

### Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Settling into the school and learning the nursery routines.  
Developing friendships and building relationships with peers and adults.

We will learn to share the toys and resources with each other.

We will learn to take turns.

JIGSAW: Being me in my world.

*Select and use activities and resources, with help when needed.  
Become more outgoing with unfamiliar people, in the safe context of their setting.*

*Play with one or more children, extending and elaborating play ideas.*

*Find solutions to conflicts and rivalries.*

*Be increasingly independent in their care needs, eg using the toilet and washing and drying their hands.*

### 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.

Role Play - Home area.

*Use longer sentences of four to six words.*

*Enjoy listening to longer stories and can remember much of what happened.*

*Use a wider range of vocabulary.*

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

*Sing a large repertoire of songs.*

*Start a conversation with an adult or a friend.*

### 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 begin the term with the theme of 'I'm special', this is subject to change if the children are inspired by something else during the term. We have an 'interest board' in the Nursery where parents can add their child's interests and fascinations which helps us to choose our topics. We will cover the developmental steps outlined below through whichever topics we base our work and play on.

### Physical Development

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

We will practise using pencils and scissors.

We will encourage large scale movements such as using paint rollers and brooms and doing large and small scale mark making in shaving foam, sand and on paper.

We will practise using the tricycles and scooters and will explore moving in a variety of ways, such as jumping, running, rolling and balancing.

We will provide support where necessary with toileting and will encourage independence where appropriate. We will discuss the importance of practising good hygiene and careful hand washing.

*Go up steps and stairs, or climb apparatus, using alternative feet.*

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

*Match their developing skills to tasks and activities in the setting. For example, they decide whether to crawl, run or walk across a plank depending on it's length and width.*

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

Year Group: Nursery

Autumn 2025



I'm Special

**Literacy:**

The children will have daily phonics lessons, through phonics based games. We will focus on learning one new letter sound each week.

We will sing lots of nursery rhymes and songs.

We will 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 has meaning.*

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

*Clap syllables in a word.*

*Engage in extended conversation about stories, learning new vocabulary.*

**Mathematics:**

We will practise daily counting and number recognition.

We will explore simple 2D and 3D shapes.

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

We will sing number songs and rhymes.

*Recite numbers past 5.*

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

*Know that the last number reached in when counting a small set of objects tells you how many there are in total. ('cardinal principle')*

*Talk about and explore 2D shapes.*

*Understand position through words alone.*

*Talks about and explores the patterns around them.*

*Use informal language like 'pointy', 'spotty' etc.*

**Understanding the World:**

We will be talking about our families and things that we enjoy doing.

We will explore similarities and differences about ourselves.

We will learn about Autumn and the changes that occur.

We will go on nature walks, collecting natural materials to use in the classroom.

We will explore using our senses.

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

*Explore collections of materials with similar and/or different properties.*

*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.

We will have weekly music lessons taught by our music specialist and daily singing time.

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.

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

*Explore different materials freely, to develop their ideas about how to use them and what to make.*

*Join different materials and explore different textures.*

*Explore colour and colour mixing.*

*Listen with increasing attention to sounds.*

*Remember and sing entire songs.*

*Take part in simple pretend play.*

**Focus Texts**

Happy to be me

Love Makes a Family

Little Acorn

Because of an Acorn

Tap the Magic Tree

Little Seasons - Autumn