



# EYFS Reception – Progression of Skills (Half-Termly)

**Aligned to Development Matters (2023) and the Early Learning Goals (ELGs)**

**Schemes:** Monster Phonics White Rose Maths (EYFS) Pathways to Write

**Purpose:** The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) sets out the statutory standards that all early years providers must meet to ensure children learn and develop effectively, while remaining healthy and safe. It supports high-quality teaching and learning that promotes children’s readiness for school and equips them with a broad range of knowledge and skills, providing a strong foundation for future learning and life.

This document outlines the progression of skills across all areas of learning, both prime and specific, from Autumn 1 through to Summer 2. It works alongside the Curriculum Mapping document, which details key topics, vocabulary, and knowledge. Reception teachers use this document to create Topic Learning Overviews, clearly identifying the learning content and what children working at the expected level should know. In addition, a curriculum overview is shared with parents at the start of each half term to support understanding of their child’s learning.

## 1. Communication & Language – Listening, Attention and Understanding

**ELG:** Children listen attentively, understand instructions and questions, and respond appropriately.

Half Term	Focus Skills (Objectives)	Assessment Checkpoints	ELG Success Criteria
Autumn 1	Children will be taught to listen in small groups, follow 1-step instructions and respond to simple questions.	Responds to name and instructions	Listens attentively
Autumn 2	Children will be taught to sustain attention and follow 2-step instructions in familiar contexts.	Sustains attention	Understands what is said
Spring 1	Children will be taught to listen carefully and answer who, what, where, why and how questions.	Responds appropriately	Understands questions
Spring 2	Children will be taught to listen to stories and explanations and recall key events in sequence.	Retells events	Responds in detail



Half Term	Focus Skills (Objectives)	Assessment Checkpoints	ELG Success Criteria
Summer 1	Children will be taught to listen and respond appropriately during group discussions and activities.	Maintains focus	Understands discussions
Summer 2	Children will independently apply listening and attention skills across the day.	Consistent responses	ELG achieved

## 2. Communication & Language – Speaking

**ELG:** Children express ideas clearly using full sentences and a broad vocabulary.

Half Term	Focus Skills (Objectives)	Assessment Checkpoints	ELG Success Criteria
Autumn 1	Children will be taught to speak in simple sentences and use familiar vocabulary.	Speaks in sentences	Uses simple vocabulary
Autumn 2	Children will be taught to ask and answer questions and extend ideas using conjunctions.	Expands ideas	Uses new vocabulary
Spring 1	Children will be taught to extend sentences and explain ideas clearly.	Explains ideas	Descriptive language
Spring 2	Children will be taught to retell events and stories using full sentences.	Clear explanations	Full sentences
Summer 1	Children will be taught to justify ideas and contribute confidently to discussions.	Speaks confidently	Clear communication
Summer 2	Children will independently apply speaking skills in all areas of learning.	Confident speaker	ELG achieved

## 3. PSED – Self-Regulation

**ELG:** Children manage emotions and behaviour and understand right from wrong.



Half Term	Focus Skills (Objectives)	Assessment Checkpoints	ELG Success Criteria
Autumn 1	Children will be taught to recognise and name their feelings and begin to manage emotions.	Names emotions	Begins regulation
Autumn 2	Children will be taught to follow rules and understand behavioural expectations.	Responds to boundaries	Manages behaviour
Spring 1	Children will be taught to persevere with challenges and control impulses.	Attempts challenges	Controls impulses
Spring 2	Children will be taught to use strategies to regulate emotions and behaviour.	Regulates with support	Emotional control
Summer 1	Children will be taught to self-regulate independently in learning and play.	Manages independently	Appropriate behaviour
Summer 2	Children will consistently apply self-regulation strategies.	Independent	ELG achieved

