

Pearl Learning Zone Long Term Plan 2026 -2027

NURSERY PEARL 2 Year Old Room	Autumn		Spring		Summer	
Overarching themes	Me and My Community	Starry Night	Marvellous Machines	Ready Steady Grow	Creep Crawl and Wriggle	Big Wide World
Characteristics of Effective Learning	Playing and exploring: Children investigate and experience things, and 'have a go'. Children who actively participate in their own play develop a larger store of information and experiences to draw on which positively supports their learning Active learning: Children concentrate and keep on trying if they encounter difficulties. They are proud of their own achievements. For children to develop into self-regulating, lifelong learners they are required to take ownership, accept challenges and learn persistence. Creating and thinking critically: Children develop their own ideas and make links between these ideas. They think flexibly and rationally, drawing on previous experiences which help them to solve problems and reach conclusions.					
Overarching Principles	Unique Child: Every child is unique and has the potential to be resilient, capable, confident and self-assured. Positive Relationships: Children flourish with warm, strong & positive partnerships between all staff and parents/ carers. This promotes independence across the EYFS curriculum. Enabling environments: Children learn and develop well in safe and secure environments where routines are established and where adults respond to their individual needs and passions and help them to build upon their learning over time. Learning and Development: Children develop and learn at different rates. We must be aware of children who need greater support than others. PLAY: At Stanhope Barrington, we understand that children learn best when they are absorbed, interested and we understand that active learning involves other children, adults, objects, ideas, stimuli and events that aim to engage and involve children for sustained periods. We believe that Early Years education should be as practical as possible and therefore, we are proud that our EYFS setting has an underlying ethos of 'Learning through play'. PLAY is essential for children's development across all areas. Play builds on children's confidence as they learn to explore, to relate to others around them and develop relationships, set their own goals and solve problems. Children learn by leading their own play and by taking part in play which is guided by adults.					

Pearl Learning Zone Long Term Plan 2026 -2027

Personal, Social and Emotional Development	To build relationships with the adults supporting children when separating from a Parent/Carer through the transitional period. With the support of staff show an interest in play. Notice others around them. Build interactions through the interests of the child. To react to stimulus to help calm emotions and feelings for example: looking at family photographs together. To co-regulate with staff using the child's interests to identify, explain and find a resolution when they are dysregulated. Play turn taking games such as rolling a ball back and forth, children to take a turn with an adult.	To begin to find their own unique way of managing transitions. Begin to show confidence within their play. Play alongside their peers and developing friendships. With the support of an adult wait and take a turn for example rolling a ball or a car. Begin to show an awareness of themselves using various props and resources. To co-regulate with staff using the child's interests to identify, explain and find a resolution when they are dysregulated.	To have developed a sense of assurance for example developing relationships with other adults and peers. Show independence within their play and making choices. To have established friendships with peers. To begin to demonstrate taking a turn independently. Explore emotions and feelings through stories and their play. To understand the difference between regulated and dysregulated feelings and emotions.
Communication and Language	At Stanhope Barrington we know that spoken language underpins all seven areas of learning, which is why we work hard to promote a language-rich environment. The number and quality of interactions they have with adults and their peers throughout the day is a priority focus and by planning inspiring provision that meet the interests of the children, children can develop their vocabulary and spoken language. Our staff build language effectively by commenting, questioning and echoing back what children say with new vocabulary added. Children are read to daily and engaged in stories, non-fiction, rhymes and poems. Children share their ideas with support and modelling from their teacher, and sensitive questioning that invites them to elaborate.		

Pearl Learning Zone Long Term Plan 2026 -2027

	To begin to join in with some songs and Nursery Rhymes (even just with actions) To being to change attention to follow a prop or prompt. Listen to short stories in a small group. Use some single words to express their wants, needs and feelings. Recognise familiar objects to develop their vocabulary. Understand frequently used words, such as, 'all gone', 'no', 'bye bye'. Adults to model the Makaton signs: yes, no, toilet, hello, home and nappy.	Recognise familiar environmental sounds and say what they can hear. Listen to some longer stories and join in with some key words and phrases in familiar stories. Build on their repertoire of Nursery Rhymes and begin to sing them unprompted. Begin to put a few words together and speak in simple sentences to express their wants, needs and feelings. Use the speech sounds p,b,m,w Children will begin to use the previous Makaton signs and to learn: coat, food and drink.	To be able to shift to a different task if attention fully obtained. Listen and follow one step instructions. Listen and join in during circle times, taking a more active role in participating. Know and sing a wide variety of Nursery Rhymes and songs. Role play familiar scenarios, communicating with one another, for example, going to the shops or the Doctors. Express themselves using a wide range of vocabulary and speak in longer sentences. Children will begin to use the previous Makaton signs and to learn: please and thank you. Group sessions on intensive interactions (stage 1).
Physical Development	Feeling secure and comfortable during nappy time. At snack time sitting together with peers. Sitting and walking independently. Begin to sit on a small bike and know how it is used. Showing an interest in exploring materials and tools.	Showing an interest in Potty training. Sitting together for snack times and trying different tastes and textures. To gain control over their bodies through both indoor and outdoor play. Developing fine manipulative skills through using different objects and tools. Tummy time sessions	To be independent with their self-help skills such as washing their own hands, using the toilet and attempting to fasten their own coat. Following snack time routines, making choices independently. To use large equipment, ride bikes and scooters with support. To be able to hold tools and objects using a palmer grasp comfortably.

