

# A Parent's Guide to the Curriculum at Sheringham



**What is the curriculum?** The curriculum is everything we want the children to experience and learn whilst they are in nursery.

**Learning** includes new words, new skills and new knowledge.

**Experiences** include trips out of nursery, times when we invite people in, like musicians. We also have special extra experiences in nursery like the duck eggs and caterpillars.

- Children learn a great deal of our curriculum through play and activities they choose.
- They also learn through our careful selection of 'key books, rhymes and songs' in nursery.
- We also have 8 curricular goals for every child to work towards:

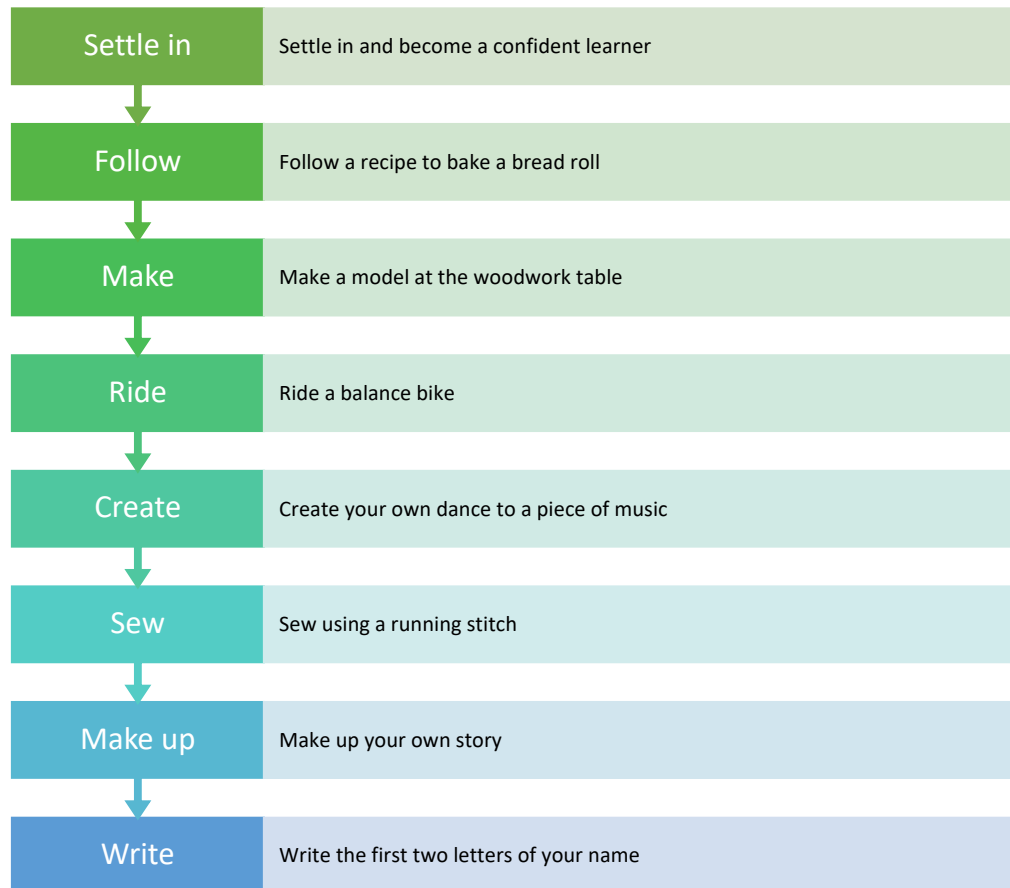
## How do young children learn? How do we teach young children?

We have lots of evidence about how young children learn. Here are some of the key points:

- **Language:** chatting, playing and reading with children every day helps them learn lots of new words. Language is the foundation of children's thinking. Children who are good communicators at five are most likely to be successful learners throughout their time in school.
- **Relationships:** it is very important for children to feel safe and secure. That's why every child has a key person who takes the lead on their care. Children become more independent when they have strong and loving relationships to fall back on. They also become better at bouncing back when they find something hard, or get upset.
- **Independent play:** children need uninterrupted time to choose their own play and make friends. Adults will often get involved, in a sensitive way, to help the children to learn whilst

they are playing. Adults will think about the important knowledge children need and how they can learn this whilst they are playing.

- **Adult-guided play:** children also need times when adults plan and guide their play. A play activity might be guided so it has a clear focus on learning to count, for example.
- **Direct teaching:** sometimes adults work directly with children to teach them new things. This could include learning to use scissors, or ride a bike, or write some of the letters of their name.
- **We offer a balance of all these different approaches.**



**How can parents support children's learning?** Our partnership with parents is a big part of our work. You know so much about your child. Your support and encouragement will make a big difference to their learning.

- We regularly share videos and ideas for home learning. Click on the links you get through WhatsApp. Then you can enjoy songs and rhymes with your child, and ideas for playing together!
- You can get some more ideas from the [Hungry Little Minds](#) website
- We have produced a guide for parents called [What to expect in the Early Years Foundation Stage](#)
- Read our [curriculum policy](#) for more details