#### 4. PSED – Managing Self

**ELG:** Children show independence, resilience and confidence.

Half Term	Focus Skills (Objectives)	Assessment Checkpoints	ELG Success Criteria
Autumn 1	Children will be taught to follow routines and manage basic self-care.	Settles into school	Independent care
Autumn 2	Children will be taught to manage transitions and organise belongings.	Manages routines	Takes responsibility
Spring 1	Children will be taught to work independently and show resilience.	Completes tasks	Shows resilience
Spring 2	Children will be taught to make healthy choices and talk about wellbeing.	Talks about needs	Manages needs
Summer 1	Children will be taught to show confidence and a positive self-image.	Tries challenges	Positive self-image



Half Term	Focus Skills (Objectives)	Assessment Checkpoints	ELG Success Criteria
Summer 2	Children will independently manage their needs and learning.	Self-motivated	ELG achieved

## 5. PSED – Building Relationships

**ELG:** Children form positive relationships and work cooperatively.

Half Term	Focus Skills (Objectives)	Assessment Checkpoints	ELG Success Criteria
Autumn 1	Children will be taught to take turns and play alongside others.	Parallel play	Forms relationships
Autumn 2	Children will be taught to build friendships and share resources.	Shares	Cooperative play
Spring 1	Children will be taught to work collaboratively with peers.	Teamwork	Positive interactions
Spring 2	Children will be taught to resolve conflicts with support.	Seeks support	Manages friendships
Summer 1	Children will be taught to show leadership and empathy.	Supports peers	Respectful behaviour
Summer 2	Children will work cooperatively and independently.	Collaborative play	ELG achieved

## 6. Physical Development – Gross Motor Skills

**ELG:** Children move confidently and safely.

Half Term	Focus Skills (Objectives)	Assessment Checkpoints	ELG Success Criteria
Autumn 1	Children will be taught to explore movements and negotiate space safely.	Moves safely	Balance and control



Half Term	Focus Skills (Objectives)	Assessment Checkpoints	ELG Success Criteria
Autumn 2	Children will be taught to balance, climb and travel with control.	Negotiates space	Coordination
Spring 1	Children will be taught to move with strength, balance and coordination.	Changes direction	Strength
Spring 2	Children will be taught to participate in team games and activities.	Controls body	Confidence
Summer 1	Children will be taught to move with speed, agility and stamina.	Sustains activity	Fluent movement
Summer 2	Children will independently apply gross motor skills.	Applies skills	ELG achieved

## 7. Physical Development – Fine Motor Skills

**ELG:** Children use tools effectively, including for writing.

Half Term	Focus Skills (Objectives)	Assessment Checkpoints	ELG Success Criteria
Autumn 1	Children will be taught to develop hand strength and control through mark making.	Holds tools	Hand strength
Autumn 2	Children will be taught to use scissors and tools with increasing precision.	Uses scissors	Control
Spring 1	Children will be taught to form letters correctly.	Letter formation	Precision
Spring 2	Children will be taught to sustain fine motor tasks and writing.	Writing stamina	Control
Summer 1	Children will be taught to write fluently and legibly.	Writes legibly	Accuracy
Summer 2	Children will independently apply fine motor skills.	Independent writing	ELG achieved

## 8. Literacy – Comprehension

**ELG:** Children demonstrate understanding of what has been read to them by retelling stories and answering questions.



Half Term	Focus Skills (Objectives)	Assessment Checkpoints	ELG Success Criteria
Autumn 1	Children will be taught to listen to and talk about stories, identifying characters and settings.	Joins in with stories	Understands what is read
Autumn 2	Children will be taught to retell familiar stories and respond to simple questions.	Retells stories	Retells narratives
Spring 1	Children will be taught to answer questions about events and vocabulary.	Answers questions	Explains ideas
Spring 2	Children will be taught to predict events and explain characters' actions.	Makes predictions	Explains understanding
Summer 1	Children will be taught to discuss texts in detail using vocabulary from stories.	Uses story language	Secure comprehension
Summer 2	Children will independently demonstrate comprehension skills.	Independent responses	ELG achieved

