

Our Curriculum Statement

Celebrating Diversity • Growing Together • Preparing for Life



Nurturing Every Child to Learn, Grow and Thrive



INTENT & OUR PROMISE

Our Curriculum Intent

Manchester is a wonderfully diverse city home to many cultures, languages, faiths and traditions. At Ardwick Day Nursery, this richness is at the heart of everything we do.

Our curriculum is designed to be inclusive, respectful and unique to our community. We follow the EYFS Statutory Framework (2024) but adapt it to reflect the lives, backgrounds and experiences of our children and families.

We aim for every child, from birth to 5 years, to leave us:

- Confident and ready to take on new challenges
- Able to manage their own behaviour and understand boundaries
- Independent in self-care, choices and daily tasks
- With excellent language & communication skills
- Knowledgeable about health, wellbeing and oral hygiene
- Physically active, with strong motor skills
- Able to make friends, share and play cooperative.
-

Curriculum Intent Progression

Baby Room	Toddler Room	Preschool Room
• Feel safe with caring adults and become confident to explore. • Learn simple routines and understand kind rules with adult support. • Begin to feed themselves, wash hands and make simple choices. • Communicate through sounds, gestures, words, songs and stories. • Learn healthy routines such as eating well, sleeping safely, washing hands and brushing teeth with adult help. • Build strength through crawling, walking, climbing and exploring with their hands. • Enjoy being with others, play alongside children and build caring relationships.	• Feel confident to try new things and solve simple problems with support. • Follow simple rules and begin to manage feelings and behaviour. • Become more independent with dressing, toileting, tidying up and choosing activities. • Use more words and short sentences to share ideas, needs and feelings. • Understand healthy food, handwashing, toothbrushing and keeping their bodies healthy. • Develop balance, coordination and hand strength through active play. • Learn to share, take turns and make friends with support.	• Be confident and ready for new challenges and starting school. • Make good choices, understand boundaries and manage behaviour independently. • Be independent in self-care, daily routines and making sensible choices. • Speak clearly and confidently to share ideas, ask questions and solve problems. • Know how to keep themselves healthy, safe and look after their wellbeing. • Be physically active with strong gross and fine motor skills for everyday life and early writing. • Build positive friendships, work together, share and play cooperatively.



AS CHILDREN GROW, THEY WILL BECOME:

Babies: Safe, happy and confident to explore the world around them.

Toddlers: Curious, independent learners who enjoy talking, playing and learning with others.

Preschoolers: Confident, kind and resilient children who are ready for school and enjoy learning, making friends and taking on new challenges.

OUR APPROACH & VALUES

Our approach is child-centred, inclusive and ambitious. We deliver a play-based curriculum, following the EYFS Statutory Framework (2024), which reflects the diverse backgrounds and experiences of our children and families.

Children learn through warm relationships, meaningful play, first-hand experiences and high-quality interactions. We prioritise communication and language, while promoting independence, confidence, resilience and positive relationships.

Through ongoing observation, assessment and strong partnerships with families and professionals, we tailor learning to every child's individual needs, including those with SEND and children learning English as an additional language.

Our nurturing approach ensures every child feels safe, valued and supported to make good progress, preparing them for school and lifelong learning.



How We Learn

We base our practice on the Characteristics of Effective Teaching and Learning:

- Playing and Exploring investigating, engaging, experiencing new things
- Active Learning being motivated, concentrating and keeping trying
- Creating & Thinking Critically having ideas, making links and solving problems

Diversity is our strength:

Every home language, culture, faith and family structure is valued. We use dual-language resources, share stories from around the world, celebrate festivals of all communities, and invite parents to share traditions, food and stories with us.

Approach to SEND & Inclusion

- We follow the SEND Code of Practice 0–25 and EYFS inclusive guidance, using the Graduated Response:
 1. Assess: Observe and understand each child's strengths, interests and areas of need
 2. Plan: Adapt activities, resources and environment to meet individual needs
 3. Do: Deliver targeted support, with small group or 1:1 help where required
 4. Review: Check progress regularly and adjust plans together with parents and professionals
- Early identification: We watch closely from birth onwards if we notice a child may need extra support, we talk openly with parents and involve our Area SENCO and outside agencies at the earliest opportunity.



- Removing barriers: We adapt everything so all children can join in:
 - Simplify language, use visual timetables, symbols, photos and home-language words
 - Adjust activities for physical, sensory or communication needs
 - Provide quiet spaces, sensory resources and extra time when needed
 - Ensure indoor and outdoor spaces are safe, welcoming and easy to access
 - Individual planning: We use Assess, Plan, Do, Review (APDR) summaries, Individual Support Plans or EHCPs as required, reviewed regularly with families.
 - Strength-focused: We celebrate what each child can do, build confidence, and make sure every child feels they belong and can succeed.

Working in Partnership

- Parents are our first and most important partners we listen, share information and make decisions together.
- We work closely with: Speech & Language Therapists, Occupational Therapists, Educational Psychologists, Manchester Local Authority SEND (SEDIT) services and health professionals.

Support is consistent from babies through to pre-school, so children have familiar approaches as they move rooms.



CURRICULUM AREAS

What We Teach & How We Deliver It :

1. Communication & Language

Our highest priority

- Daily stories, rhymes, singing, circle time and role-play
- Key vocabulary linked to topics, feelings and actions
- Support for bilingual learners: visual aids, home language words, family links
- Outcome: Children listen well, speak clearly, express ideas and understand instructions.

2. Personal, Social & Emotional Development

Confidence • Behaviour • Independence • Friendships

- Build confidence: speak in groups, try new things, make choices
- Self-regulation: name emotions, learn boundaries, calm-down strategies
- Independence: feed, dress, wash hands, tidy away, use the toilet
- Relationships: turn-taking, sharing, kindness, resolving small conflicts
- Celebrate differences: learn about families, cultures and life in Manchester.



3. Physical Development

Active • Healthy • Strong

- Gross motor: Daily outdoor play, climbing, running, balancing, dance, ball games
- Fine motor: Playdough, threading, cutting, drawing, writing tools
- Health & Wellbeing: Healthy eating, drinking water, sleep, safety
- Oral Health: Teeth cleaning routines, learning about dentists, healthy food for teeth
- Outcome: Children understand how to keep their bodies healthy and safe.

4. Literacy & Mathematics

- Literacy: Enjoying books, mark-making, sounds, writing for a purpose
- Maths: Counting, shapes, patterns, time, all through play and real-life experiences.

5. Understanding the World & Expressive Arts

- Understanding the World: Explore our local area, nature, technology and different ways of life. Teach respect, equality and fairness.
- Expressive Arts: Music, dance, painting, craft, role-play using materials and traditions from many backgrounds.



UNIQUE TO Ardwick

What Makes Us Different

We believe that every child is a blessing. Regardless of ability, additional needs, language or background. Our curriculum is designed to be ambitious, flexible and accessible to all, so every child can take part, make progress and feel valued.

Diversity at the heart: Dual-language labels, multilingual books, all faiths and cultures represented

Community focus: We learn about Manchester, its people and the world beyond

Strong health focus: “Healthy Me” programme covering diet, exercise, hygiene and oral health, working with Manchester Council Physical team sessions.

Family partnerships: Regular communication, progress updates, and supporting learning at home

Smooth transitions: Close links with local schools and professionals

How We Check Progress

- Observations & assessments to plan next steps
- Early identification of needs, Wellcomm Screening, working with our Area SENCO
- Termly updates and two-way conversations with parents
- Preparing every child to be confident and ready for school

Growing in confidence • Learning together • Respecting all