EYFS Development Matters Statements **Birth to Three - Prime Areas**

Communication and Language

- Turn towards familiar sounds. They are also startled by loud noises and accurately locate the source of a familiar person's voice, such as their key person or a parent.
- Gaze at faces, copying facial expressions and movements like sticking out their tongue. Make eye contact for longer periods.
- Watch someone's face as they talk.
- Copy what adults do, taking 'turns' in conversations (through babbling) and activities. Try to copy adult speech and lip movements.
- Enjoy singing, music and toys that make sounds.
- Recognise and are calmed by a familiar and friendly voice.
- Listen and respond to a simple instruction.

- Make sounds to get attention in different ways (for example, crying when hungry or unhappy, making gurgling sounds, laughing, cooing or babbling).
- Babble, using sounds like 'baba', 'mamama'.
- Use gestures like waving and pointing to communicate.

- Reach or point to something they want while making sounds.
- Copy your gestures and words.
- Constantly babble and use single words during play.
- Use intonation, pitch and changing volume when 'talking'.

- Understand single words in context – 'cup', 'milk', 'daddy'.
- Understand frequently used words such as 'all gone', 'no' and 'bye-bye'.

- Understand simple instructions like "give to nanny" or "stop".
- Recognise and point to objects if asked about them.

- Generally focus on an activity of their own choice and find it difficult to be directed by an adult.

- Listen to other people's talk with interest, but can easily be distracted by other things.

- Make themselves understood, and can become frustrated when they cannot.
- Start to say how they are feeling, using words as well as actions.

- Start to develop conversation, often jumping from topic to topic.
- Develop pretend play: 'putting the baby to sleep' or 'driving the car to the shops'.

- Use the speech sounds p, b, m, w.
- Pronounce:
  - l/r/w/y
  - f/th
  - s/sh/ch/dz/j
  - multi-syllabic words such as 'banana' and 'computer'

- Listen to simple stories and understand what is happening, with the help of the pictures.

Communication and Language

- Identify familiar objects and properties for practitioners when they are described. For example: 'Katie's coat', 'blue car', 'shiny apple'.
- Understand and act on longer sentences like 'make teddy jump' or 'find your coat'.

- Understand simple questions about 'who', 'what' and 'where' (but generally not 'why').

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

- Find ways to calm themselves, through being calmed and comforted by their key person.

- Establish their sense of self.

- Express preferences and decisions. They also try new things and start establishing their autonomy.
- Engage with others through gestures, gaze and talk.
- Use that engagement to achieve a goal. For example, gesture towards their cup to say they want a drink.

- Find ways of managing transitions, for example from their parent to their key person.

- Thrive as they develop self-assurance.

- Look back as they crawl or walk away from their key person. Look for clues about how to respond to something interesting.
- Play with increasing confidence on their own and with other children, because they know their key person is nearby and available.
- Feel confident when taken out around the local neighbourhood, and enjoy exploring new places with their key person.

- Feel strong enough to express a range of emotions.
- Grow in independence, rejecting help ("me do it"). Sometimes this leads to feelings of frustration and tantrums.

- Begin to show 'effortful control'. For example, waiting for a turn and resisting the strong impulse to grab what they want or push their way to the front.
- Be increasingly able to talk about and manage their emotions.

- Notice and ask questions about differences, such as skin colour, types of hair, gender, special needs and disabilities, and so on.

- Develop friendships with other children.

- Safely explore emotions beyond their normal range through play and stories.
- Talk about their feelings in more elaborated ways: "I'm sad because..." or "I love it when ...".

- Learn to use the toilet with help, and then independently.

Physical Development

- Lift their head while lying on their front.
- Push their chest up with straight arms.
- Roll over: from front to back, then back to front.
- Enjoy moving when outdoors and inside.

- Sit without support.
- Begin to crawl in different ways and directions.
- Pull themselves upright and bouncing in preparation for walking.

- Reach out for objects as co-ordination develops.
- Pass things from one hand to the other. Let go of things and hand them to another person, or drop them.

- Gradually gain control of their whole body through continual practice of large movements, such as waving, kicking, rolling, crawling and walking.
- Clap and stamp to music.

- Fit themselves into spaces, like tunnels, dens and large boxes, and move around in them.
- Enjoy starting to kick, throw and catch balls.
- Build independently with a range of appropriate resources.

- Begin to walk independently – choosing appropriate props to support at first.
- Walk, run, jump and climb – and start to use the stairs independently.

- Spin, roll and independently use ropes and swings (for example, tyre swings).
- Sit on a push-along wheeled toy, use a scooter or ride a tricycle.

