



ACE Centre Ltd

Curriculum

2025

ACE Childcare and Preschool follow a **child centred approach**, with **teachable moments** following our **core books** and recognising that **each child is unique**, with **individual interests and learning skills**.

To be a...



Confident Communicator

I will be able to communicate my needs, wishes and preferences in my own way

To be a...



Self-Reliant Individual

I will learn self-help skills and develop secure relationships

To be a...



Physically Active Adventurer

I will build on my strength, balance, and spatial skills

Implementation

Daily,
ongoing

Following child's interests

Planning in the moment

Teachable moments

Observations

Parental engagement

Tapestry

Formal,
timebound

Two-year checks

Wellcomm

Focus child



To be a confident communicator

Communication and Language Development



Stage 1

Shows an interest in stories & rhyme

Babbles and is beginning to using single words/sounds

Listens and responds to simple/basic instructions

Stage 2

Listens to simple stories and engages with the pictures

Understands a wider range of words and is beginning to use short sentences, jumping from one topic to another

Understands is and beginning to use who, what, where and why

Stage 3

Enjoys longer stories and is able to remember and retell a story

Initiates a conversation through verbal/nonverbal communication

Asks simple questions that meet their needs



To be a self-reliant individual

Personal, social and emotional development



Stage 1

Expresses preferences and decisions

Uses engagement to achieve a goal

Has established a sense of self

Stage 2

Growing in independence and is starting to reject help

Beginning to show effortful control

Plays with increasing confidence on their own and beginning to play with other children

Stage 3

Has confidence to choose with growing independence

Recognises boundaries and participates in nursery routines with support

Follows own interest for a short period of time



To be a physically active adventurer

Physical development



Stage 1

Gradually gaining control of their whole body through continual practice in large movements

Trying a wider range of foods with different tastes and textures

Reaching out for objects and toys as coordination develops

Stage 2

Can walk, run, jump and climb, and is starting to use stairs independently

Shows an increasing desire to be independent, such as wanting to feed and dress themselves

Developing manipulation and controls by exploring different materials and tools

Stage 3

Balances on equipment with support

Can follow a sequence of actions when getting dressed and undressed with support

Experiments with handling and using tools with guidance

Curriculum map - Term 1

Term 1: 2nd September - 25th October 2025

Focus: Ace Preschool and Ace childcare focus for this term is to help any new children to settle in, introduce them to routines and build strong relationships with key person.

The focus book will be **Owl babies**, and we will be helping children to learning about Families, feeling and emotions, sharing and caring, local community and nature. We will also be encouraging new language and numerous skills such as counting and pre-positions.

Themes

Owl babies - **Main focus book**

Poem and Song

Song: 3 little men
Poem: Leaves are falling

Stories

Owl babies

Vocabulary

Descriptive commentary, Match plus one, listening and repeating familiar sounds.

Size language, Emotions/feelings, prepositions and counting.

Key dates and events staff:

- Inset Day 02/09/25
- Ace preschool visit day for new starters 03/09/25
- Harvest- September
- Halloween 31/10/25

Cultural Capital Curriculum:

Cooking: Chopping fruit, making playdough

Outdoor learning: gross motor, balance and co-ordination

Nursery School visits: Exploring the outdoor area (Using the larger equipment working on gross motor skills)

Dance and music: Movement and expression, head shoulders knees and toes.

Local visits: Looking around the local market.

Curriculum map - Term 2

Term 2: 3rd November - 23rd December 2025

Focus: Ace Preschool and Ace childcare focus for this term is to help any new children to settle in, introduce them to routines and build strong relationships with key person.

The focus book will be **We're going on a bear hunt**, and we will be helping children to learning about families, feeling and emotions, friendships and our senses. We will also be encouraging new language and numerous skills such as counting, pre-positions and colours.

Themes	Poem and Song	Stories	Vocabulary
We're going on a bear hunt - Main focus book	Song: Here we go round the Mulberry bush Poem: Santa is here	We're going on a bear hunt	Descriptive commentary, Match plus one, listening and familiar sounds. Size language, Emotions/feelings, pre-positions, colours and counting.
Key dates and events staff:	Cultural Capital Curriculum:		
- Fireworks night 05/11/2025 - Christmas 24/12/2025 - Ace childcare/Preschool Christmas party day - Ace childcare/Preschool closed 24/12/25	Cooking: Chopping fruit, making playdough, gingerbread men Outdoor learning: gross motor, balance and co-ordination, sensory walk Nursery School visits: Exploring the outdoor area (Using the larger equipment working on gross motor skills) Dance and music: Movement and expression (Walking in the jungle) Local visits: Christmas tree light walk		

Curriculum map – Term 3

Term 3: January - February 21st 2025

Focus: Ace Preschool and Ace childcare focus for this term is to help any new children to settle in, introduce them to routines and build strong relationships with key person.

