

Engagement Pathway Toolkit of Teaching Approaches

Communication, Interaction & Engagement

Provision that supports the development of early communication, shared attention, and social interaction.

- **Intensive Interaction** – Develops early communication skills, shared attention, and reciprocal interaction through responsive, child-led exchanges.
- **Core Word Programme** – Supports the development of functional communication by providing consistent access to high-frequency, meaningful vocabulary across all learning contexts.
- **Attention Autism / Box Time** – Builds sustained attention, engagement, and shared focus through highly motivating and structured group sessions.
- **Circle Time** – Develops communication, turn-taking, listening skills, and participation within a group setting.
- **Social Snack Time** – Provides meaningful opportunities to practise functional communication, choice-making, and social interaction within a familiar daily routine.
- **Sensory Stories** – Supports engagement, anticipation, and understanding through low-arousal, multi-sensory storytelling experiences tailored to individual needs.

Physical Development, Movement & Sensory Regulation

Provision that promotes regulation, body awareness, and physical development.

- **Jabadeo** – Supports movement, coordination, and body awareness through a structured approach to physical play.

- **Rebound Therapy** – Develops balance, coordination, physical confidence, and emotional regulation using supported trampoline activities.
- **Hydrotherapy** – Enhances mobility, muscle strength, and sensory integration within a therapeutic water-based environment.
- **Seb & Olivia's Den** – Supports emotional regulation while developing gross and fine motor skills within a structured yet nurturing environment.

Sensory Engagement & Emotional Regulation

Provision that supports sensory processing, emotional wellbeing, and readiness to learn.

- **Sensology** – Provides immersive, multi-sensory experiences that support engagement, regulation, communication, and emotional response.
- **Forest School** – Promotes sensory regulation, emotional wellbeing, independence, and confidence through outdoor, experiential learning opportunities.

Independence, Exploration & Life Skills

Provision that supports autonomy, curiosity, and functional skills for everyday life.

- **Curiosity Approach** – Encourages exploration, independence, and learner-led discovery through carefully considered environments and resources.
- **Cooking** – Develops independence, functional life skills, communication, early numeracy, and understanding of routines.

- **Shopping** – Builds real-world communication skills, social understanding, choice-making, and problem-solving in a meaningful community context.

Literacy (where appropriate)

Provision that supports early literacy development in line with individual readiness.

- **Phonics (if applicable)** – Supports early reading skills through structured exposure to sounds, listening skills, and phonological awareness, adapted to individual learning needs.