

WILLIAM MURDOCH PRIMARY SCHOOL EYFS CURRICULUM MAP 2025-2026

	Nursery			Reception			
	Autumn	Spring	Summer	Autumn	Spring	Summer	
	Autumn 1: All About Me Autumn 2: Journeys	Spring 1: Dinosaurs Spring 2: Growing and Changing	Summer 1: Animals and their Babies Summer 2: Heroes and Adventurers	Autumn 1: All About Me Autumn 2: Festivals and Our Local Area	Spring 1: Transport Spring 2: Africa	Summer 1: Growing and Changing Summer 2: Stories from the Past (Greeks and Olympics)	
<b>PRIME AREAS</b>	<b>Communication and Language</b>  <b>Listening, Attention and Understanding</b>  <b>Speaking</b>	Start to say how they are feeling, using words as well as actions. Starts to develop conversation, often jumping from topic to topic. Develop pretend play: 'putting the baby to sleep' or 'driving the car to the shops'. Identify familiar objects and properties for practitioners when they are described. E.g. 'Katie's coat', 'blue car', 'shiny apple'. Can become frustrated when they can't make themselves understood. Understand and act on longer sentences like 'make teddy bear' or 'find your coat' Listen to simple stories and understand what is happening, with the help of the pictures. Understand simple questions about 'who', 'what' and 'where'	Sing a large repertoire of songs. Know many rhymes, 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'. Use longer sentences of four to six words. 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.	Be able to express a point of view and to debate when they disagree 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". 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?"	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. Understand how to listen carefully and why listening is so important. Learn new vocabulary	Develop social phrases. Articulate their ideas and thoughts in well-formed sentences. Engage in story times. Listen to and talk about stories to build familiarity and understanding. Use new vocabulary through the day. Ask questions to find out more and to check they understand what has been said to them	Participate in small group, class and one-to-one discussions, offering their own ideas, using recently introduced vocabulary. Offer explanations for why things might happen, making use of recently introduced vocabulary from stories, non-fiction, rhymes and poems when appropriate. Express their ideas and feelings about their experiences using full sentences, including use of past, present, and future tenses and making use of conjunctions, with modelling and support from their teacher. Listen attentively and respond to what they hear with relevant questions, comments and actions when being read to and during whole class discussions and small group interactions. Make comments about what they have heard and ask questions to clarify their understanding. Hold conversation when engaged in back and forth exchanges with their teacher and peers.
	<b>Physical Development</b>	Walk, run, jump and climb and use the stairs independently.	Skip, hop, stand one leg and hold a pose for a game like musical statues.	Match their developing physical skills to tasks and activities in the setting. E.g. decide whether to crawl, walk or run across a plank, depending on its length and width.	Progress towards a more fluent style of moving with developing control and grace.	Confidently and safely use a range of large and small apparatus indoors and outside, alone and in a group.	Negotiate space and obstacles safely with consideration of themselves and others.
	<b>Gross Motor Skills</b>	Spin, roll and independently use ropes and swings. Sit on a push-along wheeled toy, use a scooter or ride a tricycle. Learn to use the toilet with help, and then independently	Use large scale movements to wave flags and streamers, paint and make marks. Are increasingly able to use and remember sequences and patterns of movement which are related to music and rhythm.	Collaborate with others to manage large items, e.g. carrying large hollow blocks	Develop the overall body strength, coordination, balance and agility. Combine different movements with ease and fluency.	Further develop and refine a range of skills including: Throwing, catching, kicking, passing, batting, aiming.	Demonstrate strength, balance and coordination when playing. Move energetically, such as running, jumping, dancing, hopping, skipping and climbing.
