



Parents Guide to Learning in Nursery

Welcome!

Your child is now starting in Nursery. Nursery is part of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS).

This is a very important stage as it helps your child prepare for school. Nursery experiences should be happy, active, exciting, fun and secure; and support their development, care and learning needs.

Play is at the cornerstone of the Foundation Stage curriculum. Through supervised play children are encouraged to explore, develop, imagine and investigate their surroundings in order to start to understand the world around them. We aim to combine children's experiences through play, with their topic interests. This ensures that the child's voice is at the heart of their learning and the environment that we provide.



There are **three 'Prime' areas** of learning in the Foundation Stage;

- **Communication and Language**
 - **Physical Development**
- and
- **Personal, Social and Emotional Development.**

The three prime areas are of particular importance in your child's journey through nursery.

Communication and Language

These are some of the skills required for Communication and Language;

By the end of Nursery:

The **average** Nursery child should be able to:

- Listen with interest to stories.
- Listen to others.
- Follow simple directions or instructions.
- Understand and use simple sentences.
- Begin to use more complex sentences using 'because' and 'and.'
- Name familiar objects.
- Ask simple questions.
- Answer 'how' and why' questions.

- Learn new words and use them in communicating.
- Anticipate key events.
- Join in with rhymes and stories.
- Begin to retell familiar stories.
- Retell a simple past event in correct order.
- Understand prepositions such as 'under' 'on top' and 'behind.'



Physical Development

These are some of the skills required for Physical Development;

By the end of Nursery:

The **average** Nursery child should be able to:

- Move in a range of ways, such as slithering, shuffling, rolling, crawling, walking, running, jumping, skipping, sliding and hopping.
- Mount stairs, steps or climbing equipment using alternate feet.
- Walk downstairs, two feet to each step while carrying a small object.

- Run skilfully and negotiate space successfully, adjusting speed or direction to avoid obstacles.
- Stand momentarily on one foot.
- Catch a large ball.
- Draw lines and circles using gross motor movements.
- Use one-handed tools and equipment, e.g. makes snips in paper with child scissors.
- Hold a pencil near the point between first two fingers and thumb and uses it with good control.
- Write some letters, including letters from their name.



Personal, Social and Emotional Development

These are some of the skills required for Personal, Social and Emotional Development;

By the end of Nursery:

The **average** Nursery child should be able to:

- Play in a group; extending and elaborating play ideas, e.g. building up a role-play activity with other children.
- Initiate play, offering cues to peers to join them.
- Keep play going by responding to what others are saying or doing.
- Demonstrate friendly behaviour, initiating conversations.
- Form good relationships with peers and familiar adults.
- Select and use activities and resources with help.
- Welcome and value praise for what they have done.
- Enjoy the responsibility of carrying out small tasks.
- Be more outgoing towards unfamiliar people and more confident in new social situations.
- Be confident to talk to other children when playing.
- Communicate freely about own home and their community.
- Show confidence in asking adults for help.
- Be aware of own feelings.
- Knows that some actions and words can hurt others' feelings.
- Begin to accept the needs of others.

- Take turns and share resources, sometimes with support from others.
- Adapt behaviour to different events, social situations and changes in routine.

General skills:

We will be encouraging your child to:

- Put their own shoes and socks on and off for our PE lessons
- Zipping their own coat up
- Manage to use the toilet independently.



Please remember this is meant purely as a guide for parents, to give you some idea of the type of activities we will be working on throughout the year so you will be able to support this work at home. Some children will be working below or above this level. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask a member of our nursery team.