like 'make teddy jump' or 'find your coat'.
- Understand simple questions about 'who', 'what' and 'where' (but generally not 'why').

★ Observation Checkpoint

Around the age of 2, can the child understand many more words than they can say – between 200–500 words?

Around the age of 2, can the child understand simple questions and instructions like: "Where's your hat?" or "What's the boy in the picture doing?"

Around the age of 3, can the child show that they understand action words by pointing to the right picture in a book. For example: "Who's jumping?"

Note: watch out for children whose speech is not easily understood by unfamiliar adults. Monitor their progress and consider whether a hearing test might be needed.

3 & 4-year-olds will be learning to:

- Enjoy listening to longer stories and can remember much of what happens.
- Can find it difficult to pay attention to more than one thing at a time.
- Use a wider range of vocabulary.
- Understand a question or instruction that has two parts, such as "Get your coat and wait at the door".
- Understand 'why' questions, like: "Why do you think the caterpillar got so fat?"
- Sing a large repertoire of songs.
- Know many rhymes, be able to talk about familiar books, and be able to tell a long story.
- Develop their communication, but may continue to have problems with irregular tenses and plurals, such as 'runned' for 'ran', 'swimmed' for 'swam'.
- May have problems saying:
 - some sounds: r, j, th, ch, and sh
 - multisyllabic words such as 'pterodactyl', 'planetarium' or 'hippopotamus'
- Use longer sentences of four to six words.
- Be able to express a point of view and to debate when they disagree with an adult or a friend, using words as well as actions.
- Can start a conversation with an adult or a friend and continue it for many turns.
- Use talk to organise themselves and their play: "Let's go on a bus... you sit there... I'll be the driver."

★ Observation Checkpoint

Around the age of 3, can the child shift from one task to another if you fully obtain their attention, for example, by using their name?

Around the age of 4, is the child using sentences of four to six words – "I want to play with cars" or "What's that thing called?"

Can the child use sentences joined up with words like 'because', 'or', 'and'? For example: "I like ice cream because it makes my tongue shiver."

Is the child using the future and past tense: "I am going to the park" and "I went to the shop"?

Can the child answer simple 'why' questions?

Children in reception will be learning to:

- Understand how to listen carefully and why listening is important.
- Learn new vocabulary.
- Use new vocabulary through the day.
- Ask questions to find out more and to check they understand what has been said to them.
- Articulate their ideas and thoughts in well-formed sentences.
- Connect one idea or action to another using a range of connectives.
- Describe events in some detail.
- Use talk to help work out problems and organise thinking and activities explain how things work and why they might happen.
- Develop social phrases.
- Engage in story times.
- Listen to and talk about stories to build familiarity and understanding.
- Retell the story, once they have developed a deep familiarity with the text; some as exact repetition and some in their own words.
- Use new vocabulary in different contexts.
- Listen carefully to rhymes and songs, paying attention to how they sound.
- Learn rhymes, poems and songs.
- Engage in non-fiction books.
- Listen to and talk about selected non-fiction to develop a deep familiarity with new knowledge and vocabulary.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Birth to three - babies, toddlers and young children will be learning to:

- Find ways to calm themselves, through being calmed and comforted by their key person.
- Establish their sense of self.
- Express preferences and decisions. They also try new things and start establishing their autonomy.
- Engage with others through gestures, gaze and talk.
- Use that engagement to achieve a goal. For example, gesture towards their cup to say they want a drink.
- Find ways of managing transitions, for example from their parent to their key person.
- Thrive as they develop self-assurance.
- Look back as they crawl or walk away from their key person. Look for clues about how to respond to something interesting.
- Play with increasing confidence on their own and with other children, because they know their key person is nearby and available.
- Feel confident when taken out around the local neighbourhood, and enjoy exploring new places with their key person.
- Feel strong enough to express a range of emotions.
- Grow in independence, rejecting help ("me do it"). Sometimes this leads to feelings of frustration and tantrums.
- Begin to show 'effortful control'. For example, waiting for a turn and resisting the strong impulse to grab what they want or push their way to the front.
- Be increasingly able to talk about and manage their emotions.
- Notice and ask questions about differences, such as skin colour, types of hair, gender, special needs and disabilities, and so on.
- Develop friendships with other children.
- Safely explore emotions beyond their normal range through play and stories.
- Are talking about their feelings in more elaborated ways: "I'm sad because..." or "I love it when ...".

