

Welcome to Hamstel Infant School and Nursery



Nursery Curriculum Meeting

September 2026

Our School Values

We Care

Working together



Enthusiasm and determination



Caring



Aspire



Respect



Effort and resilience



The Nursery Team



Mrs Bryant
Assistant Principal
EYFS Lead



Mrs Snashall
Starfish Class



Mrs Taylor
Starfish Keyworker



Mrs Brooks
Seahorse Class



Miss Linay
Seahorse Keyworker

Early Years Vision

Relationships – our children developing strong relationships with adults and their peers.

Oracy: Speech and Language development – we want our children to be confident and clear communicators. Speech and vocabulary development play an important role in future learning success.

Independence – we aim for all our children to become confident and independent learners.

Self-regulation – we want all our children to be able to self-regulate their own behaviour, knowing how to behave in different situations and being able to deal with conflicts appropriately.

Reading – is the key to future success and is paramount across all areas of the curriculum.

Physical development – developing both gross and fine motor skills, as the building blocks for future success in handwriting as well as writing attainment.

Enrichment - providing our children with other opportunities that they may not otherwise experience.

Parents/Carers – play a vital role in their child's education. We aim to work closely with all our parents, sharing learning experiences and how we teach in school so that parents feel supported and confident in continuing learning at home.

Early Years Statutory Framework

We work from The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) curriculum alongside the Development Matters document. There are seven areas of learning and development:

Prime Areas

- Personal, social and emotional development
- Physical development
- Communication and language development

Specific Areas

- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the world
- Expressive arts and design



Each area of learning is split into Early Learning Goals, which the children are assessed against at the end of the Reception year.

The characteristics of effective teaching and learning

Playing and exploring – children investigate and experience things, and have a go.

Active learning – children concentrate and keep on trying if they encounter difficulties, and enjoy achievements.

Creating and thinking critically – children have and develop their own ideas, make links between ideas, and develop strategies for doing things.



Curriculum Theme Letter

This half-term our theme will be All About Me!

Week 1: Starting Nursery

Key Text – *Meatoo* and the little Nursery
During this first week at nursery, we will all be getting to know each other and the children will be learning all the nursery routines.

Week 2: Feelings

Key Texts – The Colour Monster

This week we will think about our feelings and emotions and what words to use to show how we are feeling.

Week 3+4: Friendship

Key Text: Hello Friend! Can I Play?

As we meet lots of new children in nursery, we will think about how to make friends and how to be a good friend.

Week 5: Families

Key Text: Family

This week we will talk about all the people in our families

Week 6: My Home

Key Text – In a People House

Our homes will be the focus of this week, we will talk about our homes and what they look like. We will learn that there are lots of different homes.

Week 7: My Body

Key Text – My Body

We will learn the names of different parts of our body.

PSHE

This half-term will have a strong focus on getting to know each other and making new friendships, there will be lots of opportunities for the children to make new friends. We will be introducing the children to the nursery routines such as self-registration, snack time, carpet time as well as tidy up time. We will also learn how to look after the different toys and resources in the classroom.

Our PSHE carpet sessions will focus on families and friendships and safe relationships. We will be talking about our family, different feelings and emotions, saying no and sharing and taking turns.

Focus Nursery Rhymes

Week 2: Baa Baa Black Sheep

Week 3: Row, Row, Row Your Boat

Week 4: The Wheels on the Bus

Week 5: Twinkle, Twinkle

Week 6: Wind the Bobbin Up

Week 7: Recap and Review

Literacy

We will be starting our daily carpet sessions. During these sessions we will be sharing lots of different story books and learning the importance of good listening and how to be a good listener. We will be learning to answer questions about the books using full sentences. We will be listening to lots of different sounds, learning to identify and name the different sounds we can hear.

Handwriting

During our handwriting sessions, we will be getting our bodies ready to write through lots of gross and fine motor activities that will strengthen our muscles and develop our coordination. We will explore different mark making equipment to draw lines and shapes.



AUTUMN TERM 1 All About Me!



