Physical Development Progression in Early Years

Purple Poppies

	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Baseline						
2's checks	Sits unsupported on the floor, leaving hands free to manipulate objects with both hands	Enjoys finger and toe rhymes and games.	Points with first finger, sharing attention with adult. Starts to throw and release	Develops security in walking upright using feet alternately and can also run short distances	Participates in finger and action rhymes, songs and games, imitating the movements and anticipating actions	Can walk considerable distance with purpose, stopping, starting and changing direction
	Picks up objects in palmar grip and shakes, waves, bangs, pulls and tugs them between two hands while looking at them		objects overarm. Enjoys the sensory experience of making marks in food, damp sand, water, mud, paste or paint	Walks upstairs facing forwards holding rail or hand of adult, with both feet onto a single step at a time Changes position from standing to	Hands start to operate independently during a task that uses both, with each hand doing something different at the same time (e.g. holding a block in	Looks closely at small items and creatures, and can also see items at substantial distance, comfortably changing focus from one to the other

	Pushes, pulls, lifts and carries objects, moving them around and placing with intent Climbs inside, underneath, into corners and between objects Manipulates objects using hands singly and together, such as squeezing water out of a sponge	squatting and sitting with little effort	one hand and steadying the other block with the other hand. Shows interest, dances and sings to music rhymes and songs, imitating movements of others	When holding crayons, chalks etc, makes connections between their movement and the marks they make Uses gesture and body language to convey needs and interests and to support emerging verbal language use
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Nursery

	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Baseline	Sits up from lying	Jumps up into the	Kicks a stationary	May be beginning	Climbs stairs,	Can balance on one
Birth to	down, stands up	air with both feet	ball with either	to show	steps and moves	foot or in a squat
5	from sitting and	leaving the floor	foot, throws a ball	preference for	across climbing	momentarily,
Matters	squats with	and can jump	with increasing	dominant hand	equipment using	shifting body
	steadiness to rest	forward a small	force and accuracy	and/or leg/foot.	alternate feet.	weight to improve
	or play with object	distance.	and starts to			stability.
	on the ground, and		catch a large ball			
	rises to feet		by using two hands	Turns pages in a	Maintains balance	
	without using	Begins to walk, run	and their chest to	book, sometimes	using hands and	Can grasp and
	hands.	and climb on	trap it.	several at once.	body to stabilise.	release with two
		different levels				hands to throw
		and surfaces.				and catch a large
	Sits comfortably		Climbs up and	Shows increasing	Walks down steps	ball, beanbag or an
	on a chair with		down stairs by	control in holding,	or slopes whilst	object.
	both feet on the	Begins to	placing both feet	using and	carrying a small	
	ground.	understand and	on each step while	manipulating a	object, maintaining	
		choose different	holding a handrail	range of tools and	balance and	Creates lines and
		ways of moving.	for support.	objects such as	stability.	circles pivoting
	Runs safely on			tambourines, jugs,		from the shoulder
	whole foot.			hammers, and		and elbow.
			Uses wheeled toys	mark making tools.	Runs with spatial	
			with increasing		awareness and	
	Moves in response		skill such as		negotiates space	Manipulates a
	to music, or		pedalling,		successfully,	range of tools and

rhythms played on	balancing, holding	Holds mark-making	adjusting speed or	equipment in one
instruments such	handlebars and	tools with thumb	direction to avoid	hand, tools include
as drums or	sitting astride.	and all fingers.	obstacles.	paintbrushes,
shakers.				scissors,
				hairbrushes,
				toothbrush,
				scarves or ribbons

Reception

	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Jungle Journey Baseline Gross	Fundamentals Unit 1	Fundamentals Unit 2	Yoga Games – Unit 1	Gymnastics – Unit 1 Ball Skills	Ball Skills - Unit 2 Dance - Unit 1	Gymnastics - Unit 2 Games -
Motor Assessments	Introduction to PE - Unit 1	Introduction to PE - Unit 2		- Unit 1	PE	Unit 2

In Reception we give children a wide range of resources and activities both indoors and outdoors to develop their gross and fine motor skills. Children are regularly given the opportunity to transfer physical skills learnt in one context to another.

Through dedicated PE sessions, children are given opportunities to develop their overall body strength by learning disciplines including dance, yoga, gymnastics and games.

Children are given opportunities to develop the skills they need to manage the school day such as managing their own basic hygiene and personal needs, lining up appropriately, giving others personal space and having good table manners.

The children will develop their fine 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 spoon.

By the end of Reception, children will hold a pencil effectively in preparation for fluent writing – using the tripod grip in almost all cases.