Cragside Church of England Primary School



Reception Curriculum Overview 2025-2026 "A Love of Learning and a Thirst for Knowledge"

All our topics link to the Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage (Sept 2021). We also make full use of the Principles into Practice guidance from Julian Grenier.
Our curriculum is ambitious and carefully sequenced to help children build their learning over time. We plan with a focus on language in all we do. We also recognise that, whilst this is a top level plan of everything we want the children to learn in Nursery, we recognise young children's learning is driven by their interests, this dictates that our plans are flexible.

	Autumn 1 All about me	Autumn 2 Celebrations	Spring 1 Traditional tales	Spring 2 My community	Summer 1 Growing	Summer 2 Minibeasts
Possible themes, interests, lines of enquiry. We endeavour to follow the children's interests. Special festivals and events	Autumn colours/treasures Transition/settling Autumn walk Harvest All about me - Who am I? Family - who, pets, where I live, what I like - use tapestry to share news/hobbies. What do I look like? similarities and differences to others. My emotions PSED FOCUS	Bonfire night Firework safety Diwali Remembrance Nursery Rhyme Week Children in need Christmas Walk to post cards/letters PSED FOCUS	Changing seasons winter/spring Winter walk - exploring ice/water - melting/freezing Chinese New Year Mothers Day Shrove Tuesday and lent World book Day Easter Traditional tales linked to science SCIENCE FOCUS Check Easter /mothers day/ WBD dates	Planting /gardening Spring walk - signs of spring Ramadan and Eid Holi My community - where in the world are we? What type of home do I live in? What are the physical features of my local environment? Who helps in my community? What are the beliefs /cultures in my community? Being healthy - teeth, food and exercise, washing hands/germs, toileting. GEOGRAPHY FOCUS	Summer walk - what has changed Growing Growing - Plants SCIENCE FOCUS	Mini beasts Friendships/changes Fathers day Sports day Summer trip Life cycles Caterpillars Minibeasts - what are they? Where are they? What have we found? A look back in time linked to jigsaw changes - History SCIENCE /HISTORY FOCUS
Partnership with parents	Tapestry Parent Consultations Family Stay and Play	Tapestry Christmas Song Performance	Tapestry Parent Consultations	Tapestry Spring Stay and Play Trip to local park	Tapestry Church trip	Tapestry Annual reports Sports Day Summer stay and play and celebrations
Key texts to enhance seasonal topics or events.	Key texts This is my House Ruby's Worry CLPE Bog Baby CLPE	Key Texts The Gigantic Turnip CLPE Stickman Blue Penguin CLPE Christmas stories including Nativity	Key texts Here We Are 10 Things I can do to help my world CLPE Planet full of plastic Gingerbread man, three billy goats gruff, three little pigs Non fiction texts about winter Chinese New year story		Key Texts Errol's Garden CLPE Non-fiction books on life cycles and growing plants	Key Texts Naughty Bus The Invisible Peepo, Cave baby, The tiger who came to tea Yucky worms CLPE Non-fiction text about minibeasts
	Building blocks to KS1 Literacy: Beginning to form recognisable letters and match letter to sound. Mathematics: Number recognition, formation and matching numeral to quare 1-5 (10 where appropriate)		Building Blocks to KS1 Literacy: Developing writing to produce simple sentences using appropriate		Building Blocks to KS1 Literacy: Writing simple phrases and sentences which can be read by themselves and others, using capital letters, full stops and finger spaces. Mathematics: Numbers to 20 to prepare for place value	
Physical Development	Gross motor indoors: yoga; dan Fine motor: threading activities; drawing. Understanding the lange	pors: large climbing equipment; he nce and movement, painting on e tweezers; malleable materials e.uage of direction ('up', 'down', 'ro	und', 'back', etc).	sticky kids, and messy play.	s, eating with cutlery, using smal	ilding with tyres and crates. I brushes for painting and pencils for
	PE HALL Weekly session - follow					

