St. Mary’s Nursery

Welcome to Saint Mary’s Nursery. We hope your child will be happy and settled at our Nursery. We know that for you and your child, leaving home to start school is a big step. We want you your child to make a good and happy start to their education and we hope this information sheet will answer some frequently asked questions that you may have.

It is important that Nursery and home work as a partnership so if there is anything that you are worried about please speak to us and let us know.

 **Nursery Team**

The Nursery team members are

Mrs Whytock Mrs For

  **Nursery Hours**

Morning Session begins at **8.45am**

The children can choose an activity they are interested in until circle time at 9.00am

Morning session ends at **11.45am – Gates will open at 11.40am**

Please bring your child on time as it can be very unsettling for your child if they are coming in late and circle time has already started. It is equally important to collect your child on time when the session ends and the children are dispatched out of the door at **11.45am.**

No child likes to be left sitting on the carpet whilst their friends are all being picked up by their grown up, this can be very distressing for them.

The Nursery Team also have to prepare for their afternoon duties.

In the unlikely event that you are going to be late collecting your child please phone the school office on 0208 804 2396 to let us and your child know.

If your child is unwell and not able to attend Nursery please phone the school office to let us know about the illness.

If another adult is going to collect your child please let us know by telephone or letter and introduce that person beforehand if possible. We will need your permission for your child to go with a different adult as we want to make sure your child is safe at all times.

**Settling In**

Please don’t worry if your child takes a little longer to settle at Nursery. The children need to become accustomed to Nursery staff members, other children, the new Nursery environment, routines, boundaries and expectations. We will gradually build up the time spent at Nursery to suit the gradual pace and needs of the individual children.

  **Independency**

**Toileting**

We have specially designed children’s toilets and sinks for the children to use independently.

We will encourage all children to use these toilets throughout the course of the sessions.

In order for your child to use the toilet independently they will need to wear clothing which is easy to pull up/down such as track suit bottoms/leggings.

**Coats and outdoor clothing**

When coming into Nursery the children will be encouraged to take off and hang up their own coat on their coat peg in our cloakroom.

Before going outside the children will be encouraged to get their own coat from their coat peg and put their coat on.

In the colder months the children will put on their own hats, scarfs and gloves.

**Your Childs Work**

Some paintings, drawings, independent writing and photographs will go into the children’s ‘Special Books’.

Some of their work will go home. When your child shows these paintings, drawings, models etc please encourage them to talk to you about their work and tell you how they made it. Your child will make lots of progress at Nursery with your encouragement and praise.

**Labelling of Clothes**

Please remember to write your child’s name on all their clothing, including their coats, hats, gloves etc. We do not want any lost items of clothing.

Library Books

On your child’s library day (we will let you know when this is) your child will need to bring in their school book bag to take a library book home. Please take some time to read the book with your child. Your child will get a reading record diary for you to write a comment on. You may like to tell us if your child enjoyed the book or not, if they pointed to the pictures. Please encourage your child to take care of the books as they are for you to share and enjoy together.

**Money Pots**

In order to offer cooking activities etc we ask for a voluntary contribution of £1.00 per week which can be put into the money pot in your child’s book bag on their book bag day.

Thank you in advance

**WOW Wall**

If your child has done something at home they are particularly proud of then please send it into Nursery so that they can share it with the other children and we can put it on the WOW wall! It may be a photo of the first time they have done something like riding their bike with stabilisers or a painting they have made at home or a model made from playdough or bricks. We want the children to be proud of their achievements at both home and Nursery.

Finally, we would like to mention ‘CBeebies Parenting’. This is a free to access initiative which provides free to use activities, ideas, and advice on many early year’s developments, such as speech and language, social communication, imaginative play as well as potty training, feeding etc. Please take some time to explore and make use of this free resource.