	<b>Fine Motor Skills</b>	Develop manipulation and control. Explore different materials and tools. Use large and small motor skills to do things independently, e.g. manage buttons and zips, and pour drinks. Show an increasing desire to be independent, such as wanting to feed themselves and dress/undress.	Use a comfortable grip with good control when holding pens and pencils. Use one handed tools and equipment, e.g. making snips in paper using scissors. Start to eat independently and learning how to use a knife and fork. Show preference for a dominant hand.	Be increasingly independent as they get dressed and undressed, e.g. putting coats on and doing zips. Be increasingly independent in meeting their own care needs, for example, brushing teeth, using the toilet, washing and drying their hands thoroughly. Make healthy choices about food, drink, activity and tooth brushing.	Develop their small motor skills so they can use a range of tools competently, safely and confidently. Use their core muscle strength to achieve a good posture when sitting at a table or sitting on the floor. 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, tooth brushing, 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, meal times, personal hygiene.	Hold a pencil effectively in preparation for fluent writing-using the tripod grip in almost all cases. Use a range of small tools, including scissors, paintbrushes and cutlery. Begin to show accuracy and care when drawing.
	<b>Personal Social Development</b>  <b>Self-Regulation</b>	Begin to show 'effortful control', e.g. 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. Select and use activities and resources, with help when needed.	Develop their sense of responsibility and membership of community.	See themselves as a valuable individual. Identify and moderate their own feelings socially and emotionally.	Show an understanding of their own feelings and those of others	Set and work towards simple goals, being able to wait for what they want and control their immediate impulses when appropriate. Give focused attention to what the teacher says, responding appropriately even when engaged in activity, and show an ability to follow instructions involving several ideas or actions. Explain the reasons for rules, know right from wrong and try to behave accordingly
	<b>Managing Self</b>	Thrive as they develop self- assurance.	Become more outgoing with unfamiliar people, in the safe context of their setting.	Increasingly follow rules, understanding why they are important.	Manage their own needs. Show resilience and perseverance in the face of challenge.	Be confident to try new activities and show independence, resilience and perseverance in the face of challenge.	Manage their own basic hygiene and personal needs, including dressing, going

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SPECIFIC AREAS

	Play with increasing confidence on their own and with other children, because they know their key person is nearby. Safely explore emotions beyond their normal range through play and stories. Are talking about their feelings in more elaborated ways: "I'm sad because..."	Show more confidence in new social situations.	Do not always need an adult to remind them of a rule. Develop appropriate ways of being assertive.			to the toilet and understanding the importance of healthy food choices.
<b>Building Relationships</b>	Engage with others through gestures, gaze and talk. Develop friendships with other children.	Play with one or more other children, extending and elaborating play ideas. Help to find solutions to conflicts and rivalries. E.g. accepting that not everyone can be Spiderman in the game.	Talk with others to solve conflicts. Talk about their feelings using words like 'happy', 'sad', and 'angry' or 'worried'. Begin to understand how others might be feeling.	Build constructive and respectful relationships.	Express their feelings and consider the feelings of others. Think about the perspective of others.	Work and play cooperatively and take turns with others. Form positive attachments to adults and friendships with peers. Show sensitivity to their own and to others needs.
<b>Literacy Comprehension</b>	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.	Understand the five key concepts about print: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Print has meaning</li> <li>Print can have different purposes</li> <li>We read English text from left to right and from top to bottom.</li> <li>The names of the different parts of a book</li> </ul> Page sequencing	Understand the five key concepts about print: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Print has meaning</li> <li>Print can have different purposes</li> <li>We read English text from left to right and from top to bottom.</li> <li>The names of the different parts of a book</li> <li>Page sequencing</li> </ul>	Re-read what they have written to check that it makes sense. Answer How/What/When and why questions. To develop an understanding of what a setting is. To develop an understanding of what they have read. Understand what an author and illustrator is.	Demonstrate understanding of what has been read to them by retelling stories and narratives using their own words and recently introduced vocabulary. Anticipate (where appropriate) key events in stories. Use and understand recently introduced vocabulary during discussions about stories, non-fiction, rhymes and poems and during role-play.
