



Abbeyfields First School Welcome to Nursery

Nursery 2022 Intake

We are really looking forward to welcoming all of our new Nursery children this year. We can't wait to get to know you and your child and see how they blossom and grow at our school.

We look forward to working together to help your child settle happily into school life at Abbeyfields.

Learning through Play in Nursery

Our Nursery children will enjoy exploring our environment, learning as they play. Our environment inside and outside is rich with learning opportunities in all areas that will invite and motivate the children, igniting their curiosity and thirst for knowledge. The children are always very busy in Nursery. The day is split up into lots of little bits. Parts of the day involve child initiated learning in the different areas of our environment with hidden tasks and challenges along the way. Other parts are called focused or directed tasks where learning is enhanced and developed with an adult. The children are very lucky and get to access all areas inside and outside in our Nursery garden, in all weathers and all seasons.

There are 7 areas of learning, they are listed and explained below. The areas for learning in Nursery include:

Three Prime Areas

Communication and Language

Physical Development

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Four Specific Areas

Literacy

Mathematics

Understanding the world

Expressive Arts and Design

Communication and language

-Listening, Attention and Understanding

-Speaking

The development of children's spoken language underpins all seven areas of learning and development. The number and quality of the conversations they have with adults and peers the day in a language-rich environment is crucial.

Nursery will be commenting on what children are in or what they are doing, and echoing back what

with new vocabulary added,

building children's language

We will be reading

to children, and engaging

actively in stories,

rhymes and poems, and then providing them with extensive

opportunities to use and embed new words in a range of contexts,

this will give children the opportunity to thrive. Adults will initiate

and extend conversation, model and encourage story-telling and

role play, asking children share their ideas, and promote sensitive questioning that invites

them to elaborate, we will support children to become comfortable using a rich range of

vocabulary and language structures based on their own experiences. Activities in Nursery will

also provide many opportunities for focused listening and attention.



throughout
Adults in
interested
they say
thus
effectively.
frequently
them
non-fiction,

Physical development

-Gross Motor Skills

-Fine Motor Skills

Physical activity is vital in children's all-round development, enabling them to pursue happy, healthy and active lives. Gross and fine motor experiences develop incrementally throughout early childhood. Our Nursery environment inside and outside, our provision, resources and activities provide opportunities for Gross and Fine motor skills to



develop. We will be supporting children to develop their core strength, stability, balance, spatial awareness, co-ordination and agility. Gross motor skills provide the foundation for developing healthy bodies and social and emotional well-being. Our 'busy hands' and 'creation station' areas will encourage children to develop Fine motor control and precision, along with hand-eye co-ordination, which is later linked to success in early literacy. Repeated and varied opportunities to explore and play with small

world activities, puzzles, arts and crafts and the practice of using small tools, with feedback and support from adults, allow children to develop proficiency, control and confidence.

Personal, social and emotional development

-Self-Regulation

-Managing Self

-Building Relationships

Children's personal, social and emotional development (PSED) is crucial for children to lead healthy and happy lives, and is fundamental to their cognitive development. Underpinning their personal development are the important attachments that shape their social world. Nursery staff will work to develop strong, warm and supportive relationships with children, enabling them to learn how to understand their own feelings and those of others. We will model and support children to manage develop a positive sense of themselves simple goals, confidence in their own persist and wait for what and direct attention as



Through adult modelling and guidance, they will look after their bodies, including healthy eating, personal needs independently. Through supported with other children, they learn how to make good friendships, co-operate and resolve conflicts calmly. These attributes will provide a secure platform from which children can achieve at school and in later life.

emotions, self, set have abilities, to they want necessary. learn how to and manage interaction

Literacy

-Comprehension

-Word Reading

-Writing

Our focus is on enjoyment and on children developing competence in becoming readers and writers. At Nursery it is crucial for our children to develop a life-long love of reading. So our provision consists of lots of sharing stories, rhymes and songs. Reading consists of two dimensions: language comprehension and word reading. Language comprehension is



necessary for both reading and writing and actually starts from birth. It develops when adults talk with children about the world around them and the books (stories and non-fiction) they read with them, and enjoy rhymes, poems and songs together. Our provision focuses on becoming familiar with a core selection of classic books, a selection of traditional tales and also a selection of topic related books. We encourage the children to join in with repeated stories are language is refrains, think about how settings and structured and what story segment recognise their own These skills which are

used. We talk about our favourite characters, try to make predictions. They will identify and syllables in words and will begin to hear and initial sounds in words. They will learn to recognise written names and start to copy or write it too. provide a firm foundation for word reading skills taught later. They will explore a variety of mark making materials and explore making their own marks, giving them meaning. Pre writing skills are also a focus in Nursery where we encourage children to articulate their own ideas, structuring them in speech, before writing