Key Vocabularly (for adults to use)	Moving with confidence in a range of ways, such as slithering, shuffling, rolling, crawling, walking, running, jumping, skipping, sliding and hopping. Running skilfully and negotiating space successfully, adjusting speed or direction to avoid obstacles. Fine Motor Skills: Using tools and equipment Mark making and name writing Finger gym activities Holding scissors accurately. Toilet routine, washing hands, putting on coats/wellies/aprons, fastening zips. Key Vocabularly (for		Continuing and developing our movement and position skills, negotiating space successfully Developing our strength, balance and coordination through dance, gymnastics and play. Fine Motor Skills: Continuing to use tools and equipment with confidence and independence Effectively holding and using scissors Finger gym activities Pencil grip and pencil control Beginning to draw with accuracy and attention to detail. Being healthy - food, exercise, teeth, sleep.		Successfully negotiating space and obstacles safely with consideration for themselves and others Independently showing strength, balance and coordination when playing Moving energetically, such as running, jumping, dancing, hopping, skipping and climbing. Fine Motor Skills: Continuing to use tools and equipment with confidence and independence Finger gym activities Using the tripod grip with pencil grip and pencil control with confidence Continuing to draw and recreate images and pictures with accuracy and awareness. Be increasingly independent as they get dressed and undressed, for example, putting coats on and doing up zips.		
adults to use)	' '	shes, thin paint brushes, rolling pins, k rs, white board pens, buttons, zips	nives, cutlery, hammers, drills, sa	aws, tap 'n' shapes, chunky pencil, s	small pencil, ball point pen, fe	It pen, squeezy scissors, training	
look in at themselves	Personal development: independence skills; putting own wellies and coats and dressing for outdoors; to Social development: sense of community; developing friendships; sharing and turn taking; developing a social development: separating from parents; understanding our feelings (colour monster book); lessions children will pse is taught through Jigsaw scheme, commando Joes, and in an ongoing way as				n peers	NTERACTIONS	
considering their own ideas, opinions and	Being me in my world	Celebrating difference	Dreams and goals	<u>Healthy me</u>	Relationships	Changing me	
thoughts on a range of topics and will look out towards others by		 Identify feelings associated with being proud Identify things they are good at 	Understand that challenges can be difficult	feel their family and those ca	Can identify what jobs they do in their family and those carried out by parents/carers and siblings		
showing respect for others opinions ideas and feelings	Identify feelings of happiness and sadness Skills to play cooperatively with others Be able to vocalise success for them and about others successes Identify some ways they can be difference the same as others Be able to consider others' feelings Recognise similarities and difference between their family and other families	Be able to vocalise success for themselves	Recognise some of the feelings linked to perseverance Talk about a time that they kept on	Recognise how different foods can make them feel Explain what they need to do to stay	Can suggest ways to make a friend or help someone who is lonely Understand how to use different ways to mend a friendship		
		Recognise similarities and differences	trying and achieved a goal Recognise how kind words can encourage people	Can give examples of healthy food		To express how we feel about moving to Year 1 Talk about my worries and/or the things we are looking forward to about being in Year 1	
		between their family and other families Identify and use skills to make a friend	Feel proud and celebrate success	Can explain how they might feel if they don't get enough sleep Can explain what to do if a stranger	Recognise what being angry feels like and have tools to support with feeling calm	To share our memories of the best bits of this year in Reception	
	Children will begin to understand their own feelings and be given opportunities to consider the feelings of others	 Identify and use skills to stand up for themselves 	Children will begin to understand how they can work to achieve a goal. They will start to look out into the world and become aware of different roles in society	approaches them Children will look in at themselves to begin to know what makes them healthy	Children will look out at their friends and begin to talk about what makes them special		