★ Observation Checkpoint

Around 7 months, does the baby respond to their name and respond to the emotions in your voice?

Around 12 months, does the baby start to be shy around strangers and show preferences for certain people and toys?

Around 18 months, is the toddler increasingly curious about their world and wanting to explore it and be noticed by you?

Around the age of 2, does the child start to see themselves as a separate person? For example, do they decide what to play with, what to eat, what to wear?

Between the ages of 2 and 3, does the child start to enjoy the company of other children and want to play with them?

Note: watch out for children who get extremely upset by certain sounds, smells or tastes, and cannot be calmed. Or children who seem worried, sad or angry for much of the time. You will need to work closely with parents and other agencies to find out more about these developmental difficulties.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

3 & 4-year-olds will be learning to:

- Select and use activities and resources, with help when needed. This helps them to achieve a goal they have chosen, or one which is suggested to them.
- Develop their sense of responsibility and membership of a community.
- Become more outgoing with unfamiliar people, in the safe context of their setting.
- Show more confidence in new social situations.
- Play with one or more other children, extending and elaborating play ideas.
- Help to find solutions to conflicts and rivalries. For example, accepting that not everyone can be Spider-Man in the game, and suggesting other ideas.
- Increasingly follow rules, understanding why they are important.
- Do not always need an adult to remind them of a rule.
- Develop appropriate ways of being assertive.
- Talk with others to solve conflicts.
- Talk about their feelings using words like 'happy', 'sad', 'angry' or 'worried'.
- Begin to understand how others might be feeling.

★ Observation Checkpoint

Around the age of 3, can the child sometimes manage to share or take turns with others, with adult guidance and understanding 'yours' and 'mine'?

Can the child settle to some activities for a while?

Around the age of 4, does the child play alongside others or do they always want to play alone?

Does the child take part in pretend play (for example, being 'mummy' or 'daddy'?)

Does the child take part in other pretend play with different roles – being the Gruffalo, for example? Can the child generally negotiate solutions to conflicts in their play?

Note: watch out for children who seem worried, sad or angry for much of the time, children who seem to flit from one thing to the next or children who seem to stay for over-long periods doing the same thing, and become distressed if they are encouraged to do something different. You will need to work closely with parents and other agencies to find out more about these developmental difficulties.

Children in reception will be learning to:

- See themselves as a valuable individual.
- Build constructive and respectful relationships.
- Express their feelings and consider the feelings of others.
- Show resilience and perseverance in the face of challenge.
- Identify and moderate their own feelings socially and emotionally.
- Think about the perspectives of others.
- Manage their own needs.

Birth to three - babies, toddlers and young children will be learning to:

- Lift their head while lying on their front.
- Push their chest up with straight arms.
- Roll over: from front to back, then back to front.
- Enjoy moving when outdoors and inside.

- Sit without support.
- Begin to crawl in different ways and directions.
- Pull themselves upright and bouncing in preparation for walking.

- Reach out for objects as co-ordination develops.
- Eat finger food and develop likes and dislikes.
- Try a wider range of foods with different tastes and textures.
- Lift objects up to suck them.
- Pass things from one hand to the other. Let go of things and hands them to another person, or drops them.

★ Observation Checkpoint

Does the baby move with ease and enjoyment?

At around 12 months, can the baby pull to stand from a sitting position and sit down?

Can the baby pick up something small with their first finger and thumb (such as a piece of string)?

Note: look out for babies and young toddlers who appear underweight, overweight or to have poor dental health. You will need to work closely with parents and health visitors to help improve the child's health.

- Gradually gain control of their whole body through continual practice of large movements, such as waving, kicking, rolling, crawling and walking.
- Clap and stamp to music.
- Fit themselves into spaces, like tunnels, dens and large boxes, and move around in them.
- Enjoy starting to kick, throw and catch balls.
- Build independently with a range of appropriate resources.
- Begin to walk independently – choosing appropriate props to support at first.
- Walk, run, jump and climb – and start to use the stairs independently.
- Spin, roll and independently use ropes and swings (for example, tyre swings).
- Sit on a push-along wheeled toy, use a scooter or ride a tricycle.

★ Observation Checkpoint

Around their second birthday, can the toddler run well, kick a ball, and jump with both feet off the ground at the same time?

Around their third birthday, can the child climb confidently, catch a large ball and pedal a tricycle?

- Develop manipulation and control.
- Explore different materials and tools.
- Use large and small motor skills to do things independently, for example manage buttons and zips, and pour drinks.
- Show an increasing desire to be independent, such as wanting to feed themselves and dress or undress.