## 9. Literacy – Word Reading

**ELG:** Children read words consistent with their phonic knowledge.

Half Term	Focus Skills (Objectives)	Assessment Checkpoints	ELG Success Criteria
Autumn 1	Children will be taught to recognise and say Phase 2 sounds and blend orally.	Recognises sounds	Reads simple words
Autumn 2	Children will be taught to blend and read CVC words.	Blends words	Decodes accurately
Spring 1	Children will be taught to read words with Phase 3 digraphs.	Reads captions	Fluency developing
Spring 2	Children will be taught to read simple sentences confidently.	Reads sentences	Applies phonics
Summer 1	Children will be taught to read words with increasing fluency.	Independent reading	Fluent decoding



Half Term	Focus Skills (Objectives)	Assessment Checkpoints	ELG Success Criteria
Summer 2	Children will independently apply phonics to read unfamiliar words.	Secure phonics	ELG achieved

## 10. Literacy – Writing

**ELG:** Children write recognisable letters and simple sentences.

Half Term	Focus Skills (Objectives)	Assessment Checkpoints	ELG Success Criteria
Autumn 1	Children will be taught to mark make and write their name.	Name writing	Forms letters
Autumn 2	Children will be taught to write labels and simple words.	Writes words	Phonic application
Spring 1	Children will be taught to write simple sentences.	Writes sentences	Sentence structure
Spring 2	Children will be taught to use capital letters and full stops.	Uses punctuation	Accurate sentences
Summer 1	Children will be taught to write independently for different purposes.	Independent writing	Clear meaning
Summer 2	Children will independently apply writing skills.	Sustained writing	ELG achieved

## 11. Mathematics – Number

**ELG:** Children demonstrate a deep understanding of numbers to 10.

Half Term	Focus Skills (Objectives)	Assessment Checkpoints	ELG Success Criteria
Autumn 1	Children will be taught to subitise and count reliably to 5.	Counts accurately	Secure counting
Autumn 2	Children will be taught to compare quantities and numbers to 5.	Uses comparison language	Understands number



Half Term	Focus Skills (Objectives)	Assessment Checkpoints	ELG Success Criteria
Spring 1	Children will be taught to understand composition of numbers to 10.	Number bonds	Deep understanding
Spring 2	Children will be taught to add and subtract within 10.	Solves problems	Applies strategies
Summer 1	Children will be taught to recall number facts.	Automatic recall	Fluency
Summer 2	Children will independently apply number knowledge.	Explains thinking	ELG achieved

## 12. Mathematics – Numerical Patterns

**ELG:** Children explore patterns and relationships.

Half Term	Focus Skills (Objectives)	Assessment Checkpoints	ELG Success Criteria
Autumn 1	Children will be taught to recognise simple patterns.	Identifies patterns	Pattern awareness
Autumn 2	Children will be taught to copy and continue patterns.	Continues patterns	Repeats patterns
Spring 1	Children will be taught to explore patterns in number.	Identifies sequences	Mathematical language
Spring 2	Children will be taught to describe patterns.	Explains patterns	Reasoning
Summer 1	Children will be taught to solve problems involving patterns.	Applies knowledge	Problem solving
Summer 2	Children will independently recognise patterns.	Independent reasoning	ELG achieved

## 13. Understanding the World – Past and Present

**ELG:** Children understand the past through stories and experiences.

Half Term	Focus Skills (Objectives)	Assessment Checkpoints	ELG Success Criteria
Autumn 1	Children will be taught to talk about their own past experiences.	Talks about family	Past awareness



Half Term	Focus Skills (Objectives)	Assessment Checkpoints	ELG Success Criteria
Autumn 2	Children will be taught to recognise changes over time.	Describes changes	Understands past
Spring 1	Children will be taught to compare past and present.	Uses time language	Explains differences
Spring 2	Children will be taught to sequence events.	Orders events	Chronology
Summer 1	Children will be taught to discuss historical similarities and differences.	Explains ideas	Historical understanding
Summer 2	Children will independently apply knowledge of the past.	Confident explanations	ELG achieved

