

St. Patrick's Nursery Unit

"Make me glad to have known and met you."



Parent Information Evening 2025 - 2026

Our aims for today are:

- ▶ To welcome everyone and provide you with **key information**
- ▶ To provide you with a brief overview of the **nursery curriculum**
- ▶ To identify ways in which **you can help** prepare your child for nursery full time

Our Nursery Team



Mrs Cowan

Nursery Teacher:
*Mon, Tues, Wed,
Friday*



Mrs Cassidy

Nursery Teacher:
Thursday



Lynette

Nursery Assistant



Margaret

Nursery Assistant

Settling In

- ▶ During the month of September/October the children have been phased in over a settling in period.
- ▶ All children will settle at different rates.
- ▶ Settling In Report in October. Follow-up phone call/meeting.



Nursery Routine

- ▶ Nursery doors open at **8.50am**.
- ▶ Our nursery routines begin at **9am**.
- ▶ Collection time is **1:20pm**.

Typical Nursery Routine:

- ▶ **8.50am** Morning routines/settle in
- ▶ **9.00am** Welcome time
- ▶ **9.15am** Free Play/ Group activities/Rolling snack
- ▶ **10.30am** Teaching and Rhymes
- ▶ **10.40am** Outdoor Play
- ▶ **11.30am** Story/Songs, wash hands
- ▶ **11.50am** Lunch/Dinner
- ▶ **12.30pm** Circle Time/Outdoor Play/Indoor Games/Music time
- ▶ **1.00pm** Story/Songs
- ▶ **1.20pm** Home

Drop Off Times

- ▶ Always walk your child up to the nursery door.
- ▶ Nursery door opens at **8.50am**.
- ▶ It is very important for your child's learning that they are in school for 9am, when their learning begins. Small group sessions often begin at this time.
- ▶ If they arrive later they may miss routines. Routine is extremely important for nursery children.
- ▶ Please close outdoor Nursery gate behind you.



Tips for Drop Off Time

- ▶ Establish an arrival routine ('bye'/hug/kiss/high five). Consistency is key.
- ▶ Setting up these routines help your child to feel secure and safe in their environment.
- ▶ Keep goodbyes short and sweet. Lingering can make your child anxious.



Tips for Drop Off Time

- ▶ Build confidence in your child by talking about nursery in a positive way.
- ▶ Ask open-ended questions:
Instead of; 'Did you have a good day?'
Try; 'What was in the sand tray today?'
- ▶ Encourage independence. Pack their bag together. Getting your child involved in the preparation can help to get them excited for the nursery day.



Car Park

- ▶ We are fortunate to have a large car park across the road to park in when dropping off and collecting children.
- ▶ DO NOT park in bus lanes.
- ▶ Avoid parking along the road also, as this can significantly limit visibility for other pedestrians.
- ▶ Please ensure other people who are collecting your child are aware of this also.



Morning Routine



1. Drop your child off at the nursery door.



2. They will find their peg and hang up their bag and coat.



3. They will do the self-register



4. Say goodbyes and go in to play!

Nursery Folders

Children will use nursery folders to carry artwork, important information or books home.

It helps promote independence as it's your child's own personal school bag.

These can be purchased at the Nursery for **£7**.

(Alternatively, you can reuse one that you may already have.)



Collection Times

- ▶ It is important that all children are collected on time at **1.20pm.**
- ▶ Children can often become very anxious if they are not collected on time.
- ▶ The nursery staff also have other duties after 1:20pm so it is important that the children are collected so we can carry out these duties.
- ▶ Children will be in the Quiet Room at collection time and the nursery team will help children get packed up for going home.
- ▶ Your child must be collected by one of the named adults. If they are getting collected by someone else, we must be told in advance.

Nursery Fees

- ▶ Nursery fees are paid monthly and cost **£15** per month.
- ▶ These fees largely contribute towards the children's snack in the morning.
- ▶ We give the children a variety of healthy snacks and the opportunity to taste a wide range of foods.
- ▶ We buy ingredients to bake with the children and make play dough.
- ▶ Your contribution is also used to fund seasonal treats, school trips and visitors to the nursery.