★ Observation Checkpoint

Look out for children who find it difficult to sit comfortably on chairs. They may need help to develop their core muscles. You can help them by encouraging them to scoot on sit-down trikes without pedals, and jump on soft-play equipment.

- Learn to use the toilet with help, and then independently.

3 & 4-year-olds will be learning to:

- Continue to develop their movement, balancing, riding (scooters, trikes and bikes) and ball skills.
- Go up steps and stairs, or climb up apparatus, using alternate feet.
- Skip, hop, stand on one leg and hold a pose for a game like musical statues.
- Use large-muscle movements to wave flags and streamers, paint and make marks.
- Start taking part in some group activities which they make up for themselves, or in teams.
- Are increasingly able to use and remember sequences and patterns of movements which are related to music and rhythm.
- Match their developing physical skills to tasks and activities in the setting. For example, they decide whether to crawl, walk or run across a plank, depending on its length and width.
- Choose the right resources to carry out their own plan. For example, choosing a spade to enlarge a small hole they dug with a trowel.
- Collaborate with others to manage large items, such as moving a long plank safely, carrying large hollow blocks.

★ Observation Checkpoint

Look out for children who appear to be overweight or to have poor dental health, where this has not been picked up and acted on at an earlier health check. Discuss this sensitively with parents and involve the child's health visitor. Adapt activities to suit their particular needs, so all children feel confident to move and take part in physical play.

- Use one-handed tools and equipment, for example, making snips in paper with scissors.
- Use a comfortable grip with good control when holding pens and pencils.
- Start to eat independently and learning how to use a knife and fork.
- Show a preference for a dominant hand.
- Be increasingly independent as they get dressed and undressed, for example, putting coats on and doing up zips.
- Be increasingly independent in meeting their own care needs, e.g. brushing teeth, using the toilet, washing and drying their hands thoroughly.
- Make healthy choices about food, drink, activity and toothbrushing.

★ Observation Checkpoint

Most, but not all, children are reliably dry during the day by the age of 4. Support children who are struggling with toilet training, in partnership with their parents. Seek medical advice, if necessary, from a health visitor or GP.

Physical Development

Children in reception will be learning to:

- Revise and refine the fundamental movement skills they have already acquired:
 - rolling
 - crawling
 - walking
 - jumping
 - running
 - hopping
 - skipping
 - climbing
- Progress towards a more fluent style of moving, with developing control and grace.
- Develop the overall body strength, co-ordination, balance and agility needed to engage successfully with future physical education sessions and other physical disciplines including dance, gymnastics, sport and swimming.
- Develop their small motor skills so that they can use a range of tools competently, safely and confidently. Suggested tools: pencils for drawing and writing, paintbrushes, scissors, knives, forks and spoons.
- Use their core muscle strength to achieve a good posture when sitting at a table or sitting on the floor.
- Combine different movements with ease and fluency.
- Confidently and safely use a range of large and small apparatus indoors and outside, alone and in a group.
- Develop overall body-strength, balance, co-ordination and agility.
- Further develop and refine a range of ball skills including: throwing, catching, kicking, passing, batting, and aiming.
- Develop confidence, competence, precision and accuracy when engaging in activities that involve a ball.
- Develop the foundations of a handwriting style which is fast, accurate and efficient.
- Know and talk about the different factors that support their overall health and wellbeing:
 - regular physical activity
 - healthy eating
 - toothbrushing
 - sensible amounts of 'screen time'
 - having a good sleep routine
 - being a safe pedestrian
- Further develop the skills they need to manage the school day successfully:
 - lining up and queuing
 - mealtimes
 - personal hygiene

Birth to three - babies, toddlers and young children will be learning to:

- Enjoy songs and rhymes, tuning in and paying attention.
- Join in with songs and rhymes, copying sounds, rhythms, tunes and tempo.
- Say some of the words in songs and rhymes.
- Copy finger movements and other gestures.
- Sing songs and say rhymes independently, for example, singing whilst playing.
- Enjoy sharing books with an adult.
- Pay attention and responds to the pictures or the words.
- Have favourite books and seeks them out, to share with an adult, with another child, or to look at alone.
- Repeat words and phrases from familiar stories.
- Ask questions about the book. Makes comments and shares their own ideas.
- Develop play around favourite stories using props.
- Notice some print, such as the first letter of their name, a bus or door number, or a familiar logo.
- Enjoy drawing freely.
- Add some marks to their drawings, which they give meaning to. For example: "That says mummy."
- Make marks on their picture to stand for their name.

