

Westfield School Junior House
Curriculum Information for Early Years (BrightStart)
Autumn Term 2026

Autumn

Themes: Settling in, Feelings and Emotions, Families, Signs of Autumn, Diwali, Bonfire Night, Fairy Tales, Harvest, Christmas

Prime Areas of Learning

Communication & Language 	• Listening carefully and why listening is important • Engaging in group times and learning how to take turns in conversations with our friends and teachers • Learning new vocabulary and trying to use it throughout the day; including our 'Word of the Week' homework • Use our words to ask for help from our friends and teachers
Personal, Social & Emotional Development 	• Choosing the activities we want to complete and getting the things we need independently • Practising sharing and turn taking with toys and resources • Decide on our BrightStart promises and understand why rules are important to keep us safe • Building relationships with our new friends! • Expressing our feelings and thinking about the feelings of others
Physical Development 	• Developing our independence when using the toilet, washing hands and changing into outdoor clothes • Developing our fine motor skills; practising using one handed tools • Develop a comfortable pencil grip and begin to form letters with increasing control • Developing our strength, coordination and balance through building obstacle courses and using climbing equipment outdoors

Specific Areas of Learning

Mathematics 	• Matching, sorting and comparing • Measure and patterns • Counting with 1:1 correspondence to 5 and 10 • Explore number bonds for numbers to 5 and 10 • Subitise with numbers to 5 and 10 (say an amount without needing to count) • Identifying and exploring the properties of 2D shapes
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Literacy 	• Recognising and writing our names • Developing phonological awareness; clapping syllables and identifying initial sounds • Practise orally blending and segmenting simple words • Begin to learn our letter sounds and use these to read and spell simple words • Explore nursery rhymes and fairy tales; creating story maps and retelling stories using actions for support
Understanding the World 	• Using our senses in hands-on exploration of natural materials, talking about changes we can see; sorting and collecting Autumn treasures • Explore how things work; building bridges for the Three Billy Goats Gruff to cross! • Talk about the differences between materials; which materials are best for building houses to protect the Three Little Pigs from The Big Bad Wolf?
Expressive Art & Design 	• Creating self-portraits • Taking part in pretend play; acting our traditional stories and fairy tales • Create complex small world environments and use these to retell stories and rhymes • Draw with increasing complexity and detail, using a range of effects to express our feelings; drawing story maps to help us remember the key events in our traditional tales and nursery rhymes • Using clay to create a scary troll sculpture!
Spanish (Reception only) 	• Greetings and introductions in Spanish; getting to know each other • Describing objects; Spanish colours • Animal vocabulary • Months of the Year and Days of the Week: exploring calendars
PE 	• Multi skills – different types of movement such as running, jumping, skipping, galloping, side steps, hop scotch, hopping. Throwing, catching, rolling, kicking, target games. • Gymnastics – moving, balancing, rolling.
Music 	Exploring pulse and pitch • I can keep a steady beat through clapping, tapping and moving • I can create a steady beat while singing and chanting • I can understand high and low pitch using animal sounds • I can respond to call and response patterns using high and low notes • I can sing in an ensemble To build a repertoire of songs and dances Celebration Music- Harvest and Christmas.

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Attendance

Excellent attendance and punctuality promote excellent learning and the opportunity for children to achieve their full potential.

Westfield School believes that regular school attendance is crucial in allowing children to maximise the educational opportunities available to them and become emotionally resilient, confident and competent adults who are able to realise their full potential and make a positive contribution to their community.

The government has a national target of greater than 95%. We must statutorily monitor the attendance of our girls closely and work alongside you if attendance slips below expectation. (Further details on the school website.)

We would be grateful therefore if you could inform us of any absences as soon as possible and support us in promoting the value of education and regular school attendance at home. Please also share any changes in circumstances that may have an impact on attendance so we can work together to minimise the impact.

Uniform

Please refer to the Uniform Policy.

Please note that we have a Westfield second-hand uniform shop, which opens monthly and sells good-quality uniform items at reduced prices. Please contact the School Office to find out the date of the next sale.

Hair should be tidy. If it is long, it must be tied back. Hair must be a natural colour.

No nail varnish or jewellery is allowed, except for one pair of plain stud earrings worn in the earlobes, which must be removed for sports activities.

All possessions must be clearly named with name labels. No responsibility can be taken for unnamed items.

We do not allow electronic devices or mobile phones in school. If children bring such items into school for any reason, they must be handed in to the School Office at the start of the school day and collected at the end of the day before leaving school.