



Welcome to Hebburn Lakes Nursery

Head Teacher: Mrs A.L Moody

Early Years Lead: Mrs N. Sikka

Chair of Governors: Mr J. Pinder

'Aiming to be the best we can be'



I am delighted to welcome you to our school. There is something very special about Hebburn Lakes and we are incredibly proud of our unique children, inspirational staff and supportive parents and governors.

Together we work hard to make Hebburn Lakes a safe, happy and fun place to learn.

We foster an environment where children show respect and kindness to one another and the world around them and believe strongly that our children deserve the best possible chances in life and that they learn best when there are strong links between home and school.

Our vision is to ensure that as a community we take pride in our children learning in a positive, safe and welcoming environment, and through the delivery of a rich and varied curriculum:

Working Together to set the highest expectations and levels of respect for each other,

Learn Together by having the courage and confidence to take risks

and **Achieving Together** through aspiring to be the best we can be throughout our journey to become independent lifelong learners.

Learning and achievement drives everything that we do at Hebburn Lakes as we believe our role, in partnership with parents, is to build the foundations for a successful education, to enable each child to discover the joy of learning, to help them to fulfill every aspect of their potential and to encourage their growth into effective citizens, ready to play their part in the world and their community.

We are a school that champions inclusivity, meaning at the heart of our ethos is a commitment to providing all children the education they need to serve them throughout their lives. Our two specialist resource bases provide high quality education and care for up to 15 pupils referred to us from across the local authority who have been identified as having difficulties in relation to the development of their social, emotional and mental health needs (SEMH).

I hope you find this brochure an informative way to find out a little more about your child's time in nursery but please do also browse our website www.hebburnlakes.co.uk, where you'll find so much more.

Nursery Sessions

AM	8.30-11.30am	15 hours per week
PM	12.30-3.30pm	15 hours per week
Full Day	8.30-3.30pm	30 hours provision per week

Our Day

At Hebburn Lakes we believe a good Nursery routine contributes to a child's security. Our day is organised so that children enjoy a calm atmosphere, know what to expect and what is expected of them. A typical session in the nursery will include:

- Self-registration
- Whole group time
- Child initiated/focused Maths or other focused activities (indoor and outdoor)
- Tidy up time
- Communication and language focus
- Story/rhymes/songs/recall time

Staff will discuss children's interests and areas for development incorporating this into the plan of activities on a regular basis

30 Hour Children

Children who are entitled to a 30 hours provision will cover all of the above areas across the day but in addition they will have various other learning opportunities to help build skills. These may be in the form of use of the OPAL environment, additional Physical, PSED and Communication and Language skills which are invaluable to the children in our school. We tailor our provision to the needs of our children and adapt accordingly.

How we learn

At this stage of their learning, your child will be mainly learning through play-based activities. They will also be learning about routine, developing early Literacy and Maths skills, learning about the world around them and developing their physical and social skills.

This year your child will begin to learn by doing things for themselves, exploring and investigating, watching and listening, talking and discussing, creating and communicating.

Play is children's work and playing hard is very tiring. The children can also get very messy as they will be learning both indoor and outdoor, '*a messy child is a happy child!*'

The EYFS framework breaks down the 7 key skills into two groups: the Prime areas and Specific areas.

The Prime Areas cover the 3 core areas which your child will develop before they formally start education, and includes their development as a person. These 3 areas are vital for igniting children's curiosity for learning, developing their ability to learn, develop relationships and to grow independently.

The areas are:

1. Communication and Language
2. Physical Development
3. Personal, Social and Emotional Development

The Specific areas provide opportunities for the Prime areas to be strengthened and applied, with all EYFS providers also supporting children to learn in four key areas which will supplement their personal development:

- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the World
- Expressive Arts and Design



Starting Nursery can be an anxious time for children and parents. There are a number of things parents can do to ensure the transition is as smooth as possible, however we know some of them will be trickier than others to do so please just do what you can.

- Encourage your child to take 'risks' safely, to raise their confidence
- Try leaving them for short periods of time. We would suggest Grandparents or family members for varying lengths of time.
- Support your child to begin learning to dress and undress themselves, including putting on and taking off their coats and hanging them up themselves.
- Start to recognise and look after their belongings.
- Tidy up their toys and other items after they have finished playing with them.
- Go to the toilet themselves.

- Drink out of a cup.
- Blow their own nose.
- Use a knife, fork and spoon.
- Share, take turns and cooperate with others



Maths is everywhere.

Everyday questions you can ask your child.

How many do we need?

Please get me some
more. Are there enough?

How far....?

How long do you think it will
be? How long is it?

Which colour would you like?