The focus book will be **Dear Zoo**, and we will be helping children to learning about Animals/pets, feeling and emotions, sharing and caring, the local community and jobs. We will also be encouraging new language and numerous skills such as counting, pre-positions and colours.

Themes

Dear Zoo - **Main focus book**

Poem and Song

Song: Down in the jungle
Poem: Pour a cup of tea

Stories

Dear Zoo

Vocabulary

Descriptive commentary, Match plus one, listening and repeating familiar sounds.

Size language, Emotions/feelings, pre-positions, colours and counting.

Key dates and events staff:

- Inset Day 06/01/25
- Ace preschool visit day for new starters 07/01/25

Cultural Capital Curriculum:

Cooking: Chopping fruit, animal shaped biscuits, making playdough

Outdoor learning: gross motor, balance and co-ordination

Nursery School visits: Exploring the outdoor area (Using the larger equipment working on gross motor skills)

Dance and music: Movement and expression (Animal Movements)

Local visits: Looking around the local market.

Curriculum map - Term 4

Term 4: 24th February - 4th April 2025

Focus: Ace Preschool and Ace childcare focus for this term is to help any new children to settle in, introduce them to routines and build strong relationships with key person. Learning early listening and attention skills and building confidence to join in group time.

The focus book will be **goldilocks and 3 bears**, and we will be helping children to learning about families, our own feelings and other feelings. Our community, culture and learning self-care skills and independence. We will also be encouraging new language and numerous skills such as counting, sizes and pre-positions.

Themes

Goldilocks and 3 bears – **Main focus book**

Poem and Song

Song: Sleeping Bunnies
Poem: Chop chop

Stories

Goldilocks and 3 bears
Linked Books:
So much, Brown bear, brown bear

Vocabulary

Descriptive commentary, Match plus one, listening and repeating familiar sounds.
Size language, Emotions/feelings, pre-positions, colours and counting.

Key dates and events staff:

- Pancake day 04/03/25
- World book day 06/03/25
- Mother's Day 30/03/25
- Easter 20/04/25

Cultural Capital Curriculum:

Cooking: Chopping fruit, trying pancakes, making playdough

Outdoor learning: learning to put on coats and shoes and balancing on equipment

Nursery School visits: Exploring the outdoor area (Using the larger equipment working on gross motor skills)

Dance and music: Movement and expression (sticky kids)

Local visits: visit to local library for story time in small groups

Curriculum map – Term 5

Term 5: 22nd April- 23rd May 2025

Focus: Ace Preschool and Ace childcare focus for this term is to help any new children to settle in, introduce them to routines and build strong relationships with key person.

The focus book will be **Dinosaur Roar**, and we will be helping children to learning about Dinosaurs, differences between each other. We will also be encouraging new language and numerous skills such as counting, size, opposites and colours.

Themes

Dinosaur Roar- **Main focus book**

Poem and Song

Song: 3/5 current buns
Poem: 5 little peas

Stories

Dinosaur Roar

Vocabulary

Descriptive commentary, Match plus one, listening and repeating familiar sounds.

Size language, Emotions/feelings, pre-positions, colours and counting.

Key dates and events staff:

- Inset days 22/04/25.
- Ace preschool visit day for new starters 23/04/25
- Earth day 22/04/25
- VE 08/05/25

Cultural Capital Curriculum:

Cooking: Chopping fruit, dinosaur shaped biscuits, making playdough

Outdoor learning: gross motor, dinosaur stomping and movement, growing and planting.

Nursery School visits: Exploring the outdoor area (Using the larger equipment working on gross motor skills)

Dance and music: Movement and expression, see the little dinosaur sleeping song

Local visits:

Curriculum map – Term 6

Term 6: 3rd June- 22nd July 2025

Focus: Ace Preschool and Ace childcare focus for this term is to help any new children to settle in, introduce them to routines and build strong relationships with key person.