Pearl Learning Zone Long Term Plan 2026 -2027

	Tummy time sessions Children to take part in daily dough disco.	Children to take part in daily dough disco.	Tummy time sessions Children to take part in daily dough disco.
Literacy- Reading	To explore looking at books independently. Explore sensory books and learn new vocabulary related to their senses. Enjoy looking at class made books related to families. To look at some non-fiction books related to Topics in small groups e.g. Autumn, Christmas etc. To use a basic picture book and find information following a prompt. E.g. Where is the dog?	To choose books that interest them independently and begin to understand how to handle them carefully, turning the pages independently. To obtain information from a more detailed image in a book following a prompt. E.g. What is the duck doing? Recognise their name alongside their photograph.	Have a selection of favourite stories. To understand that stories have a beginning and the end and join in saying 'The end'. To join in with key phrases when reading familiar books with adults. To talk in simple sentences and phrases about books the enjoy, using the images to help them. To listen to audio stories without images. Recognise familiar logos related to their interests.
Literacy- Writing	To join in with short dough gym sessions to develop fine motor control To make marks on table tops to support core strength. Show an interest in mark marking-fingers, large apparatus, tools. Hold a tool with a fist palmer grip.	Distinguishes between the different marks they make. Use tweezers to pick up a small object. To develop hand-eye co-ordination through scooping/pouring and filling activities.	Imitate during simple shapes such as circles and lines. Make marks on a picture to stand for their name. Enjoy drawing freely using a range of tools. Notice some print such as familiar logo.
Maths	To combine objects such as stacking blocks and cups. Put objects inside others and take them out again.	To begin to compare sizes, bigger, little and smaller. To use number language in their play, beginning to sequence numbers orally 0-5.	To begin to use the language of weight in everyday contexts and through stories and rhymes. To explore space within the indoor and outdoor environment using their bodies to. climb and travel through, over and

Pearl Learning Zone Long Term Plan 2026 -2027

	Begin to take part in finger rhymes with numbers. To explore and use shape sorters and puzzles.	To complete an inset puzzle and to demonstrate matching and sorting skills within their play. To notice and comment on patterns including stripes and spots etc.	under equipment to gain spatial awareness. To use objects to make simple arrangements, using associated language 'the same'. Begin to count objects and actions in everyday contexts and counting up to 3 fingers. Begin to notice numerals in the environment and make comments on what they see e.g. numerals on doors, buses, clocks etc
Understanding of the World Investigation & Exploration	Play and explore in their natural environment displaying high levels of engagement. Children to begin to respond by simple comments and nonverbal gestures and movements. Begin to explore seasonal change e.g. the leaves are falling off the tree. Exploring senses –and purpose of body parts Naming body parts Exploring light and colours through sensory play. Exploring sound linking to bonfire night.	Continue to learn new vocabulary linking to seasonal change and notice the changes in the seasons. Observing changes of state through ice/water and using their senses to explore. Explore the natural world, focusing on digging and planting seeds. Observe and notice flowers and plants growing using their senses.	Use descriptive terms, such as 'hot' and 'cold'. Create simple dens with adult support and begin to understand shade and keeping cool. Use senses to explore sand/pebbles/water/bubbles.

Pearl Learning Zone Long Term Plan 2026 -2027

	Play with a variety of wheeled toys, exploring pushing and pulling.		
Understanding of the World People, culture and communities	Recognise their family and key people during group time. Children to name their family by using a family photograph. Understanding that Christmas is a special celebration. Settling in to their new environment and understanding where things are located in the classroom.	Begin to imitate their own family and cultures through pretend play. Understanding that Easter is a special celebration. Begin to understand that there are different environments, for example, understanding that penguins live where it is cold.	Bring in photos from family days out to share during Group time. Begin to have their own friends. Recognising familiar places and logos through looking at photos (local shops, places of interest). Talk about places they might go on a sunny day, for example, the beach. Imitate these experiences in the role play.
Understanding of the World Time	Learning about the basic routines of the day using a visual timetable. (Carpet time, tidy time, lunch time, home time etc.)	Begin to understand the sequence of dressing in warm clothes for outside (putting on outdoor suit, then wellies, then hat, gloves etc.)	Understand the routine of the day with less prompts.
Expressive arts and Design	Explore different materials using all their senses. Begin to show an interest in early mark making. Explore sounds using musical instruments and sound makers. Use our voices to make sounds. Starting to develop imaginative play by exploring resources within the provision.	Manipulate and play with different materials, exploring textures. Make early marks using various tools and equipment. Beginning to experience tone, pitch and volume. Join in singing songs and rhymes copying actions. Beginning to use resources imaginatively, using resources in different ways. For example: using a block as a phone.	Use their imagination to begin to combine materials to make simple models, using tools to achieve what they have set out to do. Intentionally making marks in different styles. Expressing their ideas when mark making and sometimes giving meaning to them. Explore different rhythms, beat and using their bodies appropriately. Developing imaginative play from their own learning experiences, stories and rhymes.

Pearl Learning Zone Long Term Plan 2026 -2027

Special Events	Autumn Walk Autumn soup & bread making Harvest Festival Apple Picking Day Visits to Crosshills Nursing Home Halloween Fire service visit Bonfire Night Remembrance Day Road Safety Week Diwali Christmas/Advent	New Years Eve Chinese New Year Shrove Tuesday Mental Health Awareness Week Post a Letter Internet Safety Day British Science week Mother's Day Ramadan Holi Easter	Father's Day Sports Day Eid-Al-Adha Earth Day International Day of Play – Live Play Along
The Pearl Learning Zone curriculum is heavily weighted towards the Prime Areas of Learning, sensory exploration, routines, communication and relationships, which aligns more closely with the developmental needs of 2–3-year-olds. Assessment Opportunities (times will vary according to stage) Autumn • Parent chats • EYFS progress meetings • Communication and Language focus observations Spring • Development checkpoints • Key-person reviews • Parent chats • EYFS moderation discussions Summer • Transition information • EYFS team review			