Lunch Time

- ▶ Lunch time is an opportunity to extend learning.
- ▶ During lunch time our nursery team help the children develop their personal and social skills which are appropriate at lunch time.
- ▶ Children can bring in their own packed lunch or hot meals can be purchased at a price of **£2.50**.
- ▶ Dinner menus will be sent out termly and hot meals must be purchased/booked on a **Sunday** for the week ahead using the **Parent Pay app**.
- ▶ If your child has any **allergies**, please let us know.
- ▶ We have a strict **no nuts** policy.



Nursery Curriculum

There are 6 key areas of learning in nursery:

- ▶ Personal, Social and Emotional Development
- ▶ Physical Development
- ▶ Language Development
- ▶ Early Mathematical Experiences
- ▶ The Arts
- ▶ The World Around Us

Personal, Social and Emotional Development



Personal, Social and Emotional Development



Developing friendships



Recognising feelings

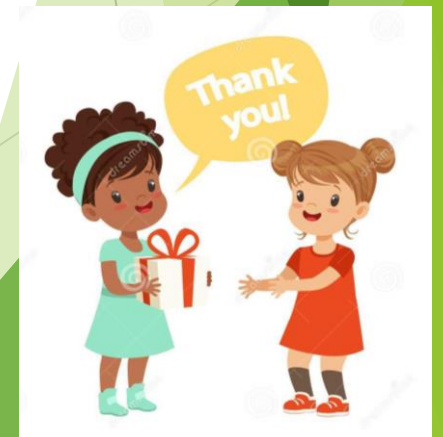


Working together

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

We provide opportunities for children to be able to;

- ▶ Celebrate success- Child of the Day
- ▶ Listen attentively to others
- ▶ Use appropriate behaviour
- ▶ Develop independence through routines (eg putting on aprons)
- ▶ Take responsibility for their belongings.
- ▶ Take turns, share
- ▶ Persist with activities
- ▶ Respect their environment
- ▶ Show empathy for others through stories
- ▶ Learn ways to stay healthy and maintain personal hygiene eg dentist
- ▶ Learn how to stay safe



Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Examples of how can I help at home

Encourage your child to:

- ▶ Tidy up and show respect for environment
- ▶ Look after belongings, getting dressed
- ▶ Encourage to persist at challenging tasks
- ▶ Share, take turns, say please and thank you
- ▶ Talk about how to stay healthy, clean and safe



Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Examples of how can I help at home

Talk about feelings:

- ▶ Acknowledge and discuss emotions
- ▶ Talk about how characters might feel in stories
- ▶ Talk about how their actions can affect others and have clear boundaries
- ▶ Talk about what makes a good friend
- ▶ Be consistent
- ▶ Praise all the good things your child does.



Physical Development



Physical Development



Gross Motor Skills



Fine Motor Skills

Physical Development

Gross Motor Skills

Many of these skills can also be reinforced at home/after-school activities.

Gross motor skills so important for long term health and cognitive development.

During the day children are given opportunities to:

Run, jump, hop, climb, throw and catch

- ▶ These help children to develop balance, control and co-ordination.
- ▶ They are important for long term health and wellbeing.
- ▶ Outdoor play improves children's confidence and problem solving skills. It is often adapted to provide new challenges.
- ▶ It gives them opportunities to develop friendships, to share and to co-operate with others.

Physical Development

Fine Motor Skills

Good fine motor skills of hands and fingers lead to good writing skills.

During the day children are given opportunities to:

- ▶ Play with equipment- pouring, building, working with playdough or clay to squeeze, roll or twist them.
- ▶ Put on their coat, pour their milk.
- ▶ Use scissors, pencils, paint, jigsaws and construction toys.
- ▶ Children all develop at different levels.

Language Development



Language Development



reading



imaginative play



writing

Language Development

We aim for children to;

- ▶ Develop attention and listening through games and activities (it is the first step when developing language and talking)
- ▶ Communicate needs and ideas to others
- ▶ Become aware of sounds (phonics) e.g. 'I Spy'
- ▶ Develop good memory of vocabulary
- ▶ Listen to stories and access to books throughout the day
- ▶ Retell stories
- ▶ Develop book handling skills (turn pages, notice print)
- ▶ Mark make/write for meaning
- ▶ Recognise text (such as, letters in name or familiar vocabulary).

Language Development

How can I help at home?

