



Welcome to our Nursery 2025/26

Achievement – Celebration - Teamwork

Visitors to our Nursery



“In the early years, skilled staff help children build strong knowledge, improving children’s language and communication skills effectively. Additionally, engaging environments mean children interact well with each other and develop strong social skills.”

OFSTED March 2025

“Children’s understanding of how to use resources has enabled them to independently access resources across the provision that helps to consolidate taught skills and pursue their own ideas through their play.”

Herts for Learning School Education Advisor November 2024

Meet the team



Miss Nicola Pinner
Nursery Teacher and Early Years Lead



Miss Emma Hills
Nursery Nurse

Early Years Foundation Stage Framework



At the heart of all practice within Early Years is developing each child as a learner. This can be seen in the *Characteristics of Effective Teaching and Learning*:

- Play and Exploring – children to investigate and explore things, and ‘have a go’.
- Active Learning – children to persevere in their learning and play and enjoy their achievements.
- Creating and thinking critically – children to develop their own ideas, make links with their learning and develop strategies for doing things.

Areas of Learning

There are 7 areas of learning. All areas are connected and are important, they are split into Prime and Specific areas.

Prime:

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

Specific:

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

Nursery sessions include

- Play - gardens and classroom
- Adult led – skills time
- Rhyme time – singing
- Story time – whole class and small group looking at key texts
- Snack – small group, adult led
- Lunch time



How to maximise your child's potential



- Being on time for school each day
- Regular attendance – avoiding term time holidays if you can
- Establishing good routines at home
- Showing a positive interest in your child's learning
- Encouraging your child to take risks and experience failure so they develop perseverance and resilience
- Encouraging your child to develop their independence and praise their efforts

Independence

- Have a go at putting on their own shoes and coat
- Wash and dry their hands by themselves
- Increasingly able to use the toilet

The following website has useful information to support you with this:

<https://www.nhs.uk/baby/babys-development/potty-training-and-bedwetting/how-to-potty-train/>

Sharing children's learning with Parents/Carers

- Two parents' evenings – autumn and spring term
- Tapestry
- Staff available to talk at the door or via school email
- Classroom open events throughout the year
- School Newsletter



Tapestry

- An online learning journal system
- Staff record children's interests and WOW moments using iPads
- Photos, videos and observations are uploaded onto an online app regularly
- Share your child's home learning and achievements
- Each week staff will upload a 'memo' of the next week's learning opportunities.
- Accident information will be sent home via app.



Coming to Nursery

- We have a flexible morning drop off between 8.30 and 9.00 at the nursery classroom door.
- We have flexible afternoon pick up between 3.00 and 3.30 at the nursery classroom door.
- If your child is starting their day at either 11.20 or 12.30, please wait at the main (blue) school gates for a member of the nursery team to collect them.
- If your child is finishing their day at either 11.30 or 12.30, please wait at the main (blue) school gates for a member of the nursery team to bring them
- Please let us know if it will be a different person picking up your child. We may ask for a photograph or password.





Housekeeping

Please label everything!

- Named water bottle – no squash please
- Bag with spare clothes for their peg
- Named wellies – to stay at school
- Coat, sun hat and sun cream – weather appropriate

No need for a PE kit in the autumn term.

Medication and Allergies



Medication:

All medicine must have a form completed either via the school website or school office. This can then be handed in to the nursery team and medication should be in its original packaging in a cool bag if needed to be stored in the fridge.

Asthma and EpiPens:

An inhaler in its original packaging must be kept in school. An EpiPen in its original packaging must be kept in school. It is the responsibility of parents/carers to ensure these are kept in date.

All staff are asthma, anaphylactic shock and defibrillator trained, and there is at least 1 paediatric first aid trained member of staff in the nursery at all times.

Save the date



We will be offering **Stay and Play sessions** for you and your child to attend together.

Our dates are:

- Monday 16th June to Friday 20th June
- Monday 23rd June to Friday 27th June
- Morning and afternoon sessions:
 - Morning – 9.30 to 10.15
 - Afternoon - 1.30 to 2.15

No need to attend every session – 2 or 3 sessions are more than enough

Starting Nursery in September

- School starts on Thursday 4th September
- We offer a gradual start for our nursery children, please check the information in your pack for your child's specific start date.
- Children will attend for their allocated nursery hours straight away, unless you feel they may need a gradual start.



See you in September

admin@icknielwalk.herts.sch.uk