Try using some of the language of Maths relating to quantity, length, weight, colour, shape and time.

Play lots of games such as: dice games, snakes and ladders and dominoes.



Make reading time special.

Choose books together.

Visit the local Library.

Look at information books as well as story books.

Talk about pictures.

Encourage an interest in books.



Read a book to your child at bedtime.

Let your child see you read.

Encourage lots of mark making.

Provide your child with any kind of paper, pencils, crayons and pens. Look for real reasons for writing; cards, shopping lists, letters and messages. Don't expect too much. New learning takes a long time and children learn at different rates. You can help best by encouraging, taking an interest and showing you care. Be flexible in the early days at nursery. Children can be tired and grumpy especially when they first begin a new setting and they may need lots of support until they settle in.



The first day can be difficult, especially for parents, particularly if you are dealing with your first child starting Nursery. No doubt there will be butterflies in your stomach but don't worry this can be a really positive and enjoyable experience for your child and for you. The most important thing is to be positive, even if you don't feel that way. Have faith that your child will be able to manage.

If you are worried, it will make your child think that there is something to worry about. When parents find it difficult to leave children and linger around children can get mixed messages. They may translate their parent's hesitation to leave as fear. Sending your child to Nursery with a smile, kiss and encouragement to have fun, reassures your child you approve. Always remember to tell your child that you will return and always say goodbye when you leave.

Uniform

The school uniform ensures that the children have an identity and makes them feel part of the school community. It is important that children feel comfortable coming to school and they are not wearing anything of real value or that could be deemed unsafe such as jewellery. We ask that you please write your child's name on any uniform, coats or bags that they wear to school. We do like to be outside as much as possible as this is a vital part of the Early Years curriculum, so coats, hats, gloves when appropriate would be appreciated. We feel as a staff that velcro shoes/trainers are more appropriate at this age, as children have to be able to dress and undress independently as much as possible and laces and buckles can often hinder this.



You may buy uniform online (order form in this pack), which may take up to 3 weeks' delivery

especially over the Summer term, or uniform is also available from JK Clothing, in Jarrow.

We also have a school swap shop of previously worn uniforms, which are in great condition when donated back to school by parents. This is available free of charge from the school entrance.

School trousers, skirts and t-shirts can be purchased in many high street stores and supermarkets. Please do not buy expensive clothing, it will get dirty and often need replacing quicker than you think.



Our uniform consists of:

Purple jumper, cardigan or hoodie (with or without the school logo)

White Polo shirt

Grey or black Skirt, trousers, plain black jogging bottoms or leggings

Plain black shoes or trainers

In the summer you can purchase a purple gingham dress.

A variety of accessories; including coats, hats, and bags but these are not essential.



Illness/Accidents

If your child is ill or has been injured during the day, we will contact you as soon as possible on the telephone numbers provided. We will only send for you if your child is unwell enough or distressed enough to go home. In the case of a head injury, we will make you aware of the situation. Falling over or having accidents during play is very common amongst young children. A member of staff will always be present and will administer First Aid when needed. We are wary of using Plasters and Ointments as often children have allergic reactions, please inform us if your child has any skin allergies or medical problems. A spare change of clothes is a good idea in case your child doesn't make it to the toilet in time.

Young children are able to go to the toilet whenever they need to.



Children absent from Nursery

Ensuring our children develop good habits in regard to attendance from a very young age are very important to us and we ask parents to support that by ensuring their child attends regularly and on time. Please note if your child arrives late for school, you will need to sign them in at the front Reception area where you will be asked by a member of staff why they are late.

Setting good routines and high expectations for attendance at school is vital from the start. As a school we have to adopt an **'eyes on the child'** approach, this means we contact parents on the first day. Once the child has missed school for **three consecutive sessions, we may carry out a home visit or** make the decision to contact other services to do so. We therefore always ask parents to call into the office and inform a staff member on the first day of a child's absence and then to remain in regular contact with us during your child's absence from school.

Pupils with Medical Needs

If your child has a medical condition, you will be invited to meet with the Assistant Head before your child starts school to write a medical healthcare plan (where needed). This plan will ensure all staff in school are aware of your child's medical needs and how to support them to manage their condition. Staff working directly with your child will be trained appropriately before your child starts, alternatively there may be a period when you are required to support your child with their medical needs whilst staff training is arranged.

Safeguarding Children Statement

Hebburn Lakes Primary School is an operation encompass school and is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. We expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment and so safeguarding our children is given the highest priority. Our recruitment and selection processes are rigorous and comply with all relevant guidance. All Staff including volunteers are cleared by DBS. All staff receive training and are aware of safeguarding and child protection issues and responsibilities which we adhere to rigorously. The safeguarding policy can be found on the school website, should you feel you need support or are worried about a child please speak to one of our safeguarding leads. A poster with their names and photographs is displayed in the main entrance and around school. Additional information is also available on the website.