- Use large and small motor skills to do things independently, for example manage buttons and zips, and pour drinks.
- Show an increasing desire to be independent, such as wanting to feed themselves and dress or undress.
- Start eating independently and learning how to use a knife and fork.

- Develop manipulation and control.
- Explore different materials and tools.

EYFS Development Matters Statements **Birth to Three - Specific Areas**

Literacy

- Enjoy songs and rhymes, tuning in and paying attention.
- Join in with songs and rhymes, copying sounds, rhythms, tunes and tempo.
- Say some of the words in songs and rhymes.
- Copy finger movements and other gestures.
- Sing songs and say rhymes independently, for example, singing whilst playing.

- Enjoy sharing books with an adult.
- Pay attention and respond to the pictures or the words.
- Have favourite books and seek them out, to share with an adult, with another child, or to look at alone.
- Repeat words and phrases from familiar stories.
- Ask questions about the book. Makes comments and shares their own ideas.
- Develop play around favourite stories using props.

- Notice some print, such as the first letter of their name, a bus or door number, or a familiar logo.

- Enjoy drawing freely.
- Add some marks to their drawings, which they give meaning to. For example: "That says mummy."
- Make marks on their picture to stand for their name.

Mathematics

- Combine objects like stacking blocks and cups. Put objects inside others and take them out again.

- Take part in finger rhymes with numbers.
- React to changes of amount in a group of up to three items.

- Compare amounts, saying 'lots', 'more' or 'same'.
- Develop counting-like behaviour, such as making sounds, pointing or saying some numbers in sequence.

- Count in everyday contexts, sometimes skipping numbers - '1-2-3-5.'

- Climb and squeeze themselves into different types of spaces.
- Build with a range of resources.
- Complete inset puzzles.

- Compare sizes, weights etc. using gesture and language - 'bigger/ little/smaller', 'high/low', 'tall', 'heavy'.

- Notice patterns and arrange things in patterns.

Understanding the World

- Repeat actions that have an effect.
- Explore materials with different properties.
- Explore natural materials, indoors and outside.

- Explore and respond to different natural phenomena in their setting and on trips.

- Make connections between the features of their family and other families.

- Notice differences between people.

Expressive Arts and Design

- Show attention to sounds and music.
- Respond emotionally and physically to music when it changes.
- Move and dance to music.
- Anticipate phrases and actions in rhymes and songs, like 'Peepo'.
- Explore their voices and enjoy making sounds.

- Join in with songs and rhymes, making some sounds.
- Make rhythmical and repetitive sounds.
- Explore a range of sound-makers and instruments and play them in different ways.

- Notice patterns with strong contrasts and be attracted by patterns resembling the human face.
- Start to make marks intentionally.
- Explore paint, using fingers and other parts of their bodies as well as brushes and other tools.
- Express ideas and feelings through making marks, and sometimes give a meaning to the marks they make.

- Enjoy and take part in action songs, such as 'Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star'.

- Start to develop pretend play, pretending that one object represents another. For example, a child holds a wooden block to her ear and pretends it's a phone.

- Explore different materials, using all their senses to investigate them. Manipulate and play with different materials.
- Use their imagination as they consider what they can do with different materials.
- Make simple models which express their ideas.

EYFS Development Matters Statements **Three and Four-Year-Olds - Prime Areas**

Communication and Language

- Enjoy listening to longer stories and can remember much of what happens.
- Pay attention to more than one thing at a time, which can be difficult.

- Use a wider range of vocabulary.
- Understand a question or instruction that has two parts, such as "Get your coat and wait at the door".
- Understand 'why' questions, like: "Why do you think the caterpillar got so fat?"

- Sing a large repertoire of songs.
- Know many rhymes, be able to talk about familiar books, and be able to tell a long story.

- Develop their communication, but may continue to have problems with irregular tenses and plurals, such as 'runned' for 'ran', 'swimmed' for 'swam'.
- Develop their pronunciation but may have problems saying:
  - some sounds: r, j, th, ch, and sh
  - multisyllabic words such as 'pterodactyl', 'planetarium' or 'hippopotamus'

- Use longer sentences of four to six words.

- Be able to express a point of view and to debate when they disagree with an adult or a friend, using words as well as actions.
- Start a conversation with an adult or a friend and continue it for many turns.
- Use talk to organise themselves and their play: "Let's go on a bus... you sit there... I'll be the driver."

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

- Select and use activities and resources, with help when needed. This helps them to achieve a goal they have chosen, or one which is suggested to them.

- Develop their sense of responsibility and membership of a community.

- Become more outgoing with unfamiliar people, in the safe context of their setting.
- Show more confidence in new social situations.

- Play with one or more other children, extending and elaborating play ideas.
- Find solutions to conflicts and rivalries. For example, accepting that not everyone can be Spider-Man in the game, and suggesting other ideas.

