



Foundation Stage 2

Curriculum Overview - Autumn 1

Myself & My Family



The Early Years Curriculum

The curriculum is divided into seven areas of learning:

Personal, Social & Emotional Development, Communication & Language, Physical Development, Literacy, Mathematics, Understanding the World and Expressive Arts & Design.

Autumn 1 Topic - Myself & My Family

This half term we will be learning all about the children and what makes them special and unique. The children will compare themselves to their peers, identifying similarities and differences between themselves and others. We will discuss who is in their family, including any pets. The children will identify different kinds of homes and talk about where they live. The children will also learn about harvest by making and tasting bread and taking part in the whole school Harvest Festival.



Personal, Social & Emotional Development

The first half term is all about setting expectations and learning the rules and routines. We will introduce the children to the 6 'Golden Rules' using stories and real life scenarios. The Golden Rules are:

We Listen; We are Gentle; We Look After Property; We are Honest; We are Kind & Helpful and We Work Hard. The children will also take part in weekly 'Jigsaw' lessons. Our theme this half term is 'Me in my World.' The children will also be introduced to the first of our School Values, 'Kindness.' The children will be encouraged to show 'kindness' to their friends and grown ups. They will begin to understand how it makes us feel when someone is kind to us and when we are kind to others.

What you can do to help at home

Please encourage your child to be as independent as possible at home, particularly by practising changing their own shoes and putting on and fastening their own coat.

Communication & Language

The children will have many opportunities to learn new vocabulary and to practise using this vocabulary in a variety of different situations. The children will listen to and discuss a variety of stories and non-fiction texts including our Books of the Week: [The Colour Monster Goes to School](#), [There's a Snake in My School](#), [My Family, Your Family](#), [A Handful of Buttons](#), [Leaf Ma](#), [Little Red Hen](#). The children will discuss some of the vocabulary used in these books and the meanings of different words and phrases.

What you can do to help at home

Talk to your child as much as possible, hold back and forth conversations about subjects which interest them, including asking and answering questions. Talk about the books you share at home, ask your child questions about what is happening and encourage them to predict what might happen next.

Physical Development

The Physical Development curriculum is divided into two parts, gross motor control (large scale movements) and fine motor control (small scale movements). Your child will have daily opportunities to explore our outdoor learning space, running, jumping and climbing. They also have opportunities to develop their skills using a range of apparatus including balls, beanbags, skipping rope and frisbees. Once a week, your child will have a PE lesson with their class teacher. Your child needs to come to school in their PE kit (a house coloured t-shirt and a pair of navy/black shorts) on their designated PE day. This half term they will practise moving in a variety of ways including walking, jogging, skipping, hopping and running. Your child will complete a range of activities aimed at developing their fine motor control in preparation for writing, including posting, threading, dough disco and using tweezers.

What you can do to help at home

Please let your child practise getting dressed into their school uniform as independently as possible.

Literacy

Your child will learn to read and spell using a phonics approach. At Hallgate we use the 'Bug Club' phonics scheme and reading books. During this half term the children will have daily phonics lessons, in which they will make links between letters and the sounds they make. Your child will start by bringing home a 'sharing book' for you to read and discuss with your child. As they become more confident, they will begin to blend sounds together to read simple regular words for themselves. The children will also learn to spell simple, regular words by segmenting the sounds they can hear in these words and writing down the letters to match these sounds.

What you can do to help at home

Please attend our Parents & Carers Reading Talk (see below for more details). Read to your child as often as you can. Discuss the settings, characters and their actions.

Encourage your child to make predictions about what might happen next in a story and why they think this. Point out print in the environment, such as street and shop signs and letters and words on food packaging.



Mathematics

The children will experience mathematical concepts and vocabulary in their daily routines at school, including counting how many children we have in school and how many children are having packed lunches and hot school dinners each day. This half term the children will participate in daily, adult led maths sessions. This teaching will include: matching and comparing quantities, sorting and grouping objects by colour, size and shape and identifying the odd one out in a group of objects. The children will subitise (identifying how many without counting) groups of objects up to 5. They will also count, recognise and order numbers to 10, as well as making simple patterns using different objects and shapes. The children will recognise and name a range of 2D shapes, including: squares, circles, rectangles, triangles, pentagons & hexagons.

What you can do to help at home

Point out numerals in the environment, this might be house numbers, numbers on vehicle registration plates or numerals in books and magazines. Encourage your child to count groups of objects up to 10, touching each object as they count it. Compare groups or objects and identify who has more or less and if the groups are equal.

