



Little Owls and Wrens Curriculum (EYFS)

Dimensions curriculum is designed to follow the EYFS Statutory Framework 2025 and is further guided by a document called 'Development Matters' that sets out the learning, development and assessment requirements for all children until the end of their reception year. We follow Maths No Problem and Read, Write Inc schemes for Maths and Phonics. We have chosen to follow Dimensions curriculum for wider curriculum subjects. The curriculum not only matches well with our school 'HEART' values but meets the needs of our learners with autism as key components are communication, independence and problem solving. All early years practitioners are required to pursue daily rich activities to support each child's educational development across the seven areas of learning.

Wrens Curriculum (EYFS)

We have a blended approach combining EYFS Statutory Framework coverage using Dimensions Curriculum with autism specific teaching approaches (TEACCH). Alongside Dimensions, the children access Attention Autism Intervention, sensory circuits and stories, additional speech and language intervention, music and art therapy.

Four key areas of Dimensions:

Communication We believe that communication is vital to learning and wider long-term success. A focus on communication underpins every aspect of school life. Our pupils struggle to express their emotions and find maintaining positive relationships a challenge. We want our pupils to develop language skills that mean they are articulate, able to socially interact well, and can select and use appropriate vocabulary.

Conservation We feel that a curriculum that employs a structured approach to developing environmental awareness and appreciation, not just at local, but also national and global levels, will actively engage our pupils and tap into their love of nature and the outdoors. We want our pupils to be good ambassadors by developing their knowledge of conservation issues and nurturing a caring attitude towards the world they live in. This also fits in with our focus on learning in the natural environment.

Culture We want our pupils to develop a strong sense of their own culture and locality and to be proud members of their local community. As a majority white British school we also want to provide our pupils with an awareness of difference and a respect for other cultures. The curriculum provides our learners with greater cultural capital and awareness of diversity.

Conflict Our pupils need to learn how to handle conflict, realising that it is important to develop empathy and to have positive relationships in their immediate home and school environments, as well as in the wider community. They need to develop an appreciation of other opinions and perspectives in order to learn how to address conflict and develop the necessary skills to resolve it.



Marshside Primary School

The little school with a BIG heart and BIG ambitions

Early Years Curriculum Overview

	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Focus	Communication	Conflict	Culture		Conservation	
Unit	Happy To Be Me	Let's Play and Come and Join the Celebration	Blast Off	Under The Sea	Jurassic park and Ticket to Ride	What On Earth?
Essential Experience	Nature Walk	Teddy Bear's Picnic	World Museum Planetarium	Sea life Centre	Museum of Transport	Nature Walk
Communication & Language	Playing body parts games, Showing a range of emotions, Using all senses, Talking about likes and dislikes, Talking about our families, groups and clubs we belong to.	Sharing favourite toys, When I was lost, Explaining how toys move, Predicting outcomes, Describing characters, Explaining rules, One to one discussions, Making stick puppets and retelling the Nativity story, Fixing Santa's sack.	Discussing a rocket ride to a strange new land, Talking about what an astronaut would see from a rocket, Group and class discussions, Describing what an alien would look like, Sharing ideas with class, Sorting nocturnal and diurnal animals, Sharing ideas on how to catch a star.	Exploring tropical and arctic temperatures, Class discussions about friendships, Identifying sounds of different sea creatures, Mind mapping, Guessing animal shadows, Naming, sorting and describing images of animals, Discussing feelings and friendships.	List old things and how we know they are old, Role-playing a journey to a destination, Planning a train ride, Story sequencing, Discussing local area, Spotting rhyming words, Playing memory games.	Ordering living things from A-Z, Show and tell, Naming big cities, animals and birds, Listing and categorising small things, Explaining how we know things are old.
Vocabulary	Self-portrait, individual, deaf, blind, family, community, senses, appearance, diversity, belonging	Favourite, lonely, force, energy, construct, sculpture, character, features, Nativity, star, Christmas, celebration, Jesus.	Planets, astronaut, galaxy, star, solar system, rocket, Earth, space station	Freshwater, eyes, arctic, snorkel, tropical, flippers, fins, life cycle, scales, river, gills, sea	Fossils, dinosaurs, extinct, palaeontologist, Vehicles, destination, travel, land, air and water, float, fly, country	Living, grow, pretty, precious, gigantic, miniature, ancient, new