The focus book will be **Hungary Caterpillar**, and we will be helping children to learning about life cycle, nature, seasons, healthy eating, feeling and emotions. We will also be encouraging new language and numerous skills such as counting, pre-positions and colours.

Themes

Hungary Caterpillar – **Main focus book**

Poem and Song

Song: Roly Poly
Poem: Sliced Bread

Stories

Hungary Caterpillar

Vocabulary

Descriptive commentary, Match plus one, listening and repeating familiar sounds.

Size language, Emotions/feelings, nature, seasons, healthy eating colours and counting.

Key dates and events staff:

- Inset day Ace preschool
02/06/25
- Father's Day
- Zoolab

Cultural Capital Curriculum:

Cooking: Chopping fruit and veg, making sandwich, making playdough.

Outdoor learning: gross motor, balance and co-ordination, planting, growing & water play, bugs

Nursery School visits: Exploring the outdoor area (Using the larger equipment working on gross motor skills)

Dance and music: Movement and expression (Animal Movements)

Local visits: Looking around the local market. Zoo lab visit to Ace Childcare/Ace Preschool.

Long-term plan

To be a...

Confident Communicator

We develop communication and language throughout the year. We do this through high quality interactions, daily singing, stories and poems from the poetry basket. We do music and movement, and all children are accessed on the Wellcomm screening program.



To be a...

Self-Reliant Individual

We promote personal, social and emotional development by building strong relationships with children through key person system, turn taking during play and encouraging friendships between children. Using emotion coaching to teach children about their emotions.



To be a...

Physically Active Adventurer

We provide continuous provision throughout the year that helps children build on physical development such as daily outdoor play, playdough, mark making, malleable play, music and movement. We enhance the environment with different resources that builds on both fine and gross motor. We promote children's independence through self-care during routine, e.g. handwashing, mealtimes, dressing etc.



Term 1

Focus topics:

Settling in, building relationships, family, feelings, nature and community

Core book: Owl babies

Poem: Leaves are falling

Song: 3/5 little men in a flying saucer

Celebrations: Harvest, Halloween

Confident Communicator

- Poem and song of term (repetitive language)
- Owl babies story sack (settling in and concentrating)
- Using descriptive commentary during play and match plus one
- Wellcomm, accessing children and working with children and families.

Self-Reliant Individual

- Learning routines for new children and building friendships
- Talking about feelings/emotions through stories
- Modelling turn taking through games and play such as pop-up pirate
- Owl babies story sack (new emotions)
- Local visits to the market
- Parents sending family pictures and staff sharing pictures of their families

Physically Active Adventurer

- Making playdough, (kneading, pouring, stirring)
- Singing and dancing
- Pumpkin play
- Visiting different gardens at the ACE Centre, sweeping and collecting leaves to use in with playdough, printing and tough spot

Term 2

Focus topics:

Family, community, seasons, feelings, friendships, and our senses

Core book: We're going on a bear hunt

Poem: Santa is here

Song: Here we go round the mulberry bush

Celebrations: Fireworks Night, Christmas

Confident Communicator

- Poem and song of term (repetitive language)
- The Bear Hunt story sack (showing interest in story and rhyme, learning new vocab)
- Going on a bear hunt in the garden
- Wellcomm, accessing children and working with children and families.

Self-Reliant Individual

- Learning routines for new children and building friendships
- Promoting healthy body and mind (through movement)
- Caring for ourselves. (Learning through songs and actions. Here we go round the mulberry bush, oral health activities)
- Understanding others' emotions (Emotion coaching and through books)
- Parents sending family pictures and staff sharing pictures of their families

Physically Active Adventurer

- Making playdough, (kneading, pouring, stirring)
- Singing and dancing
- Nature hunts and community walks
- Exploring senses through trying new foods, smells and textures
- Sweeping leaves

Term 3

Focus topics:

Community, jobs, feelings/emotion, sharing and caring, animals, pets, environments, and prepositions

Core book: Dear Zoo

Poem: Pour a cup

Song: Down in the jungle

Celebrations: Winter, Valentine's Day

Confident Communicator

- Poem and song of term (repetitive language)
- The 'Dear Zoo' story sack
- Animal vocab, (habitats, environments and activity)
- Preposition vocabulary
- Wellcomm, accessing children and working with children and families.

