

Intent	<p>At Newtown School, we believe that all children deserve a high-quality early years education that will prepare them for success in life. Our intent is to provide a nurturing and stimulating environment where children can develop their skills and knowledge across all areas of learning, including those specified in the new skills curriculum designed for Newtown School pupils. We are committed to creating a supportive and inclusive environment based on our school values of caring curiosity and courage, where all children can thrive. Our new skills curriculum focuses on eight skills which our children will achieve when they finish reception. These are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• To become a curious learner• To take care of themselves• To follow a recipe to make a pizza• To tell a story• To draw a self portrait• To sew a hand puppet• To draw a map• To plan a celebration <p>We believe that these skills are essential for children to succeed in early years and to prepare them for a successful start in Key Stage One. We have created a aspirational curriculum which aims to challenge all pupils in terms of skills, vocabulary and wonder.</p> <p>When planning for knowledge and skills on a termly basis, we have use the non-statutory guidance Development Matters, to ensure our curriculum has a breadth and depth of coverage. This guidance sets out the pathways of children's development in broad ages and stages. It also provides guidance on how to create a rich and stimulating learning environment for children.</p> <p>We believe that high-quality interactions are essential for children's learning and development. Our staff are trained to interact with children in a way that is responsive, supportive, and challenging. We also provide children with opportunities to interact with each other, as this helps them to develop their social and communication skills.</p> <p>The new curriculum focus on skills includes the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Communication and language: We will help children to develop their communication and language skills by providing them with opportunities to talk, listen, read, and write in a variety of contexts.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Critical thinking and problem-solving: We will help children to develop their critical thinking and problem-solving skills by encouraging them to ask questions, explore ideas, and find solutions to challenges. • Collaboration: We will help children to develop their collaboration skills by providing them with opportunities to work together on tasks and projects. • Creativity and imagination: We will help children to develop their creativity and imagination by providing them with opportunities to engage in creative activities, such as art, music, and dance. • Digital literacy: We will help children to develop their digital literacy skills by introducing them to technology and teaching them how to use it safely and effectively. • Resilience and perseverance: We help children to develop their resilience and perseverance skills by teaching them how to cope with setbacks and challenges. • Self-awareness and self-management: We help children to develop their self-awareness and self-management skills by teaching them about their emotions, how to regulate them, and how to make choices. • Curiosity and exploration: We help children to develop their curiosity and exploration skills by providing them with opportunities to learn about the world around them and to ask questions.
Implementation	<p>At Newtown School, play is at the heart of our curriculum. We believe that play is the best way for children to learn and develop so we provide children with a variety of opportunities to play, both indoors and outdoors. We encourage children to explore and discover the world around them by providing them with a variety of materials and resources to explore and experiment with. Furthermore, we use routines and transitions to help children feel safe and secure and to teach children important skills, such as how to follow instructions, take turns, and share. We will implement the new skill curriculum in a variety of ways, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning: We will ensure that our planning reflects the new skills curriculum. For example, we will plan activities that help children to develop their communication and language skills, critical thinking and problem-solving skills, collaboration skills, creativity and imagination, digital literacy skills, self-awareness and self-management skills, resilience and perseverance skills, and curiosity and exploration skills. • Resources: We will provide children with access to a variety of resources that support their learning and development. For example, we will provide them with books, writing materials, art supplies, digital devices, and outdoor play equipment.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environment: We will create a nurturing and stimulating environment where children feel safe to explore and learn. We will provide them with opportunities to work and play independently, in small groups, and as a whole class. • Staffing: We will ensure that our staff are trained and equipped to deliver the new skills curriculum. We will provide them with professional development opportunities and support them to implement the new curriculum in their practice. <p>High-quality interactions</p> <p>We believe that high-quality interactions between staff and children are essential for children's learning and development. We will ensure that our staff provide children with high-quality interactions by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Being responsive to children's needs and interests. • Providing children with opportunities to talk and listen. • Providing children with feedback on their learning. • Challenging children's thinking and encouraging them to ask questions. • Creating a positive and supportive learning environment.
<p>Impact</p>	<p>We believe that embedding the new skills curriculum into our practice will have a positive impact on all children. Children who develop strong communication and language skills, critical thinking and problem-solving skills, collaboration skills, creativity and imagination, digital literacy skills, self-awareness and self-management skills, resilience and perseverance skills, and curiosity will be well-prepared for success in school and in life. Here are some of the ways that our new early years skills curriculum will impact children's learning and development:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children will become better communicators. They will learn to express themselves clearly and effectively, both verbally and in writing. They will also learn to listen to others and to understand different perspectives. • Children will become better problem-solvers. They will learn to think critically and to come up with creative solutions to challenges. • Children will become better collaborators. They will learn to work together effectively with others to achieve common goals. • Children will become more creative and imaginative. They will learn to express themselves through art, music, dance, and other creative activities.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Children will become more digitally literate. They will learn to use technology safely and effectively. <p>We will measure the impact of our practice on children's development through a variety of means, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Observation: We will observe children's learning and development on a regular basis. We will use our observations to assess their progress and to identify areas where they need additional support.• Assessment: We will use a variety of assessment tools to assess children's progress against the early learning goals. We will use this information to inform our planning and to support children's learning and development.• Feedback: We will collect feedback from parents and carers on a regular basis. We will use this feedback to improve our practice and to ensure that we are meeting the needs of all children. <p>We are committed to providing all children with the best possible start in life. We believe that embedding the new curriculum focus on skills into our practice will help us to achieve this goal.</p>
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