



Welcome to Cragside Church of England Primary school. This handout is to outline expectations for learning when your child joins our Nursery class.

Every child develops at their own pace, but by the time children leave Nursery, most are building these skills and knowledge. This helps them feel ready and confident for Reception.

Communication and Language - Your child is learning to:

- Listen carefully to stories, songs, and other people.
- Understand and follow simple instructions.
- Join in conversations — taking turns to talk and listen.
- Use longer sentences to explain what they think or feel.
- Learn lots of new words to talk about the world around them.

This helps them: join in group times, understand stories, and share their ideas with others.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development - Your child is learning to:

- Play with others, take turns, and share toys.
- Talk about their feelings and notice how others feel.
- Feel proud of what they can do and try new things.
- Follow simple routines and rules.
- Do things for themselves — like putting on their coat or washing their hands.

This helps them: feel happy, settled, and confident to learn in a bigger classroom.

Physical Development -Your child is learning to:

- Move safely and confidently — running, climbing, jumping, and balancing.
- Use their hands and fingers for drawing, cutting, and building.
- Hold a pencil, crayon, or paintbrush comfortably.
- Understand how to look after their body — eating well, resting, and keeping clean.

This helps them: get ready for writing, PE, and managing school life independently.



Literacy (Reading and Writing Readiness) -Your child is learning to:

- Enjoy books, rhymes, and stories.
- Understand that print (letters and words) has meaning.
- Spot letters or words they know, like their name.
- Hear the first sounds in words (like 's' for *sun*).
- Give meaning to the marks they make when drawing or writing.

This helps them: be ready to start phonics and early reading in Reception.

Mathematics - Your child is learning to:

- Count groups of objects and say how many there are.
- Recognise numbers up to 5 (and sometimes higher).
- Talk about things being bigger, smaller, heavier, longer, etc.
- Spot shapes and patterns in the world around them.
- Use words like *more*, *less*, *first*, *next*, and *last*.

This helps them: build a strong number sense for early maths.

Understanding the world - Your child is learning to:

- Talk about their family, friends, and people who help us.
- Notice changes in nature — like the weather or seasons.
- Be curious about animals, plants, and how things work.
- Begin to notice differences between people, places, and cultures.
- Use simple technology — like a camera, tablet, or CD player.

This helps them: understand the world around them and how they fit into it.

Expressive Arts and Design - Your child is learning to:

- Explore paint, clay, collage, music, and dance.



- Use their imagination in play and storytelling.
- Sing songs, act out stories, and create pictures or models.
- Talk about what they have made and what they might change next time.

This helps them: express ideas, build confidence, and develop creativity.

In summary when children leave Nursery, we want them to be:

- **Curious** about the world,
- **Confident** to try new things,
- **Comfortable** with routines,
- **Communicative** with friends and adults, and
- **Ready** for the next step in their learning journey.