Parent/Carer Curriculum Information

The Den



Learning Exploration: Changes

During Autumn Term 2, pupils will explore the theme of **Changes**, focusing on gardening, growing, winter and Christmas. Through stories, practical experiences and play-based learning, children will develop their understanding of seasonal change, build early maths and communication skills, explore the world through sensory investigations, and develop creativity, independence and social interaction. A key focus throughout the term will be celebrating differences and supporting personal, social and emotional development.

Hook into learning:

Children will be using their handprints to make a collaborative Beanstalk as an introduction to our focus for the first couple of weeks: Jack and the Beanstalk.

Journey through the exploration

During Autumn Term 2, pupils begin by exploring **gardening and growing**, learning how plants change and develop through stories, sensory experiences and practical activities. They then extend their understanding of change by investigating **seasonal changes**, noticing how the environment transforms as autumn moves into winter. As the term progresses, learning focuses on **winter and Christmas**, providing opportunities to develop communication, early mathematical understanding, creativity and social interaction through themed play and real-life experiences. Throughout the exploration, pupils are encouraged to celebrate differences, develop independence and build confidence in understanding the changing world around them.

Autumn 2, 2026

Parent/Carer Curriculum Information

The Den

Linked subjects

Through this exploration, learning will be linked where appropriate, including in the following subjects:

- Communication Language and Literacy through purposefully selected texts.
- Expressive Arts and Design
- Creative Expression

The following subjects will be taught discretely during this half term:

- Maths
- PSED
- Understanding of the World
- Cooking and Independent skills.

Children will continue to work on their individualised targets based on the outcomes in their EHCPs, termly SEND plans and any reports from outside agencies.

Writing

Children will be encouraged to work on their fine motor skills and will develop their pre-writing mark making before they are encouraged to form letters with a degree of accuracy.

Where appropriate, children will use colourful semantics to support their understanding of sentence structure.

Maths

Children will explore:

- Shape
- Measure (Weight)
- Counting
- Positional Language







Autumn 2, 2026

Parent/Carer Curriculum Information

The Den

Opportunities to build cultural capital

Cultural capital is the essential knowledge that pupils need to be educated citizens, introducing them to the best that has been thought and said, and helping to engender an appreciation of human creativity and achievement.
At NCSPA, we aim to build cultural capital through experiences such as trips, visitors, music and providing local links.

This half term, options may include:

- Attending trips organised by the class teachers.
- Playing a part in the performances as appropriate towards the end of term.

Opportunities for shared outcomes

Children will have the opportunity to produce or take part in one or more of the following:

- Attending trips organised by the class teachers.
- Taking part in end of term performances as appropriate



Opportunities to address Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

- PSED – Exploring 'same' and 'different' among ourselves.
- Theme of our Learning Exploration – Celebrating changes that occur and encouraging open-minded thinking, welcoming change and new thinking in all aspects of life.



Further curriculum information

If you would like any further information regarding the curriculum, please:

- Speak to Miss Vickery or Miss Kaiser.
- See your child's class information on Seesaw.
- Visit the Curriculum pages on our website.



Autumn 2, 2026