St Peter's Pre-school

Long Term Curriculum Plan 2026–2027

A child-centred EYFS curriculum overview

Curriculum intent: To provide a nurturing, inclusive and engaging environment where children develop confidence, independence, communication, curiosity and a love of learning through meaningful experiences, play and strong relationships.

Planning approach: This long-term overview builds from the Autumn 2026 medium term plan, including Wonderful Me, Friends and Families, Autumn and special events. It is intended as a flexible framework; children's interests, developmental needs and spontaneous opportunities shape day-to-day planning.

AUTUMN 1 2026–2027

Ourselves • Friends • Preschool

EYFS Area	*Long-Term Learning Focus*
Communication & Language	Talk about ourselves, our friends and our experiences; listen to stories, rhymes and environmental sounds.
Personal, Social & Emotional Development	Build secure relationships; become confident separating from main carers; learn routines, sharing and expressing feelings.
Physical Development	Explore moving in different ways; climb and use play equipment; develop control with mark-making tools and everyday equipment.
Literacy	Share familiar stories, rhymes and poems; talk about characters and events; use role play, puppets and small world to retell stories.
Mathematics	Explore numbers through songs and rhymes; use language such as more/a lot; build structures and notice shapes and patterns.
Understanding the World	Discover ourselves, families and friends; talk about what makes us unique and special; explore the preschool and local environment.
Expressive Arts & Design	Move to music; sing familiar songs; experiment with sounds; explore paint, crayons, chalk and other media to create marks.

Possible enhancement experiences: Family photographs, settling-in experiences, self-portraits, visits around the setting, friendship games and home-setting links.

AUTUMN 2 2026–2027

Autumn • Harvest • Halloween • Diwali • Fireworks • Christmas

EYFS Area	*Long-Term Learning Focus*
Communication & Language	Learn and use vocabulary linked to autumn, celebrations and seasonal change; listen, respond and join in with stories and songs.
Personal, Social & Emotional Development	Talk about feelings and celebrations; develop kindness, turn-taking and respect for different family traditions.
Physical Development	Explore outdoor movement in changing weather; practise balancing, climbing, throwing and fine-motor control through creative activities.
Literacy	Enjoy seasonal and celebration stories; join in repeated phrases, rhymes and songs; make marks for different purposes.
Mathematics	Count objects and actions in meaningful contexts; compare quantities; explore size, shape, pattern and positional language.
Understanding the World	Observe seasonal change; explore Harvest and celebrations including Diwali, Fireworks and Christmas; notice light, colour and weather.
Expressive Arts & Design	Explore colour, texture, music, dance, collage, printing and role play inspired by autumn and celebrations.

Possible enhancement experiences: Harvest activities, seasonal walks, Diwali-inspired art, light and dark exploration, Christmas stories and community experiences.

SPRING 1 2026–2027

Winter • People Who Help Us • Animals

EYFS Area	*Long-Term Learning Focus*
Communication & Language	Develop vocabulary for winter, occupations and animals; listen carefully and respond to questions; retell familiar stories.
Personal, Social & Emotional Development	Recognise people who help us; develop confidence, cooperation, resilience and awareness of others.
Physical Development	Develop gross-motor coordination through obstacle courses, climbing, balancing and ball play; strengthen fine-motor skills.
Literacy	Explore information books and stories; hear and identify rhymes and sounds; practise purposeful mark making and early writing.
Mathematics	Count, compare and subitise small amounts; explore shape, pattern, measure and positional language through play.
Understanding the World	Investigate winter weather, animals and habitats; learn about people who help us and their roles in our community.
Expressive Arts & Design	Use props, music, movement, painting, modelling and construction to represent animals, winter and community helpers.

Possible enhancement experiences: Visits/visitors linked to helping roles, animal small world, winter investigations, physical challenges and story retelling.