<b>Word Reading</b>	Enjoy sharing books with an adult. Pay attention and responds to the pictures or the words. Notice some print, such as the first letter of their name, a bus or door number, or a familiar logo.	Begin to develop their phonological awareness so that they can: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Spot and suggest rhymes</li> <li>Count or clap syllables in a word</li> <li>Recognise words with the same initial sound, such as money and mother.</li> </ul>	Continue to develop their phonological awareness so that they can: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Spot and suggest rhymes</li> <li>Count or clap syllables in a word</li> <li>Recognise words with the same initial sound, such as money and mother.</li> </ul> Engage in extended conversations about stories, learning new vocabulary.	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	Say a sound for each letter in the alphabet and at least 10 digraphs. Read words consistent with their phonic knowledge by sound-blending. Read aloud simple sentences and books that are consistent with their phonic knowledge, including some common exception words.
<b>Writing</b>	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	Use some of their print and letter knowledge in their early writing. For example: writing a pretend shopping list. Write some or all of their name.	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 sound-letter correspondences using a capital letter and full stop.	Write recognisable letters, most of which are correctly formed. Spell words by identifying sounds in them and representing the sounds with a letter or letters. Write simple phrases and sentences that can be read by others.
<b>Mathematics Number</b>	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.	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. Experiment with their own symbols and marks as well as numerals. Solve real world mathematical problems with numbers up to 5	Count objects, actions and sounds. Link the number symbol (numeral) with its cardinal number value. Count beyond 10	Compare numbers Understand the 'one more than/one less than' relationship between consecutive numbers. Explore the composition of numbers to 10.	Have a deep understanding of number to 10, including the composition of each number. Subitise (recognise quantities without counting) up to 5. Automatically recall (without reference to rhymes, counting or other aids) number bonds up to 5 (including subtraction facts) and some number bonds to 10, including double facts. Verbally count beyond 20, recognising
<b>Numerical Patterns</b>	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	Compare quantities using language 'more than' 'fewer than'. Talk about and explore 2D and 3D shapes using informal and mathematical language such as sides, corners straight, flat and round. Understand position through words alone 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) Combine shapes to make new ones. Talk about and identify the patterns around them. For example, stripes on clothes. Use informal language like 'pointy', 'spotty', and 'blobs'. Begin to describe a sequence of events, real or fictional, using words such as first, then.	Select, rotate and manipulate shapes in order to develop spatial reasoning skills. Compose and decompose shapes so that children recognise that a shape can have other shapes within it, just as numbers can.	Automatically recall number bonds for numbers 0-10. Continue, copy and create repeating patterns. Compare length, weight and capacity.	the pattern of the counting system. Compare quantities up to 10 in different contexts, recognising when one quantity is greater than, less than or the same as the other quantity. Explore and represent patterns within numbers up to 10, including evens and odds, double facts and how quantities can be distributed equally.

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<b>Understanding the World</b>	All about me Self portraits My Family The Life cycle of a Human Seasonal changes- Autumn/Winter- exploring the weather Journeys and transport Christmas- The Nativity	Dinosaurs-explore fossils, dinosaur bones, understand that dinosaurs were alive a long time ago and do not exist now, Growing and Changing- Planting a seed and observing the changes Exploring the lifecycle of a chick- 'Living Eggs' observe eggs hatch. Farm trip-Animals and their young.	Animals and their Babies- Farm trip-Animals and their young. Adventurers and Explorers- Learning about the significant people such as Valentina Tereshkova, Ernest Shackleton, Edmund Hillary, Tenzing Norgay and Malala Yousafzai. to understand more about the past and present, people culture and communities and the natural world.	Seasonal changes: Autumn Winter Spring Summer Autumn leaves (seasons, magnifying glass, textures) Bodies and senses Families My past, present, future Maps: classroom, school Antarctica: • The coldest places on earth: North and South Poles, the globe, animals and habitats, Ernest Shackleton the Explorer • Light and dark • Exploring different materials. Exploring how ice melts	Transport in the past and present: steam trains, hot air balloons, the first aeroplanes, road safety, forces Locate Africa on map and Globe African Climate & Lifestyle Animals African Safari Flags from around the world Healthy bodies: an athlete's diet and lifestyle	Growth: Growing seeds and creating our school garden. Naming different parts of a plant and developing and understanding its function. Exploring minibeast life-cycles: Butterflies and Tadpoles. Our teeth Human Growth Cycle Farm animals and their babies Greeks and the Ancient Olympics
<b>Past and Present</b>	Make connections between the features of their family and other families.	Begin to make sense of their own life-story and their families' history.	Comment on images of familiar situations in the past. As above- for the Explorers and Adventurers topic.	Compare and contrast characters from stories, including figures from the past	Talk about the lives of the people around them and their roles in society.	Ancient Greeks: • Develop an understanding of the Olympic Games Past and Presents (What changes have taken place?) • Know some similarities and differences between things in the past and now (housing, clothing, how people lived comparing with present day) drawing on their experiences and what has been read in class. • Describe their immediate environment using knowledge from observation, discussion, stories, non-fiction texts and maps.