Mathematics

-Number

-Numerical Patterns

Developing a strong grounding in number is essential so that all children develop the necessary building blocks to excel mathematically. In Nursery

our provision children to the numbers to and the patterns nursery is and solving fun varied



and our adults support, encourage and challenge count confidently, develop a deep understanding of 10, the relationships within those numbers. learning practically problems by providing opportunities to build

understanding - such as using manipulatives, including small tens frames for organising counting - children will develop a knowledge and vocabulary from which mastery of built. In addition, it is important that our curriculum includes opportunities for children to develop their spatial reasoning areas of mathematics including shape, space and measures.



between them Our focus in through play frequent and and apply this pebbles and secure base of mathematics is rich skills across all We model and

encourage positive attitudes and interests in mathematics, helping children to look for patterns and relationships, spot connections, 'have a go', . We want our children to talk to adults and peers about what they notice, using relevant vocabulary and not be afraid to make mistakes. Maths is fun!

Understanding the world

-Past and Present

-People, Culture and Communities

-The Natural World

Understanding the world involves guiding children to make sense of their physical world and their community. We will be focusing on developing and understanding of their environment including and communities and features of the natural and man

Children will be encouraged to recognise features of objects and events and to look closely at similarities, patterns about their recording ask

Children encouraged broad foster their and

knowledge, this extends their familiarity with words that support understanding across domains.



knowledge their families made world. living things, differences, They will talk sometimes encouraged to information.

and change. observations, them and be questions to gain

will learn about the changing seasons and be to talk about what they see. In addition, listening to a selection of stories, non-fiction, rhymes and poems will understanding of our culturally, socially, technologically ecologically diverse world. As well as building important

Expressive Arts and Design

-Creating with Materials

-Being Imaginative and Expressive

The development of children's artistic and cultural awareness supports their imagination and creativity. It is important that children have regular opportunities to engage with the arts, enabling them to play with a materials.

what participate their

and ability arts. We will their ability creative play,

imagination,

explore sound, colour, texture, shape, form and space in two and three dimensions.



wide range of media The quality and children see, hear in is crucial for understanding, self-expression, to communicate

focus on the development of children's imagination and to communicate and to express ideas and feelings in ways. Through art, music, dance, stories and imaginative children will develop an increasing ability to use their to listen and to observe. Children will be encouraged to



explore and and variety of and developing

vocabulary through the

Characteristics of Effective Learning

Our curriculum and provision also encourages, models and observes characteristics of effective learning in our Nursery children - these are the skills that enable children to become life-long learners.

Playing and exploring – engagement

- Finding out and exploring
- Playing with what they know
- Being willing to 'have a go'

Active learning – motivation

- Being involved and concentrating
- Keeping trying
- Enjoying achieving what they set out to do

Creating and thinking critically – thinking

- Having their own ideas
- Making links
- Choosing ways to do things

The Nursery Day

From September 2022 all children will attend Nursery in the following attendance pattern:

Week 1

Monday 9:00-3:00

Tuesday 9:00-3:00

Wednesday 9:00-3:00

Week 2

Monday 9:00 - 3:00

Tuesday 9:00-3:00

In week 1, children will either have an induction day (those new to Abbeyfields Nursery) or will start nursery full time (those currently at Abbeyfields Nursery).

Please refer to your nursery offer letter so that you are aware of what day your child starts nursery in September.

Drop off and collection outside the Nursery classroom. A member of staff will come outside to welcome the children in every morning and at the end of the day we will bring the children out when we can clearly see their grown up waiting for them. Please stand back from the ramp so the staff and children can see you clearly and the ramp area is not blocked. No adults are allowed on the ramp or into the cloakroom area for safe-guarding reasons and also to encourage the children's independence.