- ▶ Get your child's attention (looking, take turns)
- ▶ Provide a talking time (e.g. family dinners)
- ▶ Sing/recall nursery rhymes
- ▶ Limit screen time
- ▶ Go to library and read books provided from Nurse
- ▶ Big Bedtime Read (event in November) GRTL
- ▶ Read often
- ▶ Play 'I Spy' and rhyming games
- ▶ Provide opportunity for 'writing'
- ▶ Learn to recognise/write name



Early Mathematical Experiences



Early Mathematical Experiences



patterns

measuring



**problem
solving**



Early Mathematical Experiences

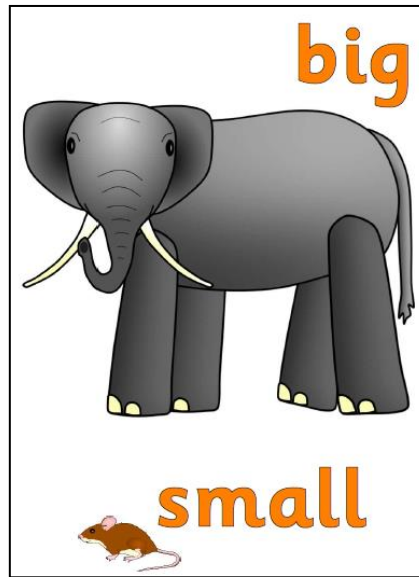
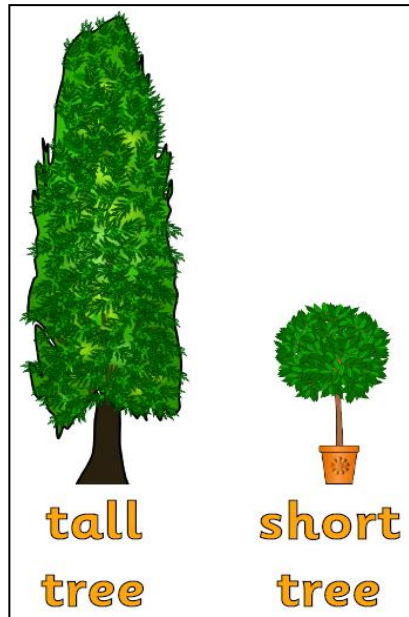
We aim for children to;

- ▶ Use mathematical language throughout the day (e.g. big, small)
- ▶ Develop understanding of numbers and sequence through rhymes and play. Begin to recognise numbers and touch-count. Use ICT.
- ▶ Identify and describe shapes (talk about half, whole)
- ▶ Develop an awareness of space (e.g. estimate how many fit inside...)
- ▶ Describe the size and quantities (e.g. big, small, full, empty)
- ▶ Make connections and problem solve
- ▶ Recognise patterns
- ▶ Develop awareness of sequencing and time

Early Mathematical Experiences

How can I help at home?

Encourage your child to talk using mathematical language



Early Mathematical Experiences

How can I help at home?

Encourage your child to:

- ▶ GRTL Maths homework packs
- ▶ Match socks together
- ▶ Help to set the table
- ▶ Count everything
- ▶ Estimate amounts
- ▶ Measure
- ▶ Make patterns
- ▶ Complete jigsaws
- ▶ Look for numbers, shapes everywhere!



The Arts



The Arts



Creating



Role-play



Music

The Arts

We provide opportunities for children to;

- ▶ Express creativity and imagination through painting, drawing, make models, glue, explore various textures and colours.
- ▶ Work with malleable materials (e.g. dough, clay)
- ▶ Listen to and join with rhymes and songs.
- ▶ Create and explore various sounds; using their voice, instruments and everyday objects
- ▶ Role-play through themselves or small world objects.

The Arts

How can I help at home?

Encourage your child to:

- ▶ Draw and create freely (not colouring sheets – fine motor)
- ▶ Create sounds using objects around the house
- ▶ Sing songs and nursery rhymes
- ▶ Develop imagination through stories
- ▶ Create a roleplay area at home. Act out roles with your child.

The World Around Us



The World Around Us



observing a
plant grow



exploring the properties of water



Investigating movement and
forces

The World Around Us



**observing the lifecycle
of a butterfly**



learning about animals



**exploring the
different seasons**

The World Around Us

(Science, Geography and History)

We aim for children to;

- ▶ Begin to make sense of the world they live in
- ▶ Provide outside visitors to enhance experiences (Parents?)
- ▶ Learn new vocabulary through various topics
- ▶ Discuss e.g. weather, change of materials, festivals, observe plants grow, discuss lifecycles, people who help us, where we live.