<b>People, Culture and Communities</b>	Notice differences between people	Show interest in different occupations. 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 experiences or seen in photos.	Talk about members of their immediate family and community. Name and describe people who are familiar to them.	Understand that some places are special to members of their community. Recognise that people have different beliefs and celebrate special times in different ways. Show that people have different roles and occupation in society.	Know some similarities and differences between different religions and cultural communities in this country, drawing on their experiences and what has been read in class. Ancient Greeks: Explain some similarities and differences between life in this country and life in other countries: drawing on knowledge from stories, non-fiction texts and (when appropriate) maps.
<b>The Natural World</b>	Explore natural materials, indoors and outside. Explore and respond to different natural phenomena in their setting and on trips	Use all their senses when exploring natural materials. Explore collections of materials with similar and/or different properties. Talk about what they see, using a wide vocabulary. Explore how things work.	Plant seeds and care for growing plants. Understand the key features of the life cycle of a plant and 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.	Draw information from a simple map. 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.	Explore the natural world around them, making observations and drawing pictures of animals and plants. Know some similarities and differences between the natural world around them and contrasting environments, drawing on their experiences and what has been read in class. Understand some important process and changes in the natural world around them, including the seasons and changing states of matter
<b>Expressive Art &amp; Design</b>	Self portrait Collage of teddy bear Leaf rubbing Salt dough leaf printing Nativity Performance- Learning Christmas songs	Making musical shakers Creating Potato characters Fruit and vegetable printing	Making dinosaur bones using salt dough Creating a clay Superhero	Colour: naming, recognising and using primary colours to mix paints Painting Portraits Drawing Portraits Creating portraits using a range of art media. Clay Divas Rangoli pattern on ceramic tile using lentils Christingle Snowflake cutting Leaf Printing & Rubbings	Puppets: Chinese New Year Exploring line: in roads, maps, and Miro Design: making a boat that floats and another vehicle that moves with wheels Create: Easter bonnets and Easter Eggs using a range of media Create an African landscape (Savannah) African mud houses Create Tinga Tinga Art Ashanti Kente cloth weaving activity African Clay plates	Still life: drawing and painting sunflowers and studying Van Gogh Leonardo Da Vinci – Mona Lisa Henri Rousseau art Sculpture: Studying and imitating Degas' ballet dancer Design: experimenting with fabric to design a suitable piece of sports wear and clothing.

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	<b>Creating with Materials</b>	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	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 others.	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.	Safely use and explore a variety of materials, tools and techniques, experimenting with colour, design, texture, form and function. Share their creations, explaining the process they have used. Make use of props and materials when role playing characters in narratives and stories.
	<b>Being Imaginative and Expressive</b>	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.	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.	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. African Dancing	Invent, adapt and recount narratives and stories with peers and their teacher. Sing a range of well-known nursery rhymes and songs. Perform songs, rhymes, poems and stories with others and (when appropriate) try to move in time with music.
	<b>PSHE- JIGSAW</b>	Being me in my world Celebrating differences	Dreams and Goals Healthy Me	Relationships Changing Me	Being me in my world Celebrating differences	Dreams and Goals Healthy Me	Relationships Changing Me
	<b>RE- Discovery</b>	Special People	Christmas	Celebrations	Easter	Stories	Special Places
	<b>DT- PKC</b>	Build - Houses	Build - Salt dough dinosaurs	Cook - Cookies	Cook - Pumpkin soup	Build - Boats	Sew - Weaving