In Sunbeams we follow the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum (EYFS). There are 7 areas covered by the EYFS which are:

1. Communication and Language Development
2. Personal, Social and Emotional Development
3. Physical Development
4. Literacy
5. Mathematics
6. Understanding of the World
7. Expressive Arts and Design

This term, we have continued to follow and develop children’s interests to ensure that every child makes progress in each of the above areas.

Please give us feedback to tell us if this progress report was useful and informative.
These are some of the things we have been doing:

**Communication and Language:**
We are supported for a day every week by a speech and language therapist who is working with staff and children to raise levels of speech, language and communication skills.

A member of our staff team delivers regular speech and language sessions with a specific focus for each group of children she works with.

At all times, children are encouraged to share their ideas, problem solve, negotiate, listen and respond to the ideas of others and use language/alternative means of communication to make choices and develop play.

**Impact:** All children in Sunbeams have made progress in this area from their individual starting points with us.

**Next Steps at Nursery:**
We will be taking part in the Rhyme Challenge which will:

- Help children develop early language skills
- Support children and families to enjoy learning together
- Contribute towards all aspects of the Early Years Foundation Stage

Continuing to offer regular speech and language input for all children to assess and develop their speech, language and communication skills.

**At Home:**
Provide a running commentary about the things you are doing together at home.

Encourage your child to talk about and reflect on experiences and events.

Take part in the Rhyme Challenge with us.
Personal, Social and Emotional Development:

We offered a home visit to all children new to Shenley Fields at the beginning of September. Children who joined Sunbeams from Raindrops had regular opportunities to become familiar with the staff and environment during the summer term.

Undertaking the Rights Respecting School Award has given us the opportunity to approach how we teach and embed boundaries and expectations in a different way. Children are really on board with this and have a greater understanding of how to engage as a member of our school community.

Our expectations are displayed in visual form in all areas of the room to enable all children to understand the rules of working together.

Friendships formed in Raindrops have strengthened and these children have supported those new to Shenley Fields to settle.

We have planned, regular, specific sessions which focus on sharing, turn taking and positive social interaction.

Impact: All children in Sunbeams have made progress in this area from their individual starting points with us.

Next Steps at Nursery:

Extend opportunities for children to communicate their interests, opinions, ideas during both free flow and group times.

Supporting children to strengthen their friendships further by developing a range of strategies to resolve disagreements.

At Home:

Encourage your child to talk about their day at nursery. Who did they play with? What activities did they take part in? What did they do at group time? What did they have for lunch?
Physical Development:

Our commitment to outdoor learning has a huge impact on children’s development, particularly in gross motor skills.

We prioritise the development of fine motor skills in all areas of our continuous provisions. For example, the use of a range of tools during cooking activities.

Opportunities for mark making are offered indoors and outdoors and in all areas of our continuous provision through the use of floor books.

Children are now confident to have a go at putting on outdoor clothing and seeking help if they are struggling.

Shenley Shaker sessions incorporate exercise and developing understanding of the importance of exercise, healthy lifestyles and the effects of activity on their bodies. For example, an increased heart rate following their exercise session.

Children are now familiar and growing in confidence with the lunchtime routine which is a happy and sociable time of the day.

Impact: All of the children in Sunbeams have made progress in this area from their individual starting points with us.

Next Steps at Nursery:

Support and encourage children to hold a pencil between the thumb and first 2 fingers in a pincer grip.
Exploring new ways of moving such as slithering, twisting, galloping etc

At Home:

Draw and label pictures of people who are important to them.
Literacy:
We have a continuous focus on storytelling during free flow in addition to group time sessions. Many children really enjoy listening to stories and will request their favourites.

Children have been introduced to non-fiction books to find out information linked to their interests.

Our home school library ensures children have access to a wide range of books. Children have access to a range of tools and mark making resources to develop fine motor skills in most of our areas of continuous provision. Children can use these to write lists, recipes, messages to each other etc.

We focus on Letters and Sounds during group time sessions.

Impact: All of the children in Sunbeams have made progress in this area from their individual starting points with us.

Next Steps at Nursery:
Develop the use of puppets and other props when telling stories to encourage all children to be able to join in and begin to discuss the characters and the theme of the story.

We will be running pre-writing workshops during the Spring term.

At Home:
Read stories that your child knows well and pause at regular intervals to see if your child can add the next word.
Mathematics:
Mathematical language and concepts are included in our continuous provision planning, most notably in cooking, the mud kitchen, the studio and construction.

Our planning for mathematics for focussed group time sessions has had a positive impact on children’s development.

Children have been exploring and learning about the properties of 3D shapes whilst building in the construction space. They have used size and shape related language to describe the resources they are using.

Children have been learning about money, prices and counting change whilst developing a fruit and vegetable shop on our role play space.

Impact: All of children in Sunbeams have made progress in this area from their individual starting points with us.

Next Steps at Nursery:
Play games, sing songs and listen to stories that include opportunities to practice number order and basic addition and subtraction.

At Home:
Sing number rhymes together such as Five Currant Buns in a Bakers Shop to support children’s understanding of number.
**Understanding of the World:**

Gardening as an area of continuous provision provides children with opportunities to observe the growth and decay process. Children have been researching how to grow a variety of fruit and vegetables which we can then use for cooking. This links to the Health for Life Award that we are taking part in and also Startwell

As a Rights Respecting School children are encouraged and supported to understand different cultural and religious customs and beliefs.

Cooking offers rich opportunities for children to discuss and make comparisons about foods they eat at home and family routines

ICT parent workshops enabled children and their families to use the resources on offer at Nursery together.

![Images of children engaging in activities]

**Impact: All of the children in Sunbeams have made progress in this area from their individual starting points with us.**

**Next Steps:**

To further explore and understand similarities, differences and change as we move from winter into spring.

Planting in the garden based on children’s research into growing fruit and vegetables.

**At Home:**

Take a trip to the local park and talk about the trees, flowers, insects. What do they have in common? What makes them different from each other?
**Expressive Arts and Design:**

An indoor and outdoor studio as aspects of our continuous provision offers children the opportunity to explore and experiment with a wide range of materials including natural materials found in our garden.

Music as an aspect of our continuous provision offers children daily opportunities to experiment with sound, rhyme, volume, use musical instruments, sing and listen to different genres of music.

Role play resources on offer both indoors and outdoors.

**Impact: All children in Sunbeams have made progress in this area from their individual starting points with us**

**Next Steps at Nursery:**
Offer additional opportunities for children to develop the skills and control required to cut accurately with scissors.
To explore representations, colour, shape and form in different styles.

**At Home:**
Provide a cutting box with scrap card and paper for children to develop their cutting skills.