



Nursery Foundational Knowledge and Skills

The essential knowledge, skills and behaviours we want children to be confident with by the end of Nursery.



What are they?

These are the small but essential building blocks that help children get ready for the next stage of learning, development and school life.



Why do they matter?

They help us focus on the most important early learning, support children to grow in confidence and independence, and make sure strong foundations are in place.



Communication and Language

- Join in with rhymes and stories.
- Use simple phrases to communicate needs and wants.



Early Literacy and Mark Making

- Hold pencil with control.
- Make meaningful marks.



Physical Development

- Run, jump, hop, balance.
- Put on coat independently.



Early Mathematics

- Count objects to 5.
- Recognise numerals 1–5.
- Continue a simple AB pattern.



Independence, Routines and Safety

- Follow a 2-step instruction.
- Follow routine.
- Follow familiar routines such as tidy-up and snack time.
- Take turns with adult support.
- Separate from a familiar adult and settle with appropriate support.
- Tell a familiar adult if they are hurt, worried or need help.

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Reception Foundational Knowledge and Skills

The essential knowledge, skills and behaviours we want children to be confident with by the end of Reception.



What are they?

These are the core building blocks children need to be ready for Year 1, including communication, early literacy, maths, independence and personal development.



Why do they matter?

They help us focus on the most important learning, build confidence and ensure strong foundations are in place.



Communication and Language

- Compose a simple sentence orally.



Early Writing and Fine Motor

- Form long-ladder letters.
- Form one-armed robot letters.
- Form curly-caterpillar letters.
- Form zig-zag letters.
- Hold a pencil correctly using the "Nip it, Flip it, Grip it" tripod grip.



Number and Practical Skills

- Form numerals 0–9 correctly.
- Use a pair of scissors correctly.
- Recall number bonds to 10.



Early Reading and Writing

- Spell HTR/common exception words correctly.



Independence, Relationships and Safety

- Follow familiar classroom routines independently.
- Begin a familiar task without individual adult prompting.
- Take turns and work appropriately with another child.
- Use an agreed strategy to manage frustration or upset with decreasing adult support.
- Tell a trusted adult if something makes them feel worried, unsafe or uncomfortable.

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Year 1 Foundational Knowledge and Skills

The essential knowledge, skills and behaviours we want children to be confident with by the end of Year 1.



What are they?

These are the essential building blocks for children's learning in Year 1, including reading, writing, maths, independence and personal development.



Why do they matter?

They help children secure the basics, build confidence and prepare well for Year 2.



Reading and Phonics

- Read all taught ELS grapheme–phoneme correspondences.
- Blend sounds to read a decodable word.
- Read taught Year 1 HTR/ common exception words.



Writing

- Spell taught Year 1 HTR/ common exception words.
- Leave spaces between words when writing.
- Use a capital letter at the start of a sentence.
- Use a full stop at the end of a sentence.
- Form capital letters correctly.

1
2 3

Mathematics

- Recognise and write numbers to 100.
- Recall number bonds to 20.
- Count in 2s, 5s and 10s.



Independence and Relationships

- Follow a two-part spoken instruction independently.
- Take turns and work appropriately with a partner.
- Begin and complete a familiar classroom task independently without individual adult prompting.



Safety

- Know which adults in school can help keep me safe.

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Year 2 Foundational Knowledge and Skills

The essential knowledge, skills and behaviours we want children to be confident with by the end of Year 2.



What are they?

These are the important building blocks for children's learning in Year 2, including reading, writing, maths, independence and personal development.



Why do they matter?

They help children become secure, independent and ready for the next stage of learning in Key Stage 2.



Reading and Spelling

- Read a two-syllable word accurately.
- Read taught Year 2 HTR/ common exception words.
- Spell taught Year 2 HTR/ common exception words.



Writing and Presentation

- Use capital letters and full stops independently.
- Use a question mark correctly.
- Use an exclamation mark correctly.
- Form letters consistently in the correct size and orientation.

1
2 3

Mathematics

- Recognise the tens and ones in a two-digit number.
- Recall addition and subtraction facts within 20.
- Recall the 2, 5 and 10 times tables.
- Count in 3s.



Independence and Relationships

- Follow a sequence of spoken instructions independently.
- Organise the equipment needed for a familiar classroom task and complete it independently.
- Work cooperatively with another child towards a shared outcome.



Regulation and Safety

- Use an agreed strategy to manage frustration or upset and return to learning.
- Tell a trusted adult if something makes me feel worried, unsafe or uncomfortable.

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Year 3 Foundational Knowledge and Skills

The essential knowledge, skills and behaviours we want children to be confident with by the end of Year 3.



What are they?

These are the essential building blocks for children's learning in Year 3, including reading, writing, maths, independence and personal development.



Why do they matter?

They help children consolidate Key Stage 2 learning, grow in independence and be ready for increasing challenge.



