



Welcome to Hamstel Nursery

Starting Nursery at Hamstel





Welcome to Hamstel Nursery. The information in this booklet will help prepare you and your child before starting at our Nursery. Our aim is to work together in partnership with you to make the transition to Nursery a smooth, pleasant and happy experience.

Any queries please call 01702 468461.

With thanks,

Miss Spelman

Our Vision

Values Based:

All staff working at Hamstel Nursery share a vision which respects each child's right to the very best start in life, where they learn and grow in an environment where they are respected as individuals. The school's motto 'We care' represents our school values:

Working Together,
Enthusiasm and Determination,
Caring
Aspire
Respect
Effort and Resilience

These values represent the golden thread through all that our caring staff do and talk about throughout the day. We provide a happy and stimulating experience where the children can have opportunities to explore and discover in a purposeful learning environment. Our aim is to develop learning skills, such as curiosity, creativity, persistence, imagination, independence and confidence.

A purposeful learning environment helps to shape a child's life-long attitude towards school and aids brain development. This is why we place so much emphasis on providing an environment that meets every child's needs and interests. Our highly qualified staff enable children to learn and achieve their goals by sensitively guiding, playing alongside and encouraging new discoveries through teaching in the moment.

Curriculum

At Hamstel Nursery children have access to high quality resources across the indoor and outdoor environments. Areas of the curriculum, including: Language, Literacy, Maths, Science, Music, Craft, including gardening and cookery are taught through a child-led approach.

Our experienced staff interact and teach the children through play which enriches their learning and gives purpose to all that they do. Additionally, we carefully plan activities to meet your child's needs and for your child to enjoy throughout their time with us, based on stories and books within the Early Years curriculum, to meet the whole spectrum of learning styles.

We plan and provide a range of play activities, which help children to make progress in each of the following areas of learning and development.

The Early years Curriculum is divided into prime and specific areas of learning. These are:

Prime Areas

- Personal, Social and Emotional Development
- Physical Development
- Communication and Language Development

Specific areas

- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the World
- Expressive Arts and Design



Learning through play

Play helps young children to learn and develop their physical, social, emotional and intellectual skills through shared opportunities and talk, which research has shown to be the means by which young children learn to think.

The Early Years Foundation Stage is a play based framework that childcare providers use as a tool to ensure that children from birth to five are developing and learning to their full potential.

Play helps young children to learn and develop their physical, social, emotional and intellectual skills through actually doing and talking. It is also how they learn to socialise, as children engage in learning experiences with other children and adults.



Parent responsibilities

When you arrive at Nursery please let your child and class teacher know -

- Who is meeting them
- Please inform the school office of any changes to who will be picking up your child at the end of the day.

Please help your child by not being late, if you are late for the morning or afternoon session then please take your child to the Poyning's gate and ring the Nursery.

If your child is ill, please telephone and leave a message with the school office on the first morning of illness.

A day in the life of your child at Hamstel Nursery

When your child arrives at Nursery, they will be welcomed by the Nursery Staff and enjoy free flow play both inside and in the outside environments. Your child will have access to a free healthy snack and fresh milk or water, a nutritious school lunch or packed lunch.

Your child will have the opportunity to share their learning with peers and engage in carefully planned activities based on the Early Years curriculum.

Working parents have the option of booking and paying to stay at our Afterschool Club until 5.45pm, details are on our website.

Transition

Tours of the Nursery will be arranged so you can see the environment that your child will be learning in, a virtual tour is available on our website.

Stay and play sessions will be arranged. During these sessions your child's key adult will be present. This will support your child to settle and encourage them to build those crucial early relationships.

Early Years School Uniform

Uniform is not compulsory in Nursery, however if you choose for your child to wear it;

Girls' Uniform

Grey pinafore, grey skirt or jogging bottoms; white blouse or white polo shirt yellow sweatshirt, jumper or cardigan; pink/white check dress (summer term).

Boys' Uniform

Grey short or jogging bottoms, white shirt or polo shirt; yellow sweatshirt or jumper.

Parents may purchase yellow sweatshirts, cardigans, and white polo shirts embroidered with the school's name and logo from 'Pauls Discount Clothing' on Southchurch Road or 'Crawlers' on Hamstel Road.

If you choose not to put your child in uniform, please ensure they wear sensible shoes and clothing.

Please label all items of clothing with your child's name.



Things to bring to Nursery

- A named plastic bag with spare clothes (including footwear)

Wellies to be left in Nursery

- Lunchbox (if required).
- Please label everything.



Lunch Options

If your child spends a full day with us then they can either bring a packed lunch or order a school meal. There is a menu available on the website or from the school office so you can choose what your child likes. There is always a vegetarian option.

You can also provide your child with a packed lunch. We support healthy eating. Please make sure this is a healthy lunch with some fruit and vegetables and no drinks, sweets or chocolate.

Water will be provided.

To ensure the safety of children in the school with nut allergies, please do not include any food that may contain nuts in packed lunches.



Breakfast Club

We are able to offer Breakfast Club to Nursery children. This will be held in the school hall.

For more details please look on the school website.



After School Club

Our After School Club is held within the Nursery. For more information please look on the school website, where you will be able to download a registration form.





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