Frequently Asked Questions

Can we visit the Nursery before my child starts?

We have a taster session on the first Friday of each month where you can stay and play with your child from 9:00am-11:00am-please call the school office to book in. We also will arrange for you to attend a meeting before your child starts in Nursery.

What if my child doesn't settle?

Nursery staff are very experienced in supporting children's transition. They will be there to meet children arrive at nursery and will do everything they can to help your child have a positive start to nursery life. If we are concerned that your child may need a bit longer to adapt, we will discuss this with you and arrange a settling in program to help support your child and make this a positive experience.

Do I need to provide anything for my child in Nursery?

Your child will need a pair of wellington boots to leave at Nursery to help support their choice of learning outdoors, During the Winter your child will need a warm coat, preferable waterproof, hat, gloves and scarf, In the summer, a light weight waterproof coat and a sun hat. If you think your child may have accidents then please bring in a bag of spare clothes (named).

What is a Key Worker?

Your child will be placed within a key group and allocated a key worker. A key worker is a named member of the nursery staff with responsibilities for a small group of children who helps those children in the group feel safe and cared for. They will exchange information with you about your child, through regular verbal updates and will share weekly information via class dojo about how your child is progressing in their learning and development. They will also meet with you twice a year during a parents evening.

How do we encourage children to make friends?

Making friends is such an important aspect of school life and all children develop differently. The staff in Nursery will always promote and encourage friendships. We place a great focus on supporting and developing children's Personal, Social and Emotional Development (PSED) and will support this in a range of ways, including circle times, group work, adult interactions and child initiated learning. If you are concerned about your child's PSED then please do not hesitate to ask a member of staff in Nursery.

Do I need to let you know if someone else is picking my child up?

Yes. We always need to know if someone other than yourselves are picking up your child. Keeping your child safe is always our priority and if we haven't been informed regarding a change of pick-up, we will always need your permission before dismissing your child. Please let the nursery staff or the office staff know. We will ask you to send in a photo or organise a password system.

What if I'm delayed collecting my child?

We understand that on occasions you may be delayed collecting your child, through uncontrollable circumstances. Please follow the previous advice above and ring straight away either the nursery or the office team to explain. Your child's welfare is a priority to us and informing us we can then care for them and explain the situation.

What do I do if I have an older child that needs picking up from school the same time?

The Nursery gate is open at 2.50pm to enable you to pick your younger child up before walking around to the school gate at 3.00pm. Please can we ask you to always pick your Nursery child up first even if you're running slightly late.

Can my child have hot lunches?

All Nursery children can if required have a hot lunch at lunch time if their session includes a lunch time or an afternoon slot. We are very lucky to have 'Class Catering' who cook fresh hot meals every day at the current cost of £2.65 per meal. They always offer a range of lunch options, including a main, a vegetarian meal, a jacket potato or a sandwich for your child to choose from. Please look at the menu with your child that morning to share the options and support them in making a choice. If there is a preferred option you would like us to encourage, then please write a note in your child's message book or highlight on a Class Catering menu. Children will be encouraged to have the main option unless staff are informed differently. You're also welcome to bring in a healthy packed lunch from home if you would prefer, we just advise that you use an ice block to keep if fresh and a named plate for serving. Please do not send products containing nuts as we are a nut free school. Your child will require a named drinks bottle filled with water or squash for lunch time.

Do I need to provide a snack for my child?

Nursery provide fresh drinking water all day for your child to help themselves to, whenever they're thirsty. During the daily sessions milk and different seasonal fruits or vegetables are available at snack times.

What can I do at home to help my child within their learning?

Encourage them to be independent. Independence is so important and children love it when they achieve a skill independently. Support them to get dressed and undressed by themselves, take on and put on own shoes, use the toilet independently, recognise their name so they can find their belongings easily. These fundamental skills are so important within your child's learning. As well as this please encourage a love of reading by sharing books, sing nursery rhymes and encourage children's communication and vocabulary by exploring new words and what they mean.

Will my child go on any trips?

In Nursery your child will have the opportunity to go on a trip each term. You will always be informed on where they are going and what they will be learning. You will need to give your consent and complete forms before the deadline via Parent Pay. Your child will always be supervised by a leading adult who is Visit Leader Trained.

What happens if my child has difficulties within their learning?

We recognise that all children are unique and will all develop at different times and rates. If we think your child requires further support, the keyworker or nursery manager will discuss individual targets with you and share an Individual Education Plan. Please inform staff if your child has been referred to any external agencies for example the Speech and Language team. The Special Educational Needs Policy is approved by the governing body and is implemented throughout the school.

What will my child learn in Nursery?

In Nursery we follow the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS), this is split into prime and specific areas which includes 17 areas of learning. The EYFS is a play based curriculum. The children will experience a mix of child initiated and small adult focus opportunities. There will be themes every half term, these will be shared with you via a welcome letter and our class website is also updated regularly. More information is available in the Nursery welcome pack and on the PowerPoint.

How is my child assessed?

The keyworkers will be assessing children all the time both through informal assessments and observations, this is to ensure we have a full understanding of your child's next steps. During the first few weeks we will complete a baseline assessment which will tell us where your child is currently working within their development. We will use this information to develop our planning in order to support your child with their development. We will keep a learning journey through Class Dojo to show observations of your child within their learning and development. If your child starts

Nursery at 2 years 9 months, we will complete the 2 year check around their third birthday and share the report with you.
You will be invited to parent meetings twice a year and will receive an end of year report in July.

How does school support good behaviour?

Good behaviour is encouraged. In Nursery we use lots of verbal praise, stickers and encourage children to make, 'good choices'. Children are encouraged to respect others and their property in accordance with the school Behaviour Policy, our six key values and our Vision Statement. If you are concerned consult the Nursery Manager in the first instance.

What do I do if my child is ill?

If your child is going to be absent please let us know otherwise you will be called under our first day absence policy. If your child has sickness and/or diarrhoea they must be clear for 48 hours from their last episode of diarrhoea or vomiting before returning to school.

What happens if my child needs medicine at school?

Ideally medicine is administered by the parent/carer at home or by coming into school. Under special circumstances trained staff will administer medicine following the completion of a form, obtainable from the school office, you will receive a Medical Tracker update once medication has been given. If your child has an injury such as a head bump or graze whilst in Nursery, you will receive a notification via Medical Tracker.
Sun cream should also be applied before the session, preferable 24hour protection. If you feel your child needs more sun cream applied throughout the day, please speak to the nursery staff.

What happens if my child is ill or seriously hurt in school?

Our qualified First Aiders will care for your child whilst we make every effort to contact you. Should hospital treatment be necessary an ambulance will be called immediately. Head bumps will be assessed by the first aider and you will be informed via Medical Tracker. Please let us know when you change your phone/work/home number.

What do I do if my child has head lice?

Please inform your child's key worker or the office. It is advisable to regularly check for head lice and preferably, once a week, condition and comb your child's hair using a lice detection comb. Daily brushing is a good deterrent and long hair should be tied up.

How can I be involved in school?

You are welcome to be involved in school in the form of a volunteer or as part of our PTFA. Please ask in the office for a Disclosure and Barring Service check form.

What happens if things go wrong or I have a problem?

Come in and speak to the nursery manager in the first instance or use the message book system where appropriate. We would much rather talk to you to resolve any problems. We will investigate any complaints. The governors have in place a complaints procedure which can be found on the school website.