Understanding the World

This area of the curriculum covers Science, Geography, History, Religious Education (RE), Design & Technology (DT) and Computing. Our Science theme this half term is 'My Senses.' The children will explore their different senses through a range of activities including smell pots, blind tasting and touching and identifying objects by listening to the sounds they make. The children will investigate the season and autumn and identify the changes which happen at this time of the year. The children will make and taste bread, they will compare the changes which the ingredients go through once cooked.

The children will also learn about the celebration of the Harvest Festival and they will take part in the whole school service at St Mary's Church. The children will learn about Cottingham and their immediate environment.

What you can do to help at home

Please talk to your child about their senses and what they can: see, hear, touch, smell and taste. Please talk to your children about where they live, their address and what type of home they live in.

Expressive Arts & Design

This area of the curriculum includes art, design, music and dance. The children will have the opportunity to practise skills in these areas during their free choice time at school. They will also participate in adult led sessions to teach specific skills in these areas. This half term these will include, using colours appropriately to create self portrait paintings, using a range of mixed media to create pictures of different harvest fruits and vegetables and to use autumn colours to create conker rolling and leaf printing pictures.

In music this half term, the children will follow the Charanga music scheme. The first unit is called Me! The children will **Listen and Respond** to different styles of music, **Explore and Create** using their voices and classroom instruments, **Singing** nursery rhymes and action songs (building up to singing and playing) and **Sharing and Performing** by singing, moving to music and evaluating these performances.

What you can do to help at home



Please allow your child to experiment with mark making using a range of different materials. Sing with your child at home, so they become familiar with a range of nursery rhymes and action songs.



Baseline Assessments

Your child will be participating in the reception baseline assessment (RBA) within the first 6 weeks of starting school. The purpose of the assessment is to provide the starting point for a new measure that will help parents understand how well schools support their pupils to progress between Reception and Year 6.

The RBA is a short, interactive and practical assessment of your child's early literacy, communication, language and mathematics skills when they begin school, using materials that most children of your child's age will be familiar with. It became statutory for all schools from September 2021. The RBA is not about judging or labelling your child or putting them under any pressure. Your child cannot 'pass' or 'fail' the assessment. Its main purpose is to create a starting point to measure the progress schools make with their pupils. The RBA will provide an opportunity for your child to have valuable one-to-one time with their teacher at an early stage, so the teacher can get to know your child better. It will provide a helpful snapshot of where your child is when they enter Reception, so they can be supported in the most appropriate way. At Hallgate we plan to complete these assessments with the children during 'Week 3,' the week commencing 16th September 2024.

Parents & Carers Reading Talk

We would like to invite all our EYFS families to a Phonics and Reading Workshop and Pyjama Party. We invite the children to come back to school dressed in their pyjamas on **Wednesday 18th September at 5pm until 6pm.** While the children enjoy hot chocolate and bedtime stories with members of the EYFS team, we will hold a phonics and reading workshop with the parents and carers in the Red Hall. The workshop will provide you with information about how we teach phonics and reading at Hallgate. We will discuss a bank of ideas for how you can support your child at home and information about the reading Early Learning Goal and expectation for the end of the year.



Dates for your Diary

- Wednesday 4th September - Children start School
- W/C 16th September - RBA baselines
- Wednesday 18th September - Parents & Carers Phonics & Reading Workshop and Pyjama Party (5pm - 6pm)
- Tuesday 8th October - Stay and Play session till 9-10.15am
- Thursday 10th October - Walk to the park to look for signs of autumn (we will need some volunteers to come with us - more details to follow nearer the time)
- Friday 25th October - Break up for Half Term
- Monday 4th November - Return to School

Things to Remember

- Please make sure your child brings their coat, bag and drink bottle to school every day.
- Only send water in your child's bottle, no juice or fizzy drinks please.
- School provides your child with a piece of free fruit everyday. If you prefer to send your child with a snack from home, please ensure the snack is healthy (no crisps or anything containing chocolate.) Also due to allergies, please ensure all snacks **do not** contain nuts of any kind.
- Please make sure all your child's belongings are labelled with their name. This includes their shoes, as black school shoes all look the same when you are only four years old.
- The best way to contact your child's teacher is via the class email address.

To contact Mrs Emson or Mrs Noott, please email:

fs2en@hallgateprimaryschool.co.uk

To contact Miss Rhodes, please email:

fs2kr@hallgateprimaryschool.co.uk