

Maths

Students will engage in structured and practical activities using natural materials such as seeds, leaves and petals to support counting and early number skills.

They will explore and compare sizes, lengths and heights of plants and flowers, developing understanding of measurement.

Learners will recognise and create simple patterns using leaves, petals and coloured flowers, and identify ways to sort garden items by type, size or colour.

They will develop comprehension by using positional language during planting activities (e.g. “in the soil”, “next to the pot”).

Students will follow instructions and sequence the stages of plant growth (e.g. seed → sprout → flower), linking this to time concepts. They will also explore capacity and volume using containers such as watering cans and pots.

They will develop understanding of time by using calendars and timelines (years, months, days), practise counting in multiples, and order numbers from past to present.

Science (Nutrition)

Students will explore different fruits and vegetables that can be grown in the garden and discover where they are found in everyday life.

They will investigate how plants are used for food and identify healthy options.

Through practical activities, learners will follow instructions to plant fast-growing seeds, care for plants, and take part in tasting activities.

They will also create simple crafts and projects using fruits and vegetables.

Students will develop comprehension of how plants make food, how they support human nutrition, and develop responsibility through plant care and preparing simple healthy foods, such as making a basic salad.

English:

Students will engage with the topic of plants and gardens through reading, writing and speaking activities. They will engage with stories, poems, and factual texts about plants and nature.

They will explore different types of gardens (e.g. flower gardens, vegetable patches) and learn key vocabulary linked to plants and the environment.

Students will identify and use adjectives to describe and compare plants (e.g. tall, colourful, prickly), supporting language development and comprehension.

In writing, students will develop simple sentences and short descriptions or recounts about gardening activities, using Colourful Semantics where appropriate.

They will also follow instructions and sequence simple steps related to planting and garden care.

Through discussion and structured activities, students will anticipate, answer questions, and build confidence in spoken language, supporting individual communication goals.

The unit will also develop awareness of nature, symbolic meanings of plants, and caring for the environment.



Plants and Gardens Summer 2026

Topic/ History and Geography/RE

Students will explore the topic *Plants and Gardens* through History, Geography, and RE.

They will learn how plants and gardens have changed over time and how different environments influence what grows. Students will explore local green spaces as well as plants from around the world, developing an understanding of different climates, seasons, and natural environments.

Through this topic, students will also begin to recognise diversity in plants, places, and people, and how communities interact with their environment.

They will use maps, pictures, and practical activities to build awareness of the wider world and how people live in different locations.

In RE, students will learn about and celebrate key religious festivals throughout the year

Life skills/Community

Students will continue to develop their life skills through regular trips into the local community and practical, real-life activities.

They will visit places such as parks, shops, and use public transport, helping them to better understand and engage with their surroundings. Through these experiences, students will practise safe walking and travelling, explore different types of transport, and learn to recognise signs and important places in the community.

They will also develop shopping skills (TESCO trips) and making simple choices, while building awareness of safety such as road safety and how to respond to unfamiliar situations. Students will take part in simple cooking and household tasks, supporting their independence and confidence.

PSHE

Students will engage in activities linked to gardening and teamwork to explore positive relationships and healthy living.

They will learn about kindness, trust, respect, honesty and privacy, and develop understanding of consent and how to manage conflict. Learners will identify different types of relationships and friendships, and develop self-awareness and wellbeing.

They will also explore how to respond to unkind behaviour and understand different forms of bullying (including cyberbullying), their impact, and the importance of reporting concerns. Students will develop comprehension of personal space, boundaries and responsibilities, and discover how and where to seek help. They will also recognise that families and relationships can be different, promoting respect and inclusion.