			Recognise emotions when they or someone else is upset, frightened or angry Children will reflect on what makes them special Children will look out at different families around the world. Children will look up as they begin to learn about different beliefs.				
		different, rights,	different, special, proud, friends, kind, same, similar, happy, sad, frightened, angry, family, unique		healthy, exercise, head, shoulders, knees, toes, sleep, heart, active, wash, clean, safe adult, scared, trust.	family, jobs, relationship, friend, lonely, argue, fall-out, words, feelings, angry, upset, calm me, breathing.	memories, past, present, future, how, why, when, where, who
	Language	As part of daily routine and continuous provision: Listening to stories, retelling stories, circle time, role play, langua Listening, Attention and Understanding: Developing our listening skills Listening for sounds Developing our attention and focus skills Following simple and two-part instructions Speaking: Daily Talk opportunities through our continuous provision including our roleplay areas to support our imagination and recreate roles and experiences in our pla Talking in full sentences		Listening, Attention and Understanding: Asking questions and listening carefully to give the correct answers Continuing to develop our listening skills and maintain our attention and focus to a task or during carpet teaching Rich vocabulary exposure through a variety of texts and stories Developing our sentences and replying to questions with descriptive words and detail.		Listening, Attention and Understanding: Holding conversations with back and forth exchanges Listening carefully to what has been said Asking appropriate questions and giving relevant comments based on what has been said Speaking: Joining in with whole class, small group and 1–2-1 discussions Freely joining in and giving own ideas and thoughts. Making suggestions and giving reasons for what has happened and making	
F	ey Vocabulary (for	Vocabulary, words, sente		Talking in full sentences Developing our speaking and expressive vocabulary skills Using new vocabulary (modelled from adults) in our play and interactions Learning to be aware of our listeners' needs Describing events using past, present and future forms Discussing and describing shared stories and texts nt, future, how, why, when, where, who, meaning, narrative, or		predictions for what might happen Discussing and exploring feelings	and experiences.
a	Literacy	As part of daily routine an Opportunities for mark ma home-made books, letter w Resources: a range of pen	nd continuous provision: aking in a wide range of ways. i.e. clip riting, shopping lists, price labels, treas cils, crayons, chalks and pens to choo	boards outdoors, chalks for pavi sure maps se from. Selection of coloured pa	ng stones, boards and notepads in t	he home corner, planning sh	eets in construction area, greeting cards,
		Opportunities for mark making in a wide range of ways. i.e. clipboards outdoors, chalks for paving stones, boards and notepads in the home corner, planning sheets in construction area, greeting car home-made books, letter writing, shopping lists, price labels, treasure maps Resources: a range of pencils, crayons, chalks and pens to choose from. Selection of coloured paper, themed paper, envelopes, drawing programmes on large screen Daily: writing letters of their name, encouraged to write names on pictures, story times, singing songs and nursery rhymes with actions, developing vocabulary through stories and books. Develop their phonological awareness, so that they can: spot and suggest rhymes, count or clap syllables in a word, recognise words with the same initial sound. Break words down into phonemes in everyday conversations e.g. "I can see a d-o-g" "Can you get your c-oa-t?" Phase 1 revisited throughout the year through games and daily interactions					

Comprehension:

Sharing picture books, non-fiction books and stories

Listening to and beginning to show an understanding of stories and what has been read to the children.

Beginning to join in with stories and repeated refrains Singing songs and nursery rhymes

Word Reading:

Listening to sounds in songs, stories, poems, rhyme and the environment Introduction to Set 1 sounds RWInc. Phonics sounds Beginning to blend simple CVC words.

Writina:

Beginning to form recognisable letters
Name writing

Beginning to match sound to letter.

Comprehension:

Developing understanding of what has been read to them by retelling and sequencing stories and narratives

Following reading of a range of high quality texts, poems, and rhymes, applying new vocabulary from in discussions and interactions with adults and peers Participation in 'Helicopter Stories' and willing to re-create stories which have been shared

Confidently joining in with stories and repeated refrains.

Word Reading:

Familiar with all Set 1 RWInc. Phonics sounds

Building knowledge and use of Set 2 RWInc. Phonics sounds including digraphs and trigraphs

Developing sound blending and simple word recognition in line with phonics knowledge and taught sounds

Developing recognition of tricky and red words

Beginning to read aloud simple sentences using phonics knowledge and taught sounds.

Writing:

Developing confidence to writing recognisable letters, most of which are correctly formed and on the line independently

Listening for sounds at the beginning and throughout words and correctly representing the sounds with a letter or letters

Developing writing to produce simple sentences using appropriate grammar such as a capital letter, full stop and finger spaces.

Comprehension:

Demonstrating a solid understanding of what has been read to them by retelling stories and narratives using their own words and recently introduced vocabulary Using new vocabulary from a range of high quality texts, poems, and rhymes in discussions and interactions with adults and peers

Able to reenact and re-create stories in class teaching and independent play Showing prediction skills and character understanding in new texts.

Word Reading:

Familiar with all Set 1 and Set 2 RWInc. Phonics sounds including up to 10 digraphs Able to read words in line with phonics knowledge and taught sounds

Able to recognise and blend sounds in line with phonics knowledge and taught sounds

Showing confidence reading aloud simple sentences and books that are consistent with phonic knowledge and teaching, including some common exception words.

Writing:

Writing recognisable letters, most of which are correctly formed and on the line Listening for sounds in words and correctly representing the sounds with a letter or letters

Writing simple phrases and sentences which can be read by themselves and others, using capital letters, full stops and finger spaces.

Key Vocabulary (for adults to use)

alliteration, author, beginning, blurb, bold, book, character, clarify, contents, digital book, e-book, emotions, end, fact, feelings, fiction, finally, glossary, goodies, google, happily, ever after, beadings, berges, bow information, instructions, internet, middle, non-fiction, once upon a time, page, plot, noem, predict, question, recipes, retell, rhyme, setting

happily, ever after, headings, heroes, how, information, instructions, internet, middle, non-fiction, once upon a time, page, plot, poem, predict, question, recipes, retell, rhyme, setting, speech, subheadings, suddenly, summarise, title, villains, what, when, where, who, why

Mathematics

We follow the 'Master the Curriculum' as part of our maths learning during lessons, as well as having resources available in the provision for children to use independently and to continue their learning throughout the day.

