

Extra and Friends 2

A Practical Handbook for Teachers

Section 1: Introduction to the Coursebook

What is *Extra and Friends 2*?

- A coursebook for 2nd grade students in state schools on North Macedonia.
- Fully aligned with the national English syllabus.
- Target learners: A1 (Basic User) level, ages ~7.

What's included?

- Pupil's Book
- Activity Book
- Teacher's Book
- IWB Software and Multimedia Pack (songs, videos, games)
- Portfolio Activities and Story Cut-Outs
- Downloadable CDs (<https://www.expresspublishing.co.uk/en/resources/138>)

Section 2: Understanding Your Learners at A1 Level of the CEFR

Key Characteristics of A1 Learners:

- Understand and use familiar expressions.
- Can talk about themselves and surroundings.
- Engage in basic conversations.
- Use simple vocabulary and sentence structures.
- Not ready for explicit grammar instruction.

Best Practices:

- Scaffold everything – give step-by-step instructions.
- Use ICQs (Instruction Checking Questions) in L1.
- Prioritize comprehension over perfect production.
- Use visuals: flashcards, gestures, story pictures.
- Offer delayed correction, not immediate interruption.

Section 3: Teaching Strategies and Activities

Recommended Activities:

- Songs and chants
- TPR (Total Physical Response)
- Games (Memory, Matching, Bingo)

- Crafts and colouring
- Role-play and storytelling

Use of Story Cut-Outs:

- Practice vocabulary/phrases.
- Encourage creative thinking.
- Reusable and student-created flashcards.

Section 4: Coursebook Structure

Each module includes:

Lesson	Focus Area
1	Topic and Vocabulary
2	Chants and Crafts
3	TPR-based Activities
4	Story Time
5	British Culture
6	Projects
7	Activity Time
8	Checkpoint Review

Plus:

- Picture Dictionary
- Portfolio Activities
- Story Cut-Outs
- Holiday Sections

Section 5: Key Skills and Learning Approach

Integrated Skills:

- Listening: Songs, stories, dialogues.
- Speaking: Games, role-plays, pair work.
- Reading: Visual and picture-based literacy.
- Writing: Only when ready – guided, simple words or phrases.

Holistic Learning:

- Emotional, social, cognitive, and moral development.
- Emphasizes respect, cooperation, empathy.
- Links English to the broader world (animals, environment, etc.)

Section 6: Using the IWB Software

Interactive Features:

- Clickable icons = interactivity (audio/video).
- Karaoke-style reading.
- Embedded stories, chants, and videos.

Don't have an IWB?

- Use a computer + projector.
- Or gather students around a screen.
- A wireless mouse is a bonus (students can click!).

Software Extras:

- Picture Dictionary
- Board Games and Quizzes
- Reader and Posters
- Alphabet Book
- Activity Book (interactive version)

Section 7: Curriculum and Syllabus Alignment

Theme	Topics	Found In
Me and Others at Home	Family, home, personal info	Modules 1–2
Me and Others at School	School items, shapes, commands	Modules 2–4
Me and My Immediate Environment	Food, animals, body, weather	Modules 5–8
Me and Free Time	Hobbies, seasons, polite phrases	Module 8, Fun Time

Total Lessons: 72 per year

In the Book: ~68 lessons

Remaining Time: Use for review, games, or alphabet intro via IWB.

Section 8: How to Explore a Unit

When analyzing or preparing a unit, ask:

- What are the lesson goals?
- What vocabulary/structures are taught?
- Are there songs/stories/dialogues?
- How can I adapt this to my class?
- How does this scaffold skills?

Look for:

- Communicative tasks
- Repetition and support
- Skills integration
- Cultural comparisons (UK vs. local context)

Section 9: Adapting to Your Context

Reflect on:

- What's familiar/unfamiliar to students?
- What may be culturally or contextually challenging?
- How can you localize and personalize the content?

Encourage creativity – adapt activities freely to match your students' needs, interests, and school resources.

Section 10: Final Advice

“Learn It Your Way. Teach It Your Way.”

- ◆ Scaffold heavily
- ◆ Use visuals
- ◆ Recycle language
- ◆ Celebrate mistakes as part of learning
- ◆ Keep it simple, fun, and engaging
- ◆ Use what works best in your classroom