Reading and Spelling

- Read an age-appropriate passage aloud without needing to sound out most words.
- Spell the taught Year 3 selection of the Year 3/4 statutory word list.



Writing

- Use joined handwriting consistently.
- Organise related sentences into paragraphs.
- Use inverted commas to mark direct speech.



Mathematics

- Read and write numbers to 1,000.
- Identify the hundreds, tens and ones in a three-digit number.
- Add and subtract three-digit numbers using a column method.
- Recall the 3 times table.
- Recall the 4 times table.
- Recall the 8 times table.



Independence and Collaboration

- Listen to and follow a whole-class instruction without individual repetition.
- Start and complete a familiar task independently.
- Work cooperatively as part of a small group.



Help, Safety and Responsibility

- Recognise when they need help and ask for it appropriately.
- Recognise when a situation may be unsafe and seek adult help.

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Year 4 Foundational Knowledge and Skills

The essential knowledge, skills and behaviours we want children to be confident with by the end of Year 4.



What are they?

These are the essential building blocks for children's learning in Year 4, including reading, writing, maths, independence and personal development.



Why do they matter?

They help children develop fluency, responsibility and readiness for the next stage of Key Stage 2.



Reading and Spelling

- Read an age-appropriate passage aloud accurately and fluently.
- Spell the taught Year 4 selection of the Year 3/4 statutory word list.



Writing and Grammar

- Write using fluent, legible joined handwriting.
- Use a comma after a fronted adverbial.
- Use apostrophes correctly for plural possession.
- Punctuate direct speech correctly.



Mathematics

- Read and write four-digit numbers.
- Identify the thousands, hundreds, tens and ones in a four-digit number.
- Round a whole number to the nearest 10, 100 or 1,000.
- Recall multiplication facts up to 12×12 .
- Recall the corresponding division facts up to 12×12 .



Independence and Self-Regulation

- Organise themselves and their equipment independently for learning.
- Sustain attention and complete an expected classroom task without repeated adult prompting.
- Identify and use an appropriate strategy when becoming frustrated or dysregulated.



Relationships and Safety

- Manage an ordinary disagreement with a peer appropriately.
- Make a safe choice in a familiar risky situation.

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Year 5 Foundational Knowledge and Skills

The essential knowledge, skills and behaviours we want children to be confident with by the end of Year 5.



What are they?

These are the essential building blocks for children's learning in Year 5, including reading, writing, maths, independence and personal development.



Why do they matter?

They help children deepen their knowledge, manage increasing challenge and prepare well for Year 6.



Reading and Spelling

- Read an age-appropriate passage aloud fluently and with appropriate intonation.
- Spell the taught Year 5 selection of the Year 5/6 statutory word list.



Writing and Grammar

- Use relative clauses correctly.
- Use brackets to mark parenthesis.
- Use commas to clarify meaning and avoid ambiguity.



Mathematics

- Read and write numbers to 1,000,000.
- Identify the value of each digit in a number to 1,000,000.
- Multiply a four-digit number by a two-digit number using long multiplication.
- Divide a four-digit number by a one-digit number using short division.
- Add and subtract fractions with the same denominator and related denominators.
- Recognise the relationship between fractions, decimals and percentages.



Independence and Group Work

- Follow a multi-step instruction and complete each part independently.
- Manage their own resources and routines throughout the school day.
- Contribute appropriately and listen to others during group work.



Feedback and Safety

- Respond appropriately to feedback or correction and continue with the task.
- Explain how to keep themselves safe in school, online and in the community.

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Year 6 Foundational Knowledge and Skills

The essential knowledge, skills and behaviours we want children to be confident with by the end of Year 6.



What are they?

These are the essential building blocks for children's learning in Year 6, including reading, writing, maths, independence and personal development.



Why do they matter?

They help children become fully prepared for the next stage of education and life beyond primary school.



Reading and Spelling

- Read an age-appropriate passage aloud fluently, accurately and with appropriate expression.
- Spell the taught Year 6 selection of the Year 5/6 statutory word list.



Writing and Grammar

- Use a semi-colon to link two related independent clauses.
- Use a colon to introduce a list.
- Use hyphens to avoid ambiguity.



Mathematics

- Read and write numbers to 10,000,000.
- Identify the value of each digit in a number to 10,000,000.
- Multiply a four-digit number by a two-digit number using long multiplication.
- Divide a four-digit number by a two-digit number using long division.
- Add, subtract, multiply and divide fractions.
- Convert between fractions, decimals and percentages.



Independence and Working with Others

- Plan and organise themselves to complete a task independently.
- Manage established school routines and responsibilities without adult reminders.
- Work constructively with different pupils, including when opinions differ.



Resilience and Safety

- Recognise when something is becoming difficult and independently select an appropriate strategy or source of support.
- Recognise when a situation, relationship or online interaction may be unsafe and take appropriate action.

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