Maths (Maths No Problem)	Matching, Sorting, Comparing and Ordering, AB Patterns, Counting week 5 and week 6.	Time, Composition of numbers to 5 week 8 and week 9, 2D shapes week 10 and week 11, Positional Language.	Counting, Counting and Ordering, Counting week 3, Addition, Comparing and Ordering, Counting	Counting, Patterns, Measuring Lengths and Heights, Capacity, 2D shapes, 3D shapes.	Counting on to add, Counting Forwards and Backwards, Counting to 20, Doubling, Halving and Sharing, Odds and Evens.	Mass, Volume and Capacity, Money, Data, Recap All, Word Problems.
Literacy (Read Write Inc. Phonics, Drawing Club)	Repetitive Language, Writing Fact files, Non-Fiction Books, Sound Walk, Senses and Food, Characteristics, Family Stories, Making Books, Performing Stories, Writing Statements.	Toy Alphabet, Writing Stories, Listening to Stories, Describing Teddy, Rhyming Words, Describing Movements, Reading Keywords, Words in the Stars, Space Ranger Descriptions, Ordering instructions, Writing Lists, Describing Mary and Joseph's Feelings, Writing Christmas Cards.	Rhyming Words, Rocket Stories, Label Planets, Space Exploration Writing, Alien School Menus, Alien Postcards, Design Your Own Planet, Star in a Jar Rhyming words, Story Map, Rocket Launch.	Rhyming Words, Nonsense Words, Labelling Parts of Fish, Sharing a Scale, Retelling Stories Using Puppets, Matching Sentences to Corresponding Image, List Writing, Describing Crustaceans, Write About an Adventure.	Write own Job Description, Make Own Tickets, Where Would The Magic Train Take You, Answering Questions about Modes of Transport, Designing own Road Signs.	Naming Living Things, 'I am' Sentences, 'Pretty' Story, Writing Letters, Giants' Catalogue, Menu for Mr Small, Rhyming Words, A New Baby, Writing News.
Core Text	Funnybones - Allan Ahlberg Only One You- Linda Kranz Whole school text: After The Fall- Dan Santat	Kipper's Toybox - Mick Inkpen We're Going on A Bear Hunt- Michael Rosen The Jolly Christmas Postman- Janet and Allan Ahlberg	Space - A Children's Encyclopaedia - DK Aliens Love Underpants- Claire Freedman	The Rainbow Fish - Marcus Pfister Sharing A Shell- Julia Donaldson	Mary Anning- Little people big dreams, Around the World in 80 days- Antonis Papatheodoulou Once Upon a Tide- Tony Mitton	I am Josephine (and I am a Living Thing) - Josephine Thornhill Tadpole's Promise- Jeanne Willis
Other Texts	Eyes, nose, finger and toes: A first book all about you - Judy Hindley	Toys Go Out - Emily Jenkins Toys in Space - Mini Grey	There's an Alien in Your Book - Tom Fletcher	Nugget and Fang - Tammi Sauer The Lonely Lobster - Beth Costanzo	Ticket to Ride - Cari Meister Mr Gumpys Motor Car - John Burningham	Pretty - Canizales The Smartest Giant in Town - Julia Donaldson



