

## Sensory Christmas jumpers

Have a bit of creative fun in the run-up to Christmas by creating Christmas jumpers with a festive twist!

### Learning aims

- Be creative and imaginative
- Express feelings/likes/dislikes
- Use talk and descriptive language
- Explore using all the senses
- Build confidence and pride in own achievements
- Respect and tolerance for others
- Awareness of world festivals and celebrations.



### Resources

- Old jumpers - children can bring in an old one from home, or from a charity shop or ask for donations from staff and parents. Staff can bring in their own jumpers too!
- A range of festival sensory items for children to decorate their jumper with. For example:
  - Sight: strings of LED lights; tinsel; baubles; glitter; sequins, shiny objects such as foil and wrapping paper
  - Touch: soft materials such as cotton wool, material, ribbon etc; rough materials such as pine cones, materials and paper
  - Smell: potpourri; food essence; natural materials/resources such as satsuma rind
  - Sound: bells, crinkly Christmas wrapping paper
  - Taste: (optional) mini marshmallows; Christmas cookies; candy canes or pieces of fruit for a healthier option
- Small material bags to put items in and tie to the jumper
- Resources to attach items to the jumper e.g. string, ribbon, glue, sticky tape etc
- Any other resources you may think of - be as creative as you can!

## Activity Outline

- Encourage children to choose their own jumper or bring one from home
- Arrange the different resources in specific sense areas so they are accessible
- Talk to the children about what the items are
- Allow the children to choose the items they would like to go on their jumper
- Support children to attach each item to their jumper or clothing – encourage them to be as creative and imaginative as they like!
- Organise a sensory jumper parade!
- Let each child wear their jumper and show it to the other children
- Encourage staff and parents to join in too!

## Special considerations

*As with any creative activity, ensure children are well supervised so they are kept safe at all times. Take special care with strings of lights and food items to avoid accidents and choking and check for any allergies against the items you offer.*