Holidays During School Time

The school year includes 13 weeks when the children are on holiday and so as a school, we do not promote holidays in term time. If in extremely exceptional circumstances this is something you are considering a formal request must be made to the Head Teacher for authorisation – we request that this is done before booking your holiday. Please remember that you do not have a legal right to take your child or children out of school for holidays during term time and in line with LEA guidance fines will be issued to families choosing to do so. DFE Guidance which comes into force from September 2024, is included in this brochure.

Term dates are available via the school website, Local Authority website or from the school office.

Special Educational Needs & Disability (SEND)

Our aim is to meet the educational needs of every child. For some children this means they need extra help or have specific medical, physical or learning needs. At Hebburn Lakes our Assistant Head works very closely with our SENDCo to ensure we offer support at the earliest opportunity.

Class Teacher input is also vital via targeted classroom teaching also known as Quality First Teaching. For your child this would mean:

- That the Teacher has the highest possible expectations for your child and all pupils in their class.
- That all teaching is based on building on what your child already knows, can do and can understand.
- Different ways of teaching are in place so that your child is fully involved in learning in class. This may involve practical or visual methods of learning.
- Specific strategies (which may be suggested by the SENDCo or outside professionals) are in place to support your child to learn.
- Specific group work within a smaller group of children. This group, often called an intervention group, may be;
 - Run in the classroom or outside.
 - Run by a teacher or a teaching assistant

Please note that not all intervention groups are to support pupils with SEND. For some pupils more specific, target led, small group or individual work will be needed to support their progress in school. This may involve working with a teacher, teaching assistant or other professional for example a speech therapist. This additional support may take place in or out of the classroom depending on the needs of all pupils.

If your child has an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHC Plan) or has specific needs which require specialist intervention their provision will be planned and reviewed through a Person-Centered Review meeting held annually. This meeting will be centered around your child and the outcomes for their provision and progress. It will be an opportunity to share your child's successes, likes and dislikes as well as their progress in school and an opportunity to plan for the future. The annual meeting may be attended by you, school staff and any other professionals working with your child (these meetings can be held at

more regular intervals if needed).

School Car Park

Our car park is for blue badge holders and children parent/cares who have short term medical needs which may mean their mobility is affected. A form to request access is available from the school's office.



If you have a blue badge, please present this to the school office where they will support you with a pass.

All parents may use the car park as follows:

If your child attends our morning nursery, you may use the car park for pick up only. If your child attends our afternoon nursery, you may use the car park for drop off only.

Parents must park in designated spaces only.



Keeping our Brains and Body Health

The school participates in the National Fruit and Vegetable Scheme whereby children in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 classes are entitled to a free piece of fruit each school day as part of the Government's campaign to encourage children to eat more healthily.

We aim to encourage pupils to drink more water which aids concentration in the classroom. Individual water bottles are provided when children enter school for the first time. They are then available to purchase from the school office. Unfortunately for health and safety reasons we are unable to sterilise the bottles in school, we therefore ask your child to bring their bottle home at the end of each day to be washed.

Hebburn Lakes has a fantastic outdoor space which is divided into many areas. This includes a quiet area, a secluded area for younger children, multi sports areas including football and netball posts, an outdoor reading area, a keep fit trail, climbing wall, slides, outdoor gym, a garden and a large sports field.

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We aim to ensure that all pupils in receipt of additional pupil premium funding benefit from assistance that is carefully tailored to their needs. Skilled teachers and Teaching Assistants provide personalised help so that pupils make the best progress possible to them. The day-to-day progress of each individual pupil is regularly checked and adjustments to teaching are made as required. The rate of progress of these pupils is at least similar to others in our school and in some cases it has been better. We ask all parents to support us in doing so by completing the relevant pupil premium information.



In Nursery we assess the children throughout the academic year through observational evidence as well as a whole class, small group and one to one teaching. The purpose of assessment is to monitor progress, identify next steps and give staff an indicator for a pupil's future work.

Welcome to Nursery



Finally, we look forward to meeting your child when they start Nursery. We hope this brochure has answered most of the questions you may have about our Nursery. If there are any left unanswered or if problems should arise in the future, please do not hesitate to ask by contacting Mrs Sikka or one of the Nursery team (via the office), they will be happy to help.

You could also take a look at our website which has lots of information regarding our school.

Most of all we want you and your child to feel welcome and we will do all we can to ensure your time with us is happy, fun and safe. We very much look forward to working with you and your child.