	The Colours of Us - Karen Katz Goldilocks and the Three Bears Stories by Jill Murphy - 'Large Family' All join in - Quentin Blake	Where's My Teddy? - Jez Alborough Three Little Pigs - various authors The Christmas Pine- Julia Donaldson	Ten Little Aliens - Mike Brownlow and Simon Rickerby The Planets: The Definitive Visual Guide to Our Solar System (Eyewitness) - DK and MaggieAdferin-Pocock Zoom Rocket Zoom - Margaret Mayo		Emma Jayne's Aeroplane- Katie Howorth	Mr Small - Roger Hargreaves Old Bear - Jane Hissey Usborne First Experiences: The New Baby - Anna Civardi
Understanding the World	Being me, Sign language, Making factsheets, Sorting photos, Family trees, How we are all connected.	Toys from around the world, How teddies are made, Drawing pictures, Investigating toys and batteries, Famous Constructions, The Solar System, Old-fashioned games, Comparing types of transport now with travelling by donkey, What is a celebration?	Forces – push and pull, Neil Armstrong, Speed and movement, Caring for our Earth, Creating a planet, Nursery rhymes, Travelling in a rocket, Past and present.	Lifecycles, Fish factsheets, How animals move, Fact sheets, Teeth, Experiences of loneliness.	Match pictures to fossils, Labelling hidden animals, Similarities and differences Past and present Contrasting environments.	Explore the natural World Habitats People around us
Expressive Arts	Self-portraits, Creating funny faces with materials, Painting scented pictures, Spot the difference, Recreating family photos, Designing a school badge.	Composing sound effects for toys, Creating a toyshop window display, Junk model toys, Build a bear, Making moving toys, Making sculptures, Re-arranging faces, Modelling clay Nativity scene, Christmas decoration making.	Painting firework displays, Music from the planets, Painting their own alien, Making moon pictures, Starry Night chalking, Bottle rockets.	Painting Stripy fish, Shading colours, Marbling, Making new sea creatures, Creating shell patterns, Feet printing lobster pictures.	Clay and salt dough fossils, Painting and collaging golden tickets, 3D modelling cars, Making a floating boat, Junk modelling 3D maps, Making paper mache hot air balloons, Making salt dough shells.	Making clay plant pots, Designing an outfit for a prince or princess, Making egg box tortoises, Finger printing, Junk modelling bird feeders, Making own wrapping paper.



Physical Development	Following my leader, Peg boarding faces, Obstacle course, Picture drawing, Balancing, Fingerprinting pictures, Physical challenges, Sharing favourite family games, Practicing scissor skills, Participating in Team games, Making origami people.	Moving like toys, Modelling toys, Creating a sequence patterns with toys, Moving toy, Sequences, Modelling using tool, Moving to music, Hammering nails, Rocket games, Rocket Shape pictures, Catching / Chasing games, Name writing, Travelling at different speeds, Explore ways to push and pull e.g. pulling crackers, pushing a door open.	Negotiate space and obstacles safely, Move energetically, Turn-taking games, Hula-hoop spinning, Making paper Mache planets, Flying saucer throwing games, Cutting out aliens, Space walking, Junk modelling moon boogies.	Fish races, Fish patterns, Pass the shiny scale, Fish collage, Shark!, Join the dots, Tig, Draw and label, Hermit crab game, Sparkly hermit crabs, Crab attack, Describing patterns.	Bone obstacle course, Bone patterns, Hunting the golden ticket, Designing tickets, Playing the cars game, Researching different parts of a car and labelling, Miming actions, Folding paper aeroplanes, Playing team games, Balloon tennis, Practicing scissor skills.	Sleeping lions, Living things alphabet drawings, Sequence movements to a song, Drawing repeating patterns, Making big movements, Painting using big tools, Small equipment team games.
Personal Social Emotional Development	Talking about what we are good at	Taking turns Christmas post delivery to friends.	Sharing and taking turns	Being a good friend	Looking after our bodies	Looking after our environment
Beach School	Nature walk to foreshore with focus on local area, looking after our community and collecting natural resources for self-portraits.		Nature walk to foreshore with focus on habitats, sea creatures and seasons.		Nature walk to Southport beach with focus on living things and seasonal changes.	