The World Around Us

How can I help at home?

Encourage your child to:

- ▶ Be curious
- ▶ Ask questions
- ▶ Investigate
- ▶ Introduce new vocabulary
- ▶ Read non-fiction books
- ▶ Go for walks/days out/experiences

Other ways you can help your child

- ▶ Establish early bedtime routine, to ensure children are getting enough sleep for a busy day ahead.
- ▶ Be patient. Promote independence e.g. dressing and undressing, toileting, washing hands, blowing their nose, using a knife and a fork.
- ▶ Practise good attention and listening.
- ▶ Read lots of books and ask questions.
- ▶ Challenge and encourage persistence

Behaviour

- ▶ We aim to ensure that the nursery is a happy, secure and caring environment so this means that the children observe simple rules of behaviour.
- ▶ Acceptable behaviour means showing respect for each other at all times by sharing and taking turns. It involves following instructions, cooperating with the staff and observing the rules for indoor and outdoor play.

Our Class Rules



We **take care** of each other



We play **safely** and **walk**



We **share** and **take turns**



We **listen** to instructions



We use **indoor voices**



We **take care** of our classroom



Toileting

- ▶ We would expect all children to be fully toilet trained before beginning nursery full time, unless they have additional needs.
- ▶ Please look at the prospectus to find ways to develop your child's independence and the procedures we have in place if your child has a toilet accident.
- ▶ Each child should have a full change of clothes which will be kept in the nursery throughout the year.
- ▶ The change of clothes should be brought into the nursery on your child's first day in a plastic bag.
- ▶ It is important that your child's name is on the plastic bag and each piece of clothing.

Communication

- ▶ You will receive information throughout the year through text messages, Seesaw, monthly SWAY newsletters, topic information sheets, the school website and Facebook.
- ▶ Seesaw will be used as a way to share photos of your child in nursery, share useful activities for the children to complete and to keep you informed of school events. It is not reliable source of communicating important messages as I often check it once a day.
- ▶ Parent-teacher meetings will take place on February/March and you will receive a report at the end of the year.
- ▶ If you have any queries or concerns please speak to Mrs Cowan at drop off or collection time or ring the school office to arrange a meeting.
- ▶ If your child is absent for any reason, please contact the school office.



Seesaw



Name:		DOB:	
Can leave parent/guardian: Easily Reluctantly		Communicates: With adults	With children
Shares and takes turns: Easily Needs support		Can self-direct to play: Independently	Requires assistance
Communicates their wants/needs: Confidently Needs support		Recognise symbol: Confidently	Needs support
Follow toilet routine: Independently Needs support		Can focus during story time: Listens appropriately	Needs support
Can follow snack/dinner/lunch routine: Independently Requires assistance		Can follow instruction: Easily	Needs support
Outside play:			

APSIRE



- ▶ Shared Education
- ▶ Partnered with Rasharkin Playgroup
- ▶ Opportunities to meet with them regularly throughout the year.
- ▶ Received funding for ASPIRE. Fun engaging activities which bring the community together. E.g. Jo Jingles, Trip to forest/library.

Nursery Events

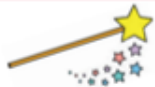
These are some of the **parent**-involved events we plan to have this year:

- ▶ Big Bedtime Read (Nov). Parents will be given more information about 'Getting Ready to Learn' during the Big Bedtime Read evening.
- ▶ Individual meetings with Health Visitor for 3+ Reviews (Nov)
- ▶ Christmas Show/crafts (Dec)
- ▶ Parent-Teacher Meetings (Feb/March)
- ▶ ASPIRE parents' event (date to be confirmed)
- ▶ Stay & Play session (Jan-March?)
- ▶ Sports Day (May/June)
- ▶ Nursery Graduation (June)



2 Stars and a Wish

- ▶ Two things your child can do particularly well.
- ▶ 1 thing that you would like them to focus on improving (that applies to nursery and home).
- ▶ Write child's name on back.

Two Stars and a Wish	
★	
★	
	



Thank You!

Any questions?