

Welcome to Northleaze Nursery Class

Hello and welcome to your new setting. We look forward to working together, with you and your child, to give them a happy and exciting nursery education.

At Northleaze we recognise that starting nursery is an extremely important time for both children and parents and we will do all that we can to make this transition as smooth as possible.

We hope you find this booklet both informative and reassuring and remember we are always here to help!



Our Early Years Team

Abbie Binding – EYFS Leader & Reception Class Teacher

Julia Rees – Nursery Room Leader

Nursery practitioner

Kirsty Williams – Reception Class LSA (Afternoons)

Reception Class LSA (Mornings)



The Nursery Day

Our sessions are:

Monday – Thursday 8.45 – 3.15

A member of staff will greet your child at the nursery entrance at 8.45am. You can arrive at nursery between 8.45 and 8.50am and you can collect your child between 3pm and 3.15.

At the end of the day the teachers will dismiss your child through the nursery door leading into the carpark. Please let the teacher, the office and the child know personally, or in writing to the school, if someone other than the normal planned-for person is picking them up. This is essential for safety reasons, as we cannot allow your child to go home with someone else unless we have your prior consent (email will be fine).



Snacks and Meals

Children in Reception and Nursery go to lunch 10 minutes before the rest of the school to allow them time to get settled at their tables before the other children come in. There is an option for children to order a hot meal but if your child would prefer they can bring a packed lunch. An example of the school meal menu is included in your pack. Please note that Northleaze Primary School is a 'Healthy School' and therefore children are discouraged from bringing food such as chocolate bars and fizzy drinks in their packed lunch. We are also a nut free school. Please also bring a named reusable plastic bottle with a sports top to nursery each day. A snack and carton of milk is provided each day.



Your Child's Curriculum

The 'Early Years Foundation Stage' is the name given to the curriculum provided for children until the end of their Reception year. Your child will continue to progress in the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) throughout the year and the teaching and learning will be pitched at the level your child is working at. We learn predominantly through play and we plan by taking each child's interests into account and teaching them the skills they need through these interests, in order to keep them motivated and enthusiastic to learn.

The EYFS is arranged over 7 areas:

- Personal, Social and Emotional Development
- Physical development
- Communication and Language
- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the World
- Expressive Arts and Design



At the beginning of each term the Early years leader will send home a curriculum map so that you can see all the learning that is planned for your child during that term.



Phonics

In nursery we are at the very beginning of our reading and writing journey. We concentrate on developing children's speaking and listening skills in preparation for the phonic work which starts in Reception class. The emphasis during phase 1 (in nursery) is to get children attuned to the sounds around them and ready to begin developing oral blending and segmenting skills.

Phase 1 is divided into seven aspects:

1. General sound discrimination – environmental sounds
2. General sound discrimination – instrumental sounds
3. General sound discrimination – body percussion
4. Rhythm and Rhyme
5. Alliteration
6. Voice Sounds
7. Oral blending and segmenting



In nursery we have a passion for stories! There are lots of opportunities for children to engage with books that fire their imagination and interest. We encourage children to choose books freely as well as sharing them when read by an adult.

Enjoying and sharing books leads to children seeing them as a source of pleasure and interest and motivates them to value reading. Children may borrow books from nursery to share with their families at home.



Every Child a Talker

It is extremely important that your child engages with language as much as possible. Take time to talk to your children and to answer and encourage their many questions. The richer the vocabulary and language skills the greater their ability will be to process, develop and apply these skills in later life.

'Reading and writing floats on a sea of talk' (Britton).

Tapestry

Foundation Stage Learning Diary

At nursery we keep an online learning diary for your child. This is a way for us to record your child's 'wow' moments and progress. Your child's key person will record photographs and observations of their learning and development for you to see. Parents and carers are also invited to add to your child's electronic learning journal in the form of 'wow' moments telling us about achievements at home – we really love celebrating all of your child's successes! We also send weekly updates via Tapestry so you can talk to your child about what they have been learning at nursery.

You will receive a personal login via Tapestry. More information on this to follow.
Tapestry can be downloaded as an app.



Communication

If you have any concerns at any time or you wish to know more about nursery activities, please feel free to discuss them with us. The end of the school day is the best time, or an alternative appointment can be made with the class teacher or key person. We are committed to developing good home/school liaison to provide the best possible start for your child.



Sickness

Children should not come to Nursery if they are unwell. If a child has sickness or diarrhoea, they must stay home and may not return until 48 hours after the last episode. Please contact the school office (01275 540077) by 9.00am on the first day of your child's absence from nursery. A telephone message on the answer phone is acceptable.



Medical Appointments

Please avoid non-emergency medical and dental appointments during school hours. If your child does have to attend an appointment during the school day, please tell the office as soon as you are able.

Car parking

You are welcome to use the car park at the top of Theynes Croft but please do not park in the Northleaze school staff car park on our site.



Clothing

Children should wear comfortable clothing to Nursery. Please make sure that you name all items including your child's coat, jumpers and shoes where possible to avoid them getting muddled up. We recommend that children wear Croc type shoes to nursery as they are easy to clean, feel free to wear wellies on a rainy day!



Uniform

From September 2022 you will be able to purchase a Northleaze nursery t-shirt and fleece from the Togs store in Nailsea. Uniform is optional at nursery but could be an easier option!

You can purchase our uniform at:

<https://www.schooltogsnailsea.co.uk/northleaze-c-of-e-primary-school/>

Bag

Your child may wish to bring a small bag if they are carrying a lunch box to school however this is not essential. Please be mindful our cloakroom space is small.

Toileting

Please spend the summer potty training your children in preparation for September. At Northleaze we don't have potty training facilities so we are very grateful for your support in advance. We will support children and encourage them to go to the toilet regularly but are not able to potty train. We recommend that you keep a spare set of clothes in your child's bag, extra socks and pants are always appreciated!

Please Don't Worry!

- If your child should feel unwell at nursery we will telephone you.
- If your child should have an 'accident' we have plenty of spare clothes.
- If your child needs help to cut up their food a member of staff will assist.
- We are all here to assist you and your child – please do come in and speak to us and ask any questions you wish.
- The most important thing to us is that your child is happy and well settled.



Starting Nursery

Starting nursery is a big step for most children. That's why we think settling-in is really important. We start children slowly so they can get lots of support and attention. Different children will settle in at different rates and so our induction procedure includes a period of attending nursery on a part-time basis.

You are welcome to send your child for full days from the start of term if you think they are ready and/or have work commitments, please let us know.

This year our Nursery children will start on Monday 6th September.

	Week One	Week Two	Week Three
Group 1	8.45am – 12.30pm (including lunch)	1.00 – 3.15pm	8.45am – 3.15pm
Group 2	1.30 – 3.15pm	8.45am – 12.30pm (including lunch)	

Please be assured that if you feel your child needs to attend for half days a little longer than stated above, it can be arranged in consultation with Miss Binding.

Finally, we hope that this booklet has provided you with some practical support as you prepare your child for starting nursery. We look forward to welcoming you in September!

Miss Binding and the Early Years Team