3 & 4-year-olds will be learning to:

- Understand the five key concepts about print:
 - print has meaning
 - print can have different purposes
 - we read English text from left to right and from top to bottom
 - the names of the different parts of a book
 - page sequencing
- Develop their phonological awareness, so that they can:
 - spot and suggest rhymes
 - count or clap syllables in a word
 - recognise words with the same initial sound, such as money and mother
- Engage in extended conversations about stories, learning new vocabulary.
- Use some of their print and letter knowledge in their early writing. For example: writing a pretend shopping list that starts at the top of the page; write 'm' for mummy.
- Write some or all of their name.
- Write some letters accurately.

Children in reception will be learning to:

- Read individual letters by saying the sounds for them.
- Blend sounds into words, so that they can read short words made up of known letter-sound correspondences.
- Read some letter groups that each represent one sound and say sounds for them.
- Read a few common exception words matched to the school's phonic programme.
- Read simple phrases and sentences made up of words with known letter-sound correspondences and, where necessary, a few exception words.
- Re-read these books to build up their confidence in word reading, their fluency and their understanding and enjoyment.
- Form lower-case and capital letters correctly.
- Spell words by identifying the sounds and then writing the sound with letter/s.
- Write short sentences with words with known letter-sound correspondences using a capital letter and full stop.
- Re-read what they have written to check that it makes sense.

Birth to three - babies, toddlers and young children will be learning to:

- Combine objects like stacking blocks and cups. Put objects inside others and take them out again.
- Take part in finger rhymes with numbers.
- React to changes of amount in a group of up to three items.
- Compare amounts, saying 'lots', 'more' or 'same'.
- Counting-like behaviour, such as making sounds, pointing or saying some numbers in sequence.
- Count in everyday contexts, sometimes skipping numbers - '1-2-3-5.'
- Climb and squeezing selves into different types of spaces.
- Build with a range of resources.
- Complete inset puzzles.
- Compare sizes, weights etc. using gesture and language - 'bigger/little/smaller', 'high/low', 'tall', 'heavy'.
- Notice patterns and arrange things in patterns.

3 & 4-year-olds will be learning to:

- Fast recognition of up to 3 objects, without having to count them individually ('subitising').
- Recite numbers past 5.
- Say one number for each item in order: 1,2,3,4,5.
- Know that the last number reached when counting a small set of objects tells you how many there are in total ('cardinal principle').
- Show 'finger numbers' up to 5.
- Link numerals and amounts: for example, showing the right number of objects to match the numeral, up to 5.
- Experiment with their own symbols and marks as well as numerals.
- Solve real world mathematical problems with numbers up to 5.
- Compare quantities using language: 'more than', 'fewer than'.
- Talk about and explore 2D and 3D shapes (for example, circles, rectangles, triangles and cuboids) using informal and mathematical language: 'sides', 'corners'; 'straight', 'flat', 'round'.
- Understand position through words alone – for example, "The bag is under the table," – with no pointing.
- Describe a familiar route.
- Discuss routes and locations, using words like 'in front of' and 'behind'.
- Make comparisons between objects relating to size, length, weight and capacity.
- Select shapes appropriately: flat surfaces for building, a triangular prism for a roof etc.
- Combine shapes to make new ones – an arch, a bigger triangle etc.
- Talk about and identifies the patterns around them. For example: stripes on clothes, designs on rugs and wallpaper. Use informal language like 'pointy', 'spotty', 'blobs' etc.
- Extend and create ABAB patterns – stick, leaf, stick, leaf.
- Notice and correct an error in a repeating pattern.
- Begin to describe a sequence of events, real or fictional, using words such as 'first', 'then...'

Children in reception will be learning to:

- Count objects, actions and sounds.
- Subitise.
- Link the number symbol (numeral) with its cardinal number value.
- Count beyond ten.
- Compare numbers.
- Understand the 'one more than/one less than' relationship between consecutive numbers.
- Explore the composition of numbers to 10.
- Automatically recall number bonds for numbers 0–10.
- Select, rotate and manipulate shapes in order to develop spatial reasoning skills.
- Compose and decompose shapes so that children recognise a shape can have other shapes within it, just as numbers can.
- Continue, copy and create repeating patterns.
- Compare length, weight and capacity.