As part of daily routine and continuous provision:

Daily self-registration (counting how many children are here/absent using 10 frames); counting how many children in key group, recording amounts in a range of ways; holding up fingers to represent amounts; locating matching numeral on number line; open ended natural objects can be used for counting, weighing, comparing, sharing, making patterns; singing number rhymes and songs.

Statements below are taken from development matters

Autumn Term Getting to know you

Shapes with 4 sides

Match, sort and compare Talk about measure and patterns Its me 1, 2, 3 Circles and triangles 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

Spring Term

Alive in 5
Mass and Capacity
Growing 6,7,8
Length, height and time
Building 9 and 10
Explore 3-D shapes

Summer Term

To 20 and beyond
How many now?
Manipulate, compose and decompose
Sharing and grouping
Visualise, build and map
Make connections
Consolidation

As part of daily routine and continuous provision:

Understanding the World Adult's encourage children to figure things out and problem solve, asking open ended questions and facilitating their investigations.

Geography, Science						
			Past and Present: Showing an awareness for different people and different roles within society including people who help us Beginning to describe and discuss things that have happened in the past and things which happen in our lives Sharing stories and non-fictions texts with events across different time periods including the Easter Story. People, Culture and Communities Developing an understanding and the ability to discuss different family celebrations and cultural festivals Discussing and understanding different religious celebrations such as Christenings and baptisms and how they might differ with different communities Sharing stories about different religions and cultures The Natural World: Freely exploring our outdoor area and forest environment and discussing changes		Past and Present: Sharing and recalling stories with events in the past and present Role-playing and acting stories using past and present tense Able to discuss lives of Grandparents and older generations and articulate differences and similarities. People, Culture and Communities Able to describe their immediate environment using knowledge from observations, discussion with adults and peers, stories, non-fiction texts and maps Continuing sharing different stories and non-fiction texts to explore different cultural and religious celebrations Showing an understanding of different countries, food, weather and cultures The Natural World: s Continuing to exploring our outdoor area and forest environment and discussing changes they notice and drawing what they see (wildlife, animals and plants)	
			they notice Developing vocabulary to discuss differ and sharing stories and non-fictions texture.	rent 'worlds' and environments (ice, hot) tts.	Able to discuss and describe pla	ints and animals and what they need to grow non-fiction texts to explore our world and discuss with
Key Vocabulary (for adults to use)	Map, road, path, street, river, st	ream, town, village, countryside, celebi	, countryside, celebration direction, tradition, house, park, post office, shops, land, ocean, sea, globe, atlas, England, countries, Europe, world, jobs/careers (ongoing),			
Religious Studies	The subject is split into 6 BIG questions which are covered over the year, looking at Christian views but also learning about other faiths and beliefs such as Judaism and Islam As part of daily routine and continuous provision: Adults encourage children to use items in the provision to encourage small world play relating to topics covered, such as building churches, the Easter story or the Creation story. Books are readily available for children well as resources available in the classroom prayer area. Children will have opportunities to access the school prayer area according to the timetable.					
		special for Christians?	Why is the word 'God' so important to Christians?	Why is Easter special to Christians?	Which places are special and why?	What times/stories are special and why?
	Theology – making sense of belief					
	Children will retell religious stories	'incarnation' as describing the	Children will retell stories, talking about what they say about the world, God, human beings	Recognise and retell stories connected with celebration of Easter Say why Easter is a special time for Christians	Begin to recognise that for Christians, Muslims or Jews, these special things link to beliefs about God	Talk about some religious stories Recognise some religious words, e.g. about God Identify a sacred text e.g. Bible, Torah
			Human and Social Scie	ences- making connections		