Self-Reliant Individual

- Learning routines for new children and building friendships
- Learning about jobs from books and role play
- Walks around the local community
- Parents sending photos of children's pets.
- Feelings and emotions, stories, emotion coaching and feelings board

Physically Active Adventurer

- Making playdough, (kneading, pouring, stirring)
- Walk to market to buy new fruit and vegetables to try that animals eat
- Chopping fruit at snack
- Making animal biscuits (mixing, spooning and pouring)
- Gross motor, balance and coordination
- Animal movements and sounds expression

Term 4

Focus topics:

Size, prepositions, feelings and others' feelings, community, culture, cooking, self-care and independence

Core book: Goldilocks and the three bears

Poem: Chop Chop

Song: Sleeping bunnies

Celebrations: World Book Day, Easter, Mother's Day

Confident Communicator

- Poem and song of term (repetitive language)
- 'Goldilocks and the three bears' story sack
- Cooking activities cooking vocabulary (weights, more or less, size)
- Size activities identifying big and little.
- Wellcomm, accessing children and working with children and families

Self-Reliant Individual

- Learning routines for new children and building friendships
- Parents sending family pictures and staff sharing pictures of their families
- Promoting healthy eating, chopping fruit for snack, talking about healthy foods and movement
- Practicing independence such as putting coats, promoting eating independently and hand washing.
- Resolving conflicts through emotion coaching and books

Physically Active Adventurer

- Making playdough, (kneading, pouring stirring)
- Chopping snack fruit
- Learning to put on coats and shoes promoting independence
- Sleeping bunnies' actions (hopping, jumping dancing)
- Balancing on the outdoor equipment (obstacle course)

Term 5

Focus topics:

Opposites, sizes, colours, differences and counting

Core book: Dinosaur Roar

Poem: 5 little peas

Song: 3/5 current buns

Celebrations: Growing, planting
Earth Day

Confident Communicator

- Poem and song of term (repetitive language)
- Reading dinosaur roar book, exploring new vocab.
- Using descriptive commentary to talk about the differences and what the same.
- Wellcomm, accessing children and working with children and families.

Self-Reliant Individual

- Learning routines for new children and building friendships
- Parents sending family pictures and staff sharing pictures of their families
- Resolving conflicts through emotion coaching and books
- Healthy eating and what helps us grow
- Planting, learning about how care for our environment

Physically Active Adventurer

- Making playdough, (kneading, pouring stirring)
- Exploring the larger equipment in the Nursery school garden, climbing, stepping, sliding and jumping.
- Chopping fruit at snack
- Digging and planting in the garden
- Making biscuits (mixing, pouring and spooning)
- Dinosaur movements during music and movement time

Term 6

Focus topics:

Nature, seasons, colours,
community, healthy eating

Core book: The Hungry
Caterpillar

Poem: Sliced bread

Song: Roly Poly

Celebrations: Father's Day

Confident Communicator

- Poem and song of term (repetitive language)
- Reading stories and information books about life cycles (new vocab)
- The Hungry caterpillar story sack
- Wellcomm, accessing children and working with children and families.

Self-Reliant Individual

- Learning routines for new children and building friendships
- Visit from Zoo Lab, learning how to care for animals/insects
- Parents sending family pictures and staff sharing pictures of their families
- Healthy eating
- Life cycle of butterfly and growing our own.

Physically Active Adventurer

- Making playdough, (kneading, pouring stirring)
- Chopping fruits and new tastes
- Making sandwiches at snack time (cutting, spreading and then eating)
- Digging and planting in the garden
- Movement, sleeping dinosaurs

Core books, poems and songs

Term 1 Sep - Oct	Term 2 Oct - Dec	Term 3 Jan - Feb	Term 4 Feb - Apr	Term 5 Apr - May	Term 6 May - July
Owl Babies- Family, Feelings, Nature, Community	Bear Hunt- Family, Community, Seasons, Feelings, Friendships, senses	Dear Zoo- Community, feelings/emotions, sharing and caring, animals, environments and local community. Pre-positions	Goldilocks and the Three Bears: Sizes, Own feelings and others, Community, culture, cooking, sizes. Self-care/independence	Dinosaur Roar Opposites, sizes, colours, differences, counting,	Hungry Caterpillar - Nature, Seasons, Colours, Community. Healthy eating
Poem-Leaves are falling	Poem- Santa is here	Poem- Pour a cup	Poem- Chop chop	Poem- 5 little peas	Poem- Sliced bread
Song- 3 little men	Song- here we go round the mulberry bush	Song- down in the jungle	Song- sleeping bunnies	Song- current buns	Song- Roly poly
					