Prime Area: Communication and Language

- Beginning to know many rhymes.
- Generally, focus on an activity of their own choice and find it difficult to be directed by an adult.
- Start to develop conversation, often jumping from topic to topic.
- Develop pretend play: 'putting the baby to sleep' or 'driving the car to the shops'.
- Confidently put 2/3 words together.
- Frequently asking questions.
- Listens with interest to the noises adults make when they read stories.
- Begin to understand more complex sentences, e.g. put your toys and sit on the carpet.

Prime Area: Physical Development

- Develop manipulation and control (one handed tools).
- Holds mark making tools with thumb and all fingers.
- Clap and stamp to music.
- Show an increasing desire to be independent, such as wanting to feed themselves and dress or undress.

Prime Area: Personal, Social and Emotional development

- Develop friendships and play with other children.
- Begin to show 'effortful control'. For example, waiting for a turn and resisting the strong impulse to grab what they want or push their way to the front.
- May recognise that some actions can hurt or harm others and begins to stop themselves from doing something they shouldn't do.

2 Year Olds - Spring Term 2026



Learning through play and stories:

Goldilocks - Sensory play with oats and porridge
Gingerbread Man - Playdough and simple baking
Three Little Pigs - Building with blocks and boxes
Little Red Riding Hood - Nature walks and basket play
Three Billy Goats Gruff - Climbing, bridges and animal play
Jack and the Beanstalk - Planting seeds and watering
Celebrate Chinese New Year, Valentine's Day through music, colour and crafts
Explore weather and seasons – Winter/Spring

Our youngest children learn best through sensory play, repetition and everyday experiences. Activities focus on building confidence, language and physical skills through hands-on exploration. The other boxes on this map highlight the specific skills we will be developing as children grow and explore.

Specific Area: Literacy

- Have favourite books and seeks them out, to share with an adult.
- Repeat words and phrases from familiar stories.
- Enjoys drawing and writing on paper, on screen and on different textures, such as in sand or playdough and through using touch-screen technology.

Specific Area: Mathematics

- React to changes of amount in a group of up to three items.
- Recites some number names in sequence
- Beginning to recite numbers up to 5.
- Beginning to show finger numbers up to 5.
- Beginning to recognise numerals of personal significance.
- Notices patterns and arrange things in patterns.

Specific Area: Understanding the World

- Repeat actions that have an effect.
- Explore how things work.
- Talk about the differences between materials and changes they notice i.e. snow and ice melting.

Specific Area: Expressive Arts and Design

- Manipulate and play with different materials.
- Join in with songs and rhymes, making some sounds.
- Explore a range of sound-makers and instruments and play them in different ways.
- Introduce colour names.