Maths

We will be starting our daily maths meetings where we will be introducing the children to some songs such as 'We love Maths', 'Days of the week' and 'What's the weather.' Each day we will be recapping basic concepts such as counting forwards and backwards and naming shapes.

During our maths lessons we will be learning to count verbally to 5, represent quantities on our fingers, subitise numbers to 5 (know how many objects there are without counting) and begin to count objects accurately.



How to help:

- Practise counting forwards and backwards to 5.
- Show fingers when a number is called out.
- Say how many objects there are without counting them (up to 5).
- Count objects accurately.

Oracy

This half-term we will be focusing on two aspects of oracy:

Physical: watching a familiar adults face when they are talking or singing.

Social and Emotional: Expressing my needs clearly to a familiar adult through my voice or gestures.

Storytime

Every day the children will enjoy story time with their teacher. Listening to stories helps young children to build an extensive vocabulary as well as learn to love books and reading. Each week your child will bring home a book of their choice. Please spend time sharing this book as well as other books you have at home.

Science – Humans, Animals and Plants

Humans – Naming and identify different body parts.

Outdoor learning – Care and respect for plants and animals, using our senses to explore.

Geography – My Home

Knowing which type of home I live in, describing my home, places in my local area, using my senses to explore the school grounds

RE – Harvest

What is the harvest festival and why do we celebrate it?

Art – Painting

Holding a paintbrush, using a paintbrush to paint lines and shapes. Learning about different colours.

DT – Materials and Structures

Stacking blocks, joining materials with glue and masking tape, using stickers to decorate

Music – Singing

Joining in with songs and rhymes, adding actions to words.

How to help at home:

Each week your child will bring home a sharing book. Spend time reading this book to your child and talking about what you have read.

Spend time singing nursery rhymes and different songs. Each week we will have a song of the week.

Listen to different sounds in the environment. Can your child identify and name the sound they can hear?

Visit your local library and borrow books for daily story times at home.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Outdoor Learning:

Week Beginning: 22nd September 2025

Week Beginning: 13th October 2025

Nursery Curriculum Meeting: Thursday 16th September 8.40am or 2.30pm

The Nursery Day

Nursery Morning/ Afternoon Timetable

Self-Registration

Keyworker carpet Session/ NELI from Spring 1

Continuous Provision (Garden Open)

Keyworker story and singing

Home Time

Continuous Provision

Activities planned and set up.

Children choose activities. Free flow between classroom and garden.

At times children may be guided towards a certain activity.

During this time the adults work with the children in small groups, on a 1:1 basis or join the children in their play.



Outdoor learning

- Every three weeks
- Old, weather appropriate clothing.



Personal, Social and Emotional Development



- Prime area of the curriculum
- Early Learning Goals:
 - Building relationships
 - Managing self
 - Self-regulation
- Throughout the day
- Discrete sessions several times a term.