		traditional Christian festival (Christmas)	Talk about things they find interesting, puzzling or wonderful and also about their own experiences and feelings about the world Think about the wonders of the natural world, expressing ideas and feelings Children will be encouraged to talk about what people do to mess up the world and what they do to look after it.	Talk about ideas of new life in nature Make connections with signs of new life in nature and the symbols Christians use during holy week	Talk about somewhere that is special to themselves, saying why Get to know and use appropriate words to talk about their thoughts and feelings when visiting a church Express a personal response to the natural world.	Identify some of their own feelings in the stories they hear
			Philosophy- unde	erstanding the impact		
	at a traditional Christian infant baptism and dedication Recall simply what happens	to them Say what makes their family and friends special to them Making connections from stories	Say how and when Christians like to thank their Creator	Recognise some symbols Christians use during Holy Week, e.g. palm leaves, cross, eggs, etc., Talk about some ways Christians remember these stories at Easter.	Recognise that some religious people have places which have special meaning for them Talk about the things that are special and valued in a place of worship	Talk about some of the things these stories teach believers (for example, what Jesus teaches about being friends with the friendless in the story of Zacchaeus; what Jesus' story about the ten lepers teaches about saying 'thank you', and why it is good to thank and be thanked; what the Chanukah story teaches Jews About standing up for what is right), etc.
Expressive arts and design Links to music, literacy, Art, DT and Drama Children to be given opportunities to be mindful and in the moment when creating throughout the year.	As part of daily routine and Singing rhymes and songs; sounds and instruments; colorange of materials	movement and dance; role play acti	vities; small world play; re-enactin ; playdough modelling; cooking ac	g stories using props and story sacl tivities; transient art; using senses t	ks; using imagination to rec o explore colour, texture, so	reate roles and experiences; exploring cents; using tools to create; modelling with a

Being imaginative and	expressive -	 Core song 	s and	rhvmes:
Tradical de Arrical de 1944 e escar				

Twinkle twinkle little star Im a little teapot 112345 Once I caught a fish alive 5 little speckled frogs Humpty dumpty Hickory dickory dock Wind the bobbin up 5 little ducks

Incy wincy spider
The grand old duke of York
5 little men in a flying saucer
5 fat sausages
Old Mcdonald had a farm

Head shoulders knees and toes

Miss Polly had a dolly
The wheels on the bus
If youre happy and you know it
Baa baa black sheep

	<u>Drawing</u>	Painting	Textiles and collage	Printing	Sculpture
Creating with Materials Links to Art, Dt and Drama Key skills are built upon through the year:	To independently complete mark making. Purposefully choose colours or techniques. Use tools, materials and simple actions to produce a piece of work. Know that drawings have a meaning Create simple representations of events, people and objects.	Use a paint brush to paint Use finger painting Choose colours you like when painting Mix colours in an experimental way	To handle, manipulate and enjoy using materials. To investigate sensory experience. To make simple collages inspired by their own imaginative ideas.	Print marks intentionally on a surface with fingers, object or tools. Use paint to print	Explore materials, describing how they feel and look. Create models expressing their own creative ideas using junk modelling materials Use and explore playdoh.

Being imaginative and expressive Links to music and Literacy

Use Musical development matters in the Early Years when planning music focus sessions

Children to be given opportunities to be mindful and in the moment and to express themselves creatively with music.

To talk about dance and performance art, expressing feelings.

To know that we can move with the pulse of the music

To clap some of the words from the song for others to copy.

To enjoy finding and moving the pitch of their voices.

To develop their singing abilities by matching pitch and following melody.

To enjoy singing a song from memory.

To know that a performance is sharing music.

To engage in music and dance performing solo or groups.

To enjoy the challenge of performing with just the backing track.

To enjoy finding a pattern on the instrument.

To begin to replicate choreographed dances.

To enjoy listening to music and responding to music through dance or other movement. .

To find the pulse in different ways and show this through actions.

To copy the sounds they can hear to distinguish high-pitched

sounds from low-pitched sounds.

To enjoy singing or rapping a song from memory.

To add actions to songs.

To enjoy the challenge of performing with just the backing track.

To listen back to the performance.

To invent and adapt recounts, narratives and stories.

To enjoy thinking up and sharing own ideas for actions.

To clap a whole line of the song.

To learn to sing in unison with support.

To enjoy singing or rapping a song from memory. To add actions or substitute a word in some

sections.

To enjoy the challenge of performing with just the backing track and adding actions to the songs.

To play the pulse with a pitched note or untuned percussion instrument.

To add one pitched sound to the rhythm of words and short phrases from the song. To enjoy playing and experimenting with 2-note or 3-note patterns.

Key Vocabulary (for adults to use)

Dance, sing, song, rhyme, instrument, drum, drumstick, tambourine, maracas, triangle, xylophone, loud, quiet, fast, slow, music, beat.

Draw, cut, print, mark, paint, scrape, tear, stick, shape, mould, squeeze, trickle, pour, scratch, dab, shade, colour, splash, spray, flick, spatter, score, push, pour, slip, slide, dribble, spurt, squirt.

Build, model, tower, block, stack,

Planning always follows the interests of the children. In addition, we plan for seasonal activities and provide children with opportunities to learn about topics they might not access through their own interests.