## 14. Understanding the World – People, Culture and Communities

**ELG:** Children understand similarities and differences between people and communities.

Half Term	Focus Skills (Objectives)	Assessment Checkpoints	ELG Success Criteria
Autumn 1	Children will be taught to talk about their family and home.	Shares experiences	Awareness of others
Autumn 2	Children will be taught to learn about celebrations and traditions.	Describes festivals	Cultural awareness
Spring 1	Children will be taught to compare communities.	Identifies similarities	Respect for diversity
Spring 2	Children will be taught to explore beliefs and customs.	Talks respectfully	Inclusive understanding
Summer 1	Children will be taught to discuss similarities and differences confidently.	Explains differences	Cultural understanding
Summer 2	Children will independently demonstrate understanding.	Uses knowledge	ELG achieved



## 15. Understanding the World – The Natural World

**ELG:** Children explore and understand the natural environment.

Half Term	Focus Skills (Objectives)	Assessment Checkpoints	ELG Success Criteria
Autumn 1	Children will be taught to observe seasonal changes.	Talks about changes	Observation skills
Autumn 2	Children will be taught to explore plants and animals.	Describes features	Understanding nature
Spring 1	Children will be taught to observe life cycles.	Explains processes	Scientific language
Spring 2	Children will be taught to compare environments.	Identifies differences	Environmental awareness
Summer 1	Children will be taught to understand sustainability.	Explains care	Cause and effect
Summer 2	Children will independently apply knowledge of nature.	Confident explanations	ELG achieved

## 16. Expressive Arts & Design – Creating with Materials

**ELG:** Children use materials creatively with purpose.

Half Term	Focus Skills (Objectives)	Assessment Checkpoints	ELG Success Criteria
Autumn 1	Children will be taught to explore materials and tools.	Engages creatively	Exploration
Autumn 2	Children will be taught to combine materials.	Creates models	Creativity
Spring 1	Children will be taught to plan and adapt designs.	Plans creations	Design skills
Spring 2	Children will be taught to evaluate and refine work.	Improves designs	Purposeful creation
Summer 1	Children will be taught to create with intent.	Explains choices	Creative intent
Summer 2	Children will independently create original work.	Original outcomes	ELG achieved

## 17. Expressive Arts & Design – Being Imaginative and Expressive

**ELG:** Children express ideas through music, movement and role play.



<i>Half Term</i>	<i>Focus Skills (Objectives)</i>	<i>Assessment Checkpoints</i>	<i>ELG Success Criteria</i>
<i>Autumn 1</i>	<i>Children will be taught to join in songs and imaginative play.</i>	<i>Participates</i>	<i>Imagination</i>
<i>Autumn 2</i>	<i>Children will be taught to develop role play scenarios.</i>	<i>Sustains play</i>	<i>Expressive play</i>
<i>Spring 1</i>	<i>Children will be taught to explore rhythm and movement.</i>	<i>Performs sequences</i>	<i>Musical awareness</i>
<i>Spring 2</i>	<i>Children will be taught to perform stories and dances.</i>	<i>Performs confidently</i>	<i>Expressive skills</i>
<i>Summer 1</i>	<i>Children will be taught to adapt performances.</i>	<i>Adapts ideas</i>	<i>Creativity</i>
<i>Summer 2</i>	<i>Children will independently express ideas creatively.</i>	<i>Original performances</i>	<i>ELG achieved</i>

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**Assessment Notes:** - National Baseline assessment within first 6 weeks and teacher assessments - Ongoing formative assessment through observation and interaction - Phonics assessments aligned to Monster Phonics checkpoints - Maths milestones aligned to White Rose Maths - Reading comprehension assessed using Pathways to Read objectives.

**Impact:** By the end of Reception, children have the knowledge, skills and behaviours required to meet the ELGs and are well prepared for the curriculum expectations of Year 1.