- Increasingly follow rules, understanding why they are important.
- Remember rules without needing an adult to remind them.

- Develop appropriate ways of being assertive.
- Talk with others to solve conflicts.
- Talk about their feelings using words like 'happy', 'sad', 'angry' or 'worried'.

- Understand gradually how others might be feeling.

- Be increasingly independent in meeting their own care needs, e.g. brushing teeth, using the toilet, washing and drying their hands thoroughly.
- Make healthy choices about food, drink, activity and toothbrushing.

Physical Development

- 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.

EYFS Development Matters Statements **Three and Four-Year-Olds - Specific Areas**

Literacy

- Understand the five key concepts about print:
  - print has meaning
  - print can have different purposes
  - we read English text from left to right and from top to bottom
  - the names of the different parts of a book
  - page sequencing

- Develop their phonological awareness, so that they can:
  - spot and suggest rhymes
  - count or clap syllables in a word
  - recognise words with the same initial sound, such as money and mother

- Engage in extended conversations about stories, learning new vocabulary.

- Use some of their print and letter knowledge in their early writing. For example: writing a pretend shopping list that starts at the top of the page; writing 'm' for mummy.
- Write some or all of their name.

- Write some letters accurately.

Mathematics

- Develop fast recognition of up to 3 objects, without having to count them individually ('subitising').
- Recite numbers past 5.
- Say one number for each item in order: 1,2,3,4,5.
- Know that the last number reached when counting a small set of objects tells you how many there are in total ('cardinal principle').
- Show 'finger numbers' up to 5.
- Link numerals and amounts: for example, showing the right number of objects to match the numeral, up to 5.

- Experiment with their own symbols and marks as well as numerals.
- Solve real world mathematical problems with numbers up to 5.
- Compare quantities using language: 'more than', 'fewer than'.

- Talk about and explore 2D and 3D shapes (for example, circles, rectangles, triangles and cuboids) using informal and mathematical language: 'sides', 'corners'; 'straight', 'flat', 'round'.

- Understand position through words alone – for example, "The bag is under the table," – with no pointing.

- Describe a familiar route.
- Discuss routes and locations, using words like 'in front of' and 'behind'.

- Make comparisons between objects relating to size, length, weight and capacity.

- Select shapes appropriately: flat surfaces for building, a triangular prism for a roof etc.
- Combine shapes to make new ones – an arch, a bigger triangle etc.

- Talk about and identifies the patterns around them. For example: stripes on clothes, designs on rugs and wallpaper. Use informal language like 'pointy', 'spotty', 'blobs' etc.
- Extend and create ABAB patterns – stick, leaf, stick, leaf.
- Notice and correct an error in a repeating pattern.
- Begin to describe a sequence of events, real or fictional, using words such as 'first', 'then...'

Understanding the World

- Use all their senses in hands-on exploration of natural materials.
- Explore collections of materials with similar and/or different properties.
- Talk about what they see, using a wide vocabulary.

- Begin to make sense of their own life-story and family's history.

- Show interest in different occupations.

- Explore how things work.

- Plant seeds and care for growing plants.
- Understand the key features of the life cycle of a plant and an animal.
- Begin to understand the need to respect and care for the natural environment and all living things.

- Explore and talk about different forces they can feel.

- Talk about the differences between materials and changes they notice.

- Continue developing positive attitudes about the differences between people.

- Know that there are different countries in the world and talk about the differences they have experienced or seen in photos.

Expressive Arts and Design

- Take part in simple pretend play, using an object to represent something else even though they are not similar.
- Begin to develop complex stories using small world equipment like animal sets, dolls and dolls houses etc.
- Make imaginative and complex 'small worlds' with blocks and construction kits, such as a city with different buildings and a park.

- Explore different materials freely, to develop their ideas about how to use them and what to make.
- Develop their own ideas and then decide which materials to use to express them.
- Join different materials and explore different textures.

- Create closed shapes with continuous lines, and begin to use these shapes to represent objects.
- Draw with increasing complexity and detail, such as representing a face with a circle and including details.
- Use drawing to represent ideas like movement or loud noises.
- Show different emotions in their drawings and paintings, like happiness, sadness, fear etc.

- Explore colour and colour-mixing.

- Listen with increased attention to sounds.
- Respond to what they have heard, expressing their thoughts and feelings.

- Remember and sing entire songs.
- Sing the pitch of a tone sung by another person ('pitch match').
- Sing the melodic shape (moving melody, such as up and down, down and up) of familiar songs.
- Create their own songs or improvise a song around one they know.

- Play instruments with increasing control to express their feelings and ideas.