SPRING 2 2026–2027

Growing • New Life • Spring • Easter

EYFS Area	*Long-Term Learning Focus*
Communication & Language	Talk about growth and change; follow simple instructions; listen to and retell stories about spring and new life.
Personal, Social & Emotional Development	Develop responsibility through caring for plants and living things; talk about change, hope and feelings.
Physical Development	Strengthen coordination through gardening, digging, pouring, threading, cutting and outdoor physical play.
Literacy	Enjoy spring and Easter stories, rhymes and poems; develop phonological awareness through sound and rhyme games.
Mathematics	Explore counting, adding and taking away in play; investigate capacity, length, height, pattern and shape.
Understanding the World	Plant seeds and observe growth; investigate life cycles and signs of spring; explore Easter and its meaning within our CofE context.
Expressive Arts & Design	Create spring artwork, music and movement; use natural materials; explore colour mixing, transient art and role play.

Possible enhancement experiences: Planting and gardening, observing growth, Easter activities, caring for living things and spring walks.

SUMMER 1 2026–2027

Our World • Nature • Minibeasts • Life Cycles

EYFS Area	*Long-Term Learning Focus*
Communication & Language	Use descriptive vocabulary to talk about nature, minibeasts and investigations; ask questions and share ideas.
Personal, Social & Emotional Development	Build confidence, independence and teamwork; show care and respect for living things and the environment.
Physical Development	Develop stamina, balance and coordination through outdoor challenges; refine fine-motor control.
Literacy	Share non-fiction and fiction texts; make predictions and discuss events; develop early writing for meaningful purposes.
Mathematics	Explore numbers, counting, comparison, measure and patterns through gardening, collections and outdoor investigations.
Understanding the World	Investigate minibeasts, plants, habitats, weather and life cycles; care for the environment and notice changes over time.
Expressive Arts & Design	Create nature-inspired music, dance, paintings, models and transient art; represent observations creatively.

Possible enhancement experiences: Minibeast hunts, planting, nature collections, outdoor investigations, life-cycle observations and environmental care.

SUMMER 2 2026–2027

Holidays • Journeys • Transition • Starting School

EYFS Area	**Long-Term Learning Focus**
Communication & Language	Talk about journeys, holidays and future experiences; listen to others and communicate ideas confidently.
Personal, Social & Emotional Development	Develop independence, resilience and confidence for transition; celebrate achievements, friendships and the year together.
Physical Development	Practise self-care and independence; develop safe movement, coordination and confidence in a range of physical activities.
Literacy	Enjoy favourite stories and books; talk about school and change; practise name writing and purposeful early writing.
Mathematics	Apply number knowledge in everyday situations; solve simple problems; revisit shape, measure, pattern and spatial language.
Understanding the World	Explore different places, transport and communities; talk about similarities and differences; prepare for the move to school.
Expressive Arts & Design	Use drama, music, dance, art and construction to revisit favourite experiences and celebrate the children's creativity.

Possible enhancement experiences: Local walks, transport and journey role play, transition visits, school-readiness experiences and end-of-year celebrations.

Whole-Year Curriculum Threads

Communication & Language: Daily high-quality interactions, stories, songs, rhymes, sustained shared thinking, vocabulary development and opportunities to talk.

PSED: Secure relationships, emotional literacy, self-regulation, independence, resilience, friendships, respect and belonging.

Physical Development: Daily indoor/outdoor movement, climbing, balancing, running, mark making, tool use, self-care and fine-motor development.

Literacy: Rich books and stories, rhyme, rhythm, sound awareness, mark making, early writing and meaningful reasons to communicate.

Mathematics: Number songs, counting, comparison, subitising, shape, space, measure, pattern and mathematical language embedded in play.

Understanding the World: First-hand exploration of people, families, community, nature, seasons, celebrations, environments, animals and change.

Expressive Arts & Design: Music, singing, movement, dance, role play, painting, drawing, modelling, construction, loose parts and imaginative expression.