



Early Years and Foundation Stage

Physical Development Curriculum Guidance 2022-23

3 and 4-year-olds will be learning to:

Continue to develop their movement, balancing, riding (scooters, trikes and bikes) and ball skills.

Go up steps and stairs, or climb up apparatus, using alternate feet.

Skip, hop, stand on one leg and hold a pose for a game like musical statues.

Use large-muscle movements to wave flags and streamers, paint and make marks.

Start taking part in some group activities which they make up for themselves, or in teams. Increasingly be able to use and remember sequences and patterns of movements which are related to music and rhythm.

Match their developing physical skills to tasks and activities in the setting. For example, they decide whether to crawl, walk or run across a plank, depending on its length and width.

Choose the right resources to carry out their own plan. For example, choosing a spade to enlarge a small hole they dug with a trowel.

Collaborate with others to manage large items, such as moving a long plank safely, carrying large hollow blocks.

Use one-handed tools and equipment, for example, making snips in paper with scissors.

Use a comfortable grip with good control when holding pens and pencils.

Show a preference for a dominant hand.

Be increasingly independent as they get dressed and undressed, for example, putting coats on and doing up zips.



Children in reception will be learning to:

Revise and refine the fundamental movement skills they have already acquired: rolling , crawling, walking, jumping, running, hopping, skipping and climbing.

Progress towards a more fluent style of moving, with developing control and grace.

Develop the overall body strength, co-ordination, balance and agility needed to engage successfully with future physical education sessions and other physical disciplines including dance, gymnastics, sport and swimming.

Develop their small motor skills so that they can use a range of tools competently, safely and confidently. Suggested tools: pencils for drawing and writing, paintbrushes, scissors, knives, forks and spoons.

Use their core muscle strength to achieve a good posture when sitting at a table or sitting on the floor.

Combine different movements with ease and fluency.

Confidently and safely use a range of large and small apparatus indoors and outside, alone and in a group.

Develop overall body-strength, balance, co-ordination and agility.

Further develop and refine a range of ball skills including: throwing, catching, kicking, passing, batting, and aiming

Develop confidence, competence, precision and accuracy when engaging in activities that involve a ball.

Develop the foundations of a handwriting style which is fast, accurate and efficient.

Further develop the skills they need to manage the school day successfully: lining up and queuing and mealtimes.