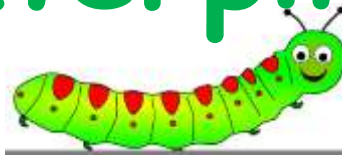


# Caterpillars



## Caterpillars: Early Years class

**Amount of children:** 12

**Staff:** -Class teacher –HLTA – x 5 LSAs (including X1 1:1 adults).

### **Needs of children:**

The children in this class are our younger pupils. Many of them need support in learning the routines and boundaries of their school day. There is lots of support based around managing self-care and independent managing of transitions. Communication is a huge focus in the class and the activities are designed around engaging the children and developing their attention and participation. The class has an outdoor area which is used regularly for movement breaks and outdoor learning activities. Our Caterpillars class is now split into the Green Caterpillars and the Blue Caterpillars. The Blue Caterpillars are those children who need a larger amount of sensory input and have regular access to the newly developed Sensory intervention room joining from the Caterpillars classroom. Both groups join together for various times in the day but separate for group learning activities.

### **Strategies used:**

#### **Communication:**

- SALT
- Makaton
- PECS
- Visual timetables
- Use of 'first, then' / 'first, next, then'.
- Use of visual prompts.

#### **Learning:**

- REACH targets
- TEACCH
- Colourful Semantics
- Sensory pre- writing.
- First Words program.
- Carousel style activities.
- Letter and sounds.

#### **O.T:**

- Sensory massage
- Use of O.T equipment
- Daily O.T activities

#### **Life skills and independence:**

- Nurture and self-care activities e.g. brushing teeth after lunch.
- Cooking.
- Practising independent toileting and hand-washing routine.

#### **Sensory needs:**

- Use of the Sensory intervention room for small group.
- Sensory circuits
- Individualised sensory diets
- Sensory play and sensory stories
- Massage and relaxation
- Regular use of Resource Sensory room.
- Frequent movement breaks.

#### **Behaviour management:**

- 1:1 ELSA for specific pupils.
- Weekly 'Star of the week' certificate.
- Weekly Resource Rules certificate (be kind, work hard).

#### **Social skills:**

- Attention Autism
- Emotions check in
- Social skills practice/ structured play sessions
- Use of Social stories.
- Peer mentoring play sessions with older pupils.
- Opportunities for integration into Mainstream sessions for those who it will benefit.

#### **Additional interventions:**

- Music sessions
- ELSA

