

Early Years - Nursery Key Information

Staff

- **Teachers**
 - Naomi Jackson Mon- Friday
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 - Laura Murphy (Early Years Leader) Mon - Wed
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- **Teaching Assistants**
 - Dinya

Outdoor Learning

Now that the children have nearly finished their settling in period, **outdoor learning will take place every Thursday.**

On Thursdays' we will be outdoor learning using our fantastic onsite Nature Park.

School will provide waterproof trousers and jackets for all children. We ask that you provide a pair of wellies labelled with your child's name that can stay at school. We also ask that children are dressed appropriately for the weather (e.g. warm coats/ hats / gloves when it gets cold.)

Alongside the specified outdoor learning days, children will use our outdoor spaces regularly and may visit the on-site nature park throughout the week as part of our Early Years curriculum.

What to bring to school

We ask that children have a labelled bag with a spare change of clothes that can stay in school. Children are encouraged to take off their shoes when indoors so they can bring a pair of indoor shoes such as slippers which can stay in school.

We also ask that your child bring in their own water bottle every day. Please don't bring in food or toys from home. School will provide a snack of fruit and milk each morning.

Seesaw

We like to document some of the exciting learning taking place in school using Seesaw. This is an app you can download on your phone where we can share photos and comments about your child's learning with you. More information will be sent to you about this soon alongside your child's log in details.

Hours

Our nursery hours are currently 9am – 12pm as all children once they turn 3 are entitled to 15 hours free childcare per week. If you are interested in applying for full time hours (30 hours per week) please have a look at the government website on the link below where you will find out more about the eligibility criteria and how you can apply. If you need any help with this let us know.

<https://www.gov.uk/30-hours-free-childcare?step-by-step-nav=f517cd57-3c18-4bb9-aa8b-1b907e279bf9>

If you have any questions, please feel free to speak to a member of staff who will be happy to help. We thank you for your continued support and we look forward to a fantastic year at West Newcastle Academy Nursery!

Please keep reading to find out more about Nursery will be learning this half term...

Nursery Topic: Our world

The topic for Nursery this half term is “Our World”.” As the children are settling into nursery we will be focusing on getting to know them and what their interests are. We will also be looking at the things and people that are part of their world and what this means to them. We will look at different parts of the world and some of the celebrations which will take place.

The Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum is split into 7 areas of learning. Below are some of the things we will be working on in each area this half term-

Personal, Social & Emotional Development:

We are learning:

- Select and use activities and resources with help when needed.
- Show more confidence in new social situations.
- To work and play cooperatively and to take turns with others
- To form positive relationships.
- Increasingly follow rules, understanding why they are important.
- Learn to use the toilet with help and then independently.

Communication & Language:

We are learning:

- To enjoy listening to longer stories and trying to remember what has happened.
- Paying attention to more than one thing at a time.
- To develop our listening skills.
- To use a wider range of vocabulary.
- To understand a two part question or instruction.

Physical Development

We are learning:

- To use large and small motor skills to do things like buttons and zips independently.
- How to move in a range of ways.
- To continue developing their movement, balancing, riding (scooters, trikes and bikes) and ball skills.
- Skip, hop, stand on one leg and hold a pose.

Literacy

We are learning:

- Make marks on their picture to stand for their name.
- Add some marks to their drawing and giving meaning.
- To understand print has meaning.
- To understand print can have different purposes.
- To understand we read English from left to right.

In Nursery we follow the Letters and sounds Phase 1 phonics scheme, this initial stage concentrates on developing the children’s speaking and listening skills before moving on to phonological awareness with segmenting and blending. The children will be focusing on general sound discrimination of Environmental, instrumental and body percussion sounds.

Parent/ carer guide
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Mathematics

We are learning:

- To develop fast recognition of up to 3 objects, without having to count them individually.
- To recite numbers past 5.
- Say one number for each item in order 1,2,3,4,5.
- To understand that the last number reached when counting tells us how many objects there are.

Understanding the World

We are learning:

- To notice differences between people.
- To use all their senses in hands on exploration of natural materials.
- To explore collections of materials with similar and different properties.
- To talk about what they can see using a wide vocabulary.

Expressive Arts and Design

We are learning:

- Take part in simple pretend play, using an object to represent something else
- To begin to develop complex stories using small world equipment (doll's houses, animals).
- To make imaginative and complex small worlds with blocks or construction materials.
- To explore different materials and develop our own ideas on how to use them or what to make.