

# OUTDOOR LEARNING – LONG-TERM PLAN

Nursery to Year 6 • Explore • Investigate • Challenge • Apply

A progressive curriculum rooted in the seasons, our school grounds and the natural world. Children develop confidence, curiosity, practical skills, teamwork, resilience and environmental responsibility through planned experiences and responsive learning in the moment.

| TERM     | WHOLE-SCHOOL THEME                    | LEARNING & EXPERIENCES                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|----------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| AUTUMN 1 | New Beginnings, Harvest & Autumn      | Outdoor routines and safety • seasonal change • apples and harvest • sensory exploration • natural art • scavenger hunts • environmental observation • teamwork, confidence and belonging                     |
| AUTUMN 2 | Fire, Light & Celebration             | Bonfire and fire safety • Remembrance • outdoor maths and STEM • seasonal crafts • progressive tool use • campfires and cooking • festive woodland activities • community and celebration                     |
| SPRING 1 | Winter, Wildlife & Storytelling       | Winter exploration • Big Garden Birdwatch • identifying and caring for wildlife • feeders, nests and habitats • natural storytelling • communication and language • seasonal cooking and fire skills          |
| SPRING 2 | STEM, Growth & Spring                 | British Science Week • engineering and problem-solving challenges • weather investigations • planting and growing • Easter experiences • gardening • enquiry • environmental care and seasonal change         |
| SUMMER 1 | Growing, Habitats & the Natural World | Gardening and food growing • flowers and pollinators • minibeasts and habitats • Outdoor Classroom Day • environmental science • heritage activities • creativity • increasingly independent practical skills |
| SUMMER 2 | Wildlife, Biodiversity & Adventure    | 30 Days Wild • Great Science Share • worm charming • pond and habitat investigations • biodiversity and BioBlitz • butterflies and moths • den building • teamwork • end-of-year outdoor celebrations         |

## PROGRESSION THROUGH SCHOOL

| EYFS                                                                                                                                                                                    | KEY STAGE 1                                                                                                                                                                            | KEY STAGE 2                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>EXPLORE &amp; DISCOVER</b>                                                                                                                                                           | <b>INVESTIGATE &amp; CREATE</b>                                                                                                                                                        | <b>CHALLENGE &amp; APPLY</b>                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Sensory play • seasonal exploration • growing • wildlife encounters • creative play • communication • physical development • curiosity • enjoyment • learning how to stay safe outdoors | Gardening • environmental science • STEM investigations • den building • simple tool use • campfires • outdoor cooking • storytelling • teamwork • increasingly purposeful exploration | More complex STEM and environmental investigations • biodiversity • growing and harvesting • construction • tool use • fire lighting • cooking • leadership • independence • resilience • problem-solving |

## THE IMPACT OF OUTDOOR LEARNING

### Skills, character & wellbeing

**Enjoyment & engagement • Confidence & character • Health & wellbeing • Social & emotional development • Communication • Creativity • Practical skills • Teamwork • Resilience • Environmental responsibility**

Assessment focuses on participation, growing independence, perseverance, willingness to tackle challenge and the ability to reflect on and apply developing skills.

### Learning beyond our school grounds

Year 4 pupils visit Whitby, where they apply their outdoor learning skills within a coastal environment. The visit provides a rich learning and life experience while developing children's understanding of landscape, heritage and history beyond school.