

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Re settling into the Nursery after the Christmas break.

Welcoming new children. Re-establishing relationships, reinforcing the routines and rules.

We will provide role play opportunities to encourage children to extend their play, join in with others and talk about their home and community.

We will discuss the feelings of characters in stories and nursery rhymes.

We will have discussions based on The Colour Monster about the different emotions and associated colours.

JIGSAW: Dreams and Goals.

Develop their sense of responsibility and membership of a community.

Remember rules without an adult needing to remind them.

Talk about their feelings using words like 'happy', 'sad', 'angry' or 'worried'.

Understand gradually how others might be feeling.

Find solutions to conflicts and rivalries. For example, accepting that not everyone can be Spiderman in the game, and suggesting other ideas.

Focus Texts/rhymes

- One Snowy Night
- The Colour Monster
- The Snappy Shark
- The Boy Who Loved Everyone
- Elmer
- Oi Frog!

Planning using the Children's Interests

At Burford Nursery, we use the children's interests to inform our planning which makes the learning and play as enjoyable and relevant to the children as possible. Whilst we will cover the theme of emotions and feelings, the activities are subject to change if the children are inspired by something else during the term. We ask parents to keep the interest board in the classroom up to date as we use this to inform our planning. We will cover the developmental steps outlined below through whichever topics we base our work and play on.

Communication and Language

We will focus on developing our speaking and listening skills through play, carpet times and stories.

We will have play opportunities that support our specific interests and experiences.

We will plan activities based around stories linked to our topics.

We will sing songs, including those based on the children's interests.

We will have lots of opportunities for conversations.

Understand a question or instruction that has two parts, such as "Get your coat and wait at the door."

Use a wider range of vocabulary.

Understand 'why' questions, like: "Why do you think the giraffe couldn't ride the aeroplane?"

Sing a large repertoire of songs.

Know many rhymes and be able to talk about familiar books.

Year Group: Nursery

Spring 2026

BURFORD SCHOOL



How Do You Feel?



Year Group: Nursery

Spring 2026

How Do You Feel?

Physical Development

We will develop fine motor skills through threading, painting, using pegs, chalking, dough, tweezer work.

We will practise using paintbrushes, pencils and scissors.

We will encourage large scale movements such as climbing, digging in the mud and sand, using paint rollers, waving streamers, using wheelbarrows and brooms and doing large and small scale mark making in shaving foam, sand and on paper etc.

We will continue to teach the formation of the initial letter of their name, plus additional letters when the children are ready.

We will use the tricycles and scooters during our physical development time on the playground and will explore moving in a variety of ways, such as climbing, jumping, running, rolling and balancing.

We will provide support where necessary with toileting and hand washing and will encourage independence where appropriate.

We will encourage children to be as independent as possible when getting ready to go outside.

We will have opportunities to handle and prepare different foods and will talk about the importance of hygiene when doing so.

Continue to develop their movement.

Be increasingly independent as they get dressed and undressed, for example, putting coats on and doing up zips.

Use one handed tools and equipment, for example, making snips in paper with scissors.

Increasingly be able to use and remember sequences and patterns of movements which are related to music and rhythm.

Use large-muscle movements to wave flags and streamers, paint and make marks.

Maths:

We will practise daily counting and subitising.

We will continue to learn new mathematical vocabulary and recognise numerals.

We will offer a variety of number, pattern and shape themed activities throughout continuous provision and adult led activities.

We will continue to sing number songs, discuss positional language, describe routes and use mathematical language.

Say one number for each item in order, 1,2,3,4,5.

Show 'finger numbers' up to 5.

Talk about and explore 2D and 3D shapes using informal language: 'sides', 'corners', 'straight', 'flat' and 'round'.

Experiment with their own symbols and marks as well as numerals. Select shapes appropriately

Literacy:

The children will have daily phonics lessons, through phonics based games.

We will focus on learning one new sound each week and reinforce taught letter sounds.

We will sing lots of nursery rhymes, read rhyming stories and play rhyming games.

We will continue to practise recognising our name and completing self-registration.

We will have opportunities to mark-make throughout the continuous provision.

We will enjoy sharing a variety of books.

Understand that print can have different purposes.

Develop their phonological awareness, so that they can spot and suggest rhymes.

Develop their phonological awareness so that they can recognise words with the same initial, such as mother and money.

Write some or all of their name.

Use some letter and print knowledge in their early writing. E.g. Writing a pretend shopping list of a card for mummy with a m.



Year Group: Nursery

Spring 2026

How Do You Feel?

Understanding the World:

We will discuss the seasonal changes that occur throughout the Winter.

We will go on walks around the school grounds to observe the changes.

We will talk about other countries and how they are different to where we live, for example, animals that live in a cold place.

We will use the interactive whiteboard to complete simple programs and games.

We will welcome new friends into Acorn class and enjoy sharing our all about me books, discussing our families together.

Use all their senses in hands-on exploration of natural materials.

Talk about what they see using a wide range of vocabulary.

Begin to understand the need to care for and respect the natural environment and all living things.

Know that there are different countries in the world and talk about the differences they have experienced or seen in photos.

Explore how things work.

Expressive Arts and Design:

The children will have access to a range of art, craft and musical resources for independent play and exploration.

We will have weekly music lessons taught by our music specialist and singing throughout the day.

We will have small-group art-focused activities.

We will offer toys and activities based on construction, for example, junk modelling and building with Duplo and giant community wooden blocks.

We will use the role-play area for imaginative and representative play.

We will learn a repertoire of Nursery rhymes and topic related songs.

Make imaginative and complex 'small worlds' with blocks and construction kits, such as a city with different buildings and a park.

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.

Remember and sing entire songs.

Sing the melodic shape (moving melody, such as up and down, down and up) of familiar songs.

Listen with increased attention to sounds.