

Alexandra  
Primary School



Welcome to Nursery

# Your teachers

## Nursery

Sarah Storey (Nursery teacher)

Danielle Waites (Nursery Practitioner)

Maria Da Silva (Nursery Practitioner)

Nana Chubb (LSA)

Sandra Horner (LSA)

Clare Teh (Cover teacher)

Isabel (LSA)

# Daily Routines

Morning session 8.45-11.45

Afternoon session 12.30-3.30

In each session the children self register, then begin their child initiated, play led learning, supported by the Nursery staff.

Each session has milk/water and fruit time and a teacher led carpet time or a small group session.



# Nursery Housekeeping

- Unless we ask you to bring some spare clothes, your child doesn't need a bag in nursery
- Please make sure your child's coat and water bottle are named
- Please reply to any parent messages as soon as you can and return any letter slips promptly.
- News of the weekly learning is detailed in the school nursery blog on the website
- You will begin to receive pictures of your child's learning once you have signed up to Tapestry

# Our aim is to:

- Provide your child with an engaging environment which is secure and stimulating, where they can explore new learning situations and develop social skills and independence.
- Value each child, treat them with respect and nurture their self-confidence and creativity.
- Follow the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum and our resources and teaching reflect that.



# Child Initiated Learning



- Children can access their own resources following their interests and enthusiasms, and learn in their own way, through play. Some resources are pre planned but are 'open ended'
- The Nursery environment is organised to enable children to develop independence and initiate their own learning, whilst being supported by our experienced Nursery staff. We follow the Early Years curriculum, and address it's 7 areas of learning
- Staff use observations and meaningful interactions to teach the children, based on the child's own interests

# The 7 areas of learning in the Early Years curriculum are:

- Personal, social and emotional development
- Communication and language
- Physical Development
- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the world
- Expressive arts and design

# Personal, Social and Emotional development

- The children are provided with experiences and support to help them develop a positive sense of themselves, respect for others, social skills and a positive attitude to their learning
- We teach children to share, take turns, play kindly and cooperatively, and grow in confidence.
- We support them to manage their own feelings and to learn to accept the needs of others.





# Parents can help by:

- Giving your child your full attention, listening and explaining things to them.
- Helping your child work through disagreements with other children
- Playing board games and providing other play opportunities to **support turn taking and following rules.**
- Talking about whether things are fair or unfair, how to make things fair and why this isn't always possible.
- Giving your child more responsibility and encouraging them to be more independent

# Communication and language



- The children are supported with their listening and attention skills.
- They are given opportunities to talk about things that are meaningful to them
- They are given new vocabulary and are encouraged to speak to their peers and Nursery adults.

# Parents can help by:

- Saying your child's name before talking to them
- Turning off all screens and enjoy listening and talking to your child
- Commenting on, rather than questioning your child about what they are doing
- If your child says something the wrong way, rather than correcting them, say it back the right way.
- Speech clarity is not a focus at this stage, but eye contact, focus and good listening are!

# Physical Development



We support children to:

- Grow in confidence in their large scale (gross motor) movements through outdoor play and Indoor PE.
- Begin to strengthen their fine motor skills by threading, using playdough, small construction toys etc
- Begin to use pencils and pens when ready
- Become independent with their clothes and shoes and self care

# Parents can help by:

- Encouraging lots of outdoor play
- Fiddly toy play eg small Lego, threading.
- Allowing children to feed themselves with cutlery
- Encouraging toilet independence and hand washing
- Letting them get dressed with some support

# Literacy and Phonics



Children are encouraged to:

- Join in with rhymes and songs; we have a weekly Nursery Rhyme
- Listen to stories, join in and recall them
- Look at books and share them carefully
- Notice initial sounds and familiar words eg their name
- Daily phonics sessions focus on early reading skills such as sound differentiation, environmental sounds, hearing the 'blend' (whole word) when a word is segmented, and beginning to say the segmented word
- Nursery Lending Library once a week

# Parents can help by

- Sharing books and talking about the pictures
- Singing Nursery Rhymes
- Talking about characters
- Go to the library
- Notice rhyme and 'start' sounds in words
- Repetition is fine

# Mathematics



- Children are supported in developing their understanding of numbers, shapes, measurement and problem solving in a range of contexts, through play and interactions.
- They are encouraged to explore, enjoy, practise and question to develop their understanding
- The children work on knowing that numbers represent amounts, using number language in their play and beginning to record their numbers and counting
- The children learn that the last number you say when counting is your total and that amounts can be shown in different ways



# Parents can help by:

- Singing nursery rhymes involving numbers
- Model touching or moving objects to count
- Encouraging estimation
- Encourage counting of objects
- Provide opportunities for the child to count to 10 or more
- Using maths talk at home “Do I have enough? Do we need more?”
- Noticing numbers everywhere

# Understanding the world



- This includes the Sciences, History, Geography, RE, ICT
- Learning is supported through interactions where children can talk about their families and home life and learn about the lives of others.
- The children learn through messy play, investigating textures, magnets, mirrors, magnifiers and the natural world around them.
- They learn about similarities and differences between people and communities, plants, animals and objects, and what makes them special and unique.
- The children learn ICT skills through cause and effect toys and books, Ipads and technological toys

# Parents can help by:

- Talking about families and celebrations you enjoy.
- Sharing photographs and items from the past.
- Gardening with your child and learning about things growing and dying
- Sharing 'Lift the flap' books, cause and effect toys and games, remote control toys

# Expressive arts and design



- Children's creativity and confidence to be imaginative will be developed through exploration and play, through art, music, movement, dance, imaginative and role play activities and creating models

# Observing and assessing your child's learning

- We are constantly observing your children as they learn through play based activities
- We use Tapestry to record their learning at school and at home.
- Each child will be a focus child for one week, once a term. At these times the Nursery team will focus on your child's learning and assess their development and progress. These observations will be shared with you close to this time.
- We value you as the children's primary educators and encourage all parents to record any significant learning observations or a photo on Tapestry.

# Information

- We communicate with parents through:
- Weekly blog on the school website [here](#)
- Focus children meetings, once each term, rather than a formal parents evening twice a year.
- If you have any concerns or worries, please don't hesitate to email the school office, who will pass your message on
- Make sure you are registered on Parentpay and Parentmail – more than one parent or carer can be registered (ask at the school office)
- Whole school weekly newsletter is sent via Parentmail on a Friday

# Class rep

- Each Nursery morning or afternoon class has 1 or ideally 2 reps that represent the class in the PSA meetings and help to keep the parents informed about various social events.
- Please email the office if you would like to be class rep for your child's class

# Contact

[www.alexandra.kingston.school.uk](http://www.alexandra.kingston.school.uk)

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