What your child will need:

- ★ All items of clothing and footwear named
- ★ A pair of named wellies to stay at Nursery (we provide a welly bag to store these on

the children's pegs)

- ★ A small rucksack or canvas bag from the website to stay on their peg containing
 - A change of clothes
 - Seasonal accessories (woolly hat/gloves/sunhat etc). Please apply sunscreen to your child before they come to school
 - Wipes/nappies/pull ups if your child requires them
 - ★ A pair of named sandshoes for use in our hall sessions preferably stored in a small canvas bag available from the website 'cream EY PE bag'
- Nursery children do not need PE kit - just sandshoes

PLEASE NOTE - no plastic carrier bags or bags with string/cord handles are allowed as we encourage the children to use the cloakroom independently and these types of bags are not safe. **(Cloakroom space is limited so small rucksacks only please)**

Please encourage your child to be as independent as they can be with their coats, shoes, zips and fastenings, carrying their own bags etc...

If your child is bringing a packed lunch please ensure it is named as it is stored on our lunch trolley - not on their pegs.

Items from Home

We only encourage the children to bring books and toys in from home if they are related to our learning journey topic. Please can you ensure your child leaves other items or toys at home unless requested. Anything brought in will need to be named. For Nursery children who do need a comforter when they first start they can be kept in the child's bag in the cloakroom.

Nursery Fund

Although we are very well resourced in Nursery, we would like to ask for a voluntary contribution of £2.00 per half term. This is requested to help cover the costs of items used in cooking, playdoh, tasting sessions etc. You can give this voluntary contribution to your child's class teacher at the start of each half term. Thank you.

Snack Time: Your child will get milk and a healthy fruit snack every morning and milk again in the afternoon session. Milk and snack are free in Nursery. The children can also have water if they prefer. They do **NOT** need a water bottle in Nursery. If the children need a drink of water we have a set of cups in Nursery. Children who bring a packed lunch to Nursery will need a drink in their lunch box.

Lunch Time: Your child can have school lunch or a packed lunch from home. You will receive the menu in a weekly newsletter every Thursday. Information on how to pay for lunch through the school comms is available on the website.

Safeguarding: Please ensure that you have given staff a password which will be required when anyone new is picking up your child for the first time. If there is a change to your normal arrangements we would appreciate being notified - it means we can remind and reassure the children and of course Safeguarding is paramount at all times.

Uniform: Uniform is not compulsory for Nursery but wearing it makes the children feel part of our big Abbeyfields family. If you decide not to wear uniform please wear clothes that children can have fun in - please do not send them into Nursery in their best outfits.

Information about ordering a uniform can be found on the website.

Toileting: Your child can start Nursery at any stage of their toileting journey. However it is obviously best for us and your child if they are fully toilet trained. This means they know themselves when they need to go and can get on and off themselves managing their own hygiene and clothes. We do have small toilets and sinks and steps. We do not encourage the use of potties in nursery. Please ensure the children are wearing clothes they can pull up and down themselves. (leggings or jogging bottoms as opposed to hook and eye fastenings, buttons and zips.) We can of course assist in the bathroom if you have signed our intimate care permission sheet. We obviously are sympathetic and do also understand accidents happen, especially when the children are engrossed in play and experiencing changes in their routine and environment. But your child will feel better if they can access the toilet independently and if staff are needed in the bathrooms it does take time away from learning. Your health visitor can support with toileting needs and we can work with you if your child needs support with toilet training. If your child is not trained you will need to provide wipes and nappies/pull ups along with changes of clothes and underwear. We prefer the child to be in pull ups if possible as this means we can still encourage the use of toilets and the children can get used to pulling them up and down for themselves.

Learning Journey: We operate two systems that run nicely alongside one another in Nursery. We record the children's progress in drawing, writing and maths in their Red Learning Journal file in Nursery. We update their progress regularly. Here we also store their pieces of artwork, forest school and PE experiences, mark making, successes and achievements. These files are available to be shared with you at certain assemblies and opportunities across the year. We also have an online program EYFS360 where we will observe the children in their independent play and interactions and share their progress with you - sending you comments and photographs of their achievements in their journey. This gives you an instant talking point with the children at home, you can also comment on the observations. You need to sign the permission slip on the website to allow us to take photographs of your child and share them on this safe and secure online platform.