Physical Development

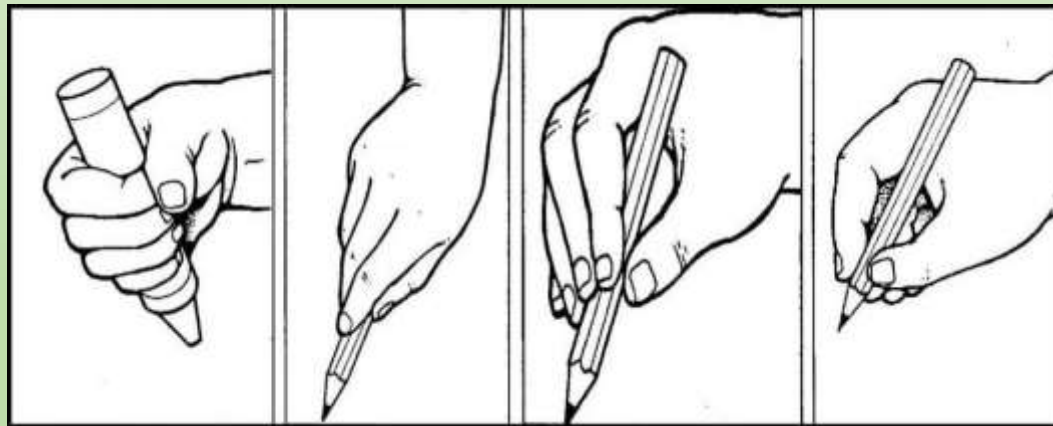


- Prime area of learning
- Early Learning Goals:
 - Fine motor skills
 - Gross motor skills
- Focus on Fundamental Movement Skills (FMS), the basic skills that help children move confidently and safely: running, jumping, balancing, throwing and catching.
- Developing these skills is crucial to ensuring future success in handwriting and writing.
- Planned adult-led gross and fine motor activities
- Gross and fine motor activities and resources available throughout the day

Handwriting



- Regular handwriting opportunities in the environment.
- Important to develop gross and fine motor skills before learning to write letters.
- Efficient pencil grip promoted and assessed.



Stage 1

Stage 2

Stage 3

Stage 4

Communication and Language: Oracy



Early Learning Goals

- Listening, Attention and Understanding
 - Speaking
-
- Listening and attention impact on communication and academic success.
 - Good listening if taught, modelled and reinforced.

All children are encouraged:

- Build a wide vocabulary
- Speak in full sentences throughout the day
- Have back and forth conversations

NELI Preschool



- NELI Preschool is a nursery-delivered oral language enrichment and intervention programme.
- LanguageScreen is used to assess the language skills of all children.
- All children will take part in a daily whole class carpet session after Christmas.
- Each week focuses on a different book, teaching the children 'Special Words' from the book and building their narrative skills with fun activities.
- LanguageScreen is used to accurately identify children who need additional targeted support from small groups and individual sessions.

Literacy: Word Reading

Building blocks for reading are taught in Nursery:

- Hearing and naming sounds
- Spotting words that rhyme
- Recognising words with the same initial sound
- Clapping syllables in words
- Suggesting a matching rhyming word
- Identify an object from hearing the sounds (orally segmented)
- Saying the initial sound in a word
- Naming the pictures on Set 1 sounds cards
- Orally blend sounds into words



Literacy: Comprehension

Comprehension skills are taught every day in through:

- Our key text for the week
- Daily story times
- Role play
- Questioning
- Following instructions

Literacy: Writing



In nursery, we focus on the foundational skills needed for writing:

- Gross and fine motor skills
- Handwriting development
- Oracy: Communication and language development
- Phonics development

Writing opportunities in the classroom and the learning garden.



Maths

Early Learning Goals:

- Number
- Numerical Pattern



Key Skills:

- Count to 10
- Subitise to 5 (know how many there are without counting)
- Show the correct number of fingers for numbers to 5
- Count objects to 10
- Recognise numerals to 7
- Order numbers to 7
- Accurately count objects to 10
- Count backwards from 12
- Know there are more, fewer or equal amounts
- Match objects into pairs
- Sort objects into two groups

Shape, Space and Measure

- Patterns
- Circles and Triangles
- Shapes with 4 sides
- Mass and capacity
- Length, height and time
- 2D and 3D shapes



Tapestry

- Each child will have their own Tapestry account.
- We will record some of your child's learning at school.
- Please add home learning to Tapestry.



Home Learning in Nursery



Sharing Book – each week your child will choose a book to take home. This is a sharing book for you to enjoy reading to your child.

RWI Virtual Classroom – QR codes sent home to access Ruth Miskin Virtual Classroom videos once the children have started RWI phonics.

Enjoy reading to your child on a daily basis. Storytimes are an enjoyable time and will help to develop your child's speech, vocabulary and understanding of stories.



Communication

- Arbor for key updates and year group letters
- Weekly whole school newsletters
- Half termly Curriculum Overviews
- Notices of any changes in the classroom windows
- Facebook
- Tapestry





Please do feel free to ask any questions.

Thank you for coming.