



READY, RESPECTFUL, SAFE

The children have been learning about our Nursery rules

- **Ready** to learn (looking, listening), e.g ready for Group Time, ready to go outside.
- **Respectful** e.g being kind to each other, looking after the environment.
- **Safe** e.g walking inside, handling tools carefully, telling an adult if something looks or feels uncomfortable.

We explore their meaning with the children and we will be referring to the rules consistently in our positive behaviour management strategies. Adults have pictures on their lanyards as visual reminders. These rules are embedded further if they are also used at home, linked to your own household rules. We will also be giving lots of praise in the form of WOW moments to those children who go **OVER AND ABOVE** our usual expectations.

Zones of Regulation

The **Zones of Regulation** are a simple and engaging way we help the children learn about their feelings and how to manage them. Through stories, visuals and teacher led Group