Understanding the World

Birth to three - babies, toddlers and young children will be learning to:

- Repeat actions that have an effect.
- Explore materials with different properties.
- Explore natural materials, indoors and outside.
- Explore and respond to different natural phenomena in their setting and on trips.
- Make connections between the features of their family and other families.
- Notice differences between people.

3 & 4-year-olds will be learning to:

- Use all their senses in hands-on exploration of natural materials.
- Explore collections of materials with similar and/or different properties.
- Talk about what they see, using a wide vocabulary.
- Begin to make sense of their own life-story and family's history.
- Show interest in different occupations.
- Explore how things work.
- Plant seeds and care for growing plants.
- Understand the key features of the life cycle of a plant and an animal.
- Begin to understand the need to respect and care for the natural environment and all living things.
- Explore and talk about different forces they can feel.
- Talk about the differences between materials and changes they notice.
- Continue to develop positive attitudes about the differences between people.
- Know that there are different countries in the world and talk about the differences they have experienced or seen in photos.

Children in reception will be learning to:

- Talk about members of their immediate family and community.
- Name and describe people who are familiar to them.
- Comment on images of familiar situations in the past.
- Compare and contrast characters from stories, including figures from the past.
- Draw information from a simple map.
- Understand that some places are special to members of their community.
- Recognise that people have different beliefs and celebrate special times in different ways.
- Recognise some similarities and differences between life in this country and life in other countries.
- Explore the natural world around them.
- Describe what they see, hear and feel whilst outside.
- Recognise some environments that are different to the one in which they live.
- Understand the effect of changing seasons on the natural world around them.

Birth to three - babies, toddlers and young children will be learning to:

- Show attention to sounds and music.
- Respond emotionally and physically to music when it changes.
- Move and dance to music.
- Anticipate phrases and actions in rhymes and songs, like 'Peepo'.
- Explore their voices and enjoy making sounds.
- Join in with songs and rhymes, making some sounds.
- Make rhythmical and repetitive sounds.
- Explore a range of sound-makers and instruments and play them in different ways.
- Notice patterns with strong contrasts and be attracted by patterns resembling the human face.
- Start to make marks intentionally.
- Explore paint, using fingers and other parts of their bodies as well as brushes and other tools.
- Express ideas and feelings through making marks, and sometimes give a meaning to the marks they make.
- Enjoy and take part in action songs, such as 'Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star'.
- Start to develop pretend play, pretending that one object represents another. For example, a child holds a wooden block to her ear and pretends it's a phone.
- Explore different materials, using all their senses to investigate them. Manipulate and play with different materials.
- Use their imagination as they consider what they can do with different materials.
- Make simple models which express their ideas.

3 & 4-year-olds will be learning to:

- Take part in simple pretend play, using an object to represent something else even though they are not similar.
- Begin to develop complex stories using small world equipment like animal sets, dolls and dolls houses etc.
- Make imaginative and complex 'small worlds' with blocks and construction kits, such as a city with different buildings and a park.
- Explore different materials freely, in order to develop their ideas about how to use them and what to make.
- Develop their own ideas and then decide which materials to use to express them.
- Join different materials and explore different textures.
- Create closed shapes with continuous lines, and begin to use these shapes to represent objects.
- Draw with increasing complexity and detail, such as representing a face with a circle and including details.
- Use drawing to represent ideas like movement or loud noises.
- Show different emotions in their drawings and paintings, like happiness, sadness, fear etc.
- Explore colour and colour-mixing.
- Listen with increased attention to sounds.
- Respond to what they have heard, expressing their thoughts and feelings.
- Remember and sing entire songs.
- Sing the pitch of a tone sung by another person ('pitch match').
- Sing the melodic shape (moving melody, such as up and down, down and up) of familiar songs.
- Create their own songs, or improvise a song around one they know.
- Play instruments with increasing control to express their feelings and ideas.

Expressive Arts and Design

Children in reception will be learning to:

- Explore, use and refine a variety of artistic effects to express their ideas and feelings.
- Return to and build on their previous learning, refining ideas and developing their ability to represent them.
- Create collaboratively sharing ideas, resources and skills.
- Listen attentively, move to and talk about music, expressing their feelings and responses.
- Watch and talk about dance and performance art, expressing their feelings and responses.
- Sing in a group or on their own, increasingly matching the pitch and following the melody.
- Develop storylines in their pretend play.
- Explore and engage in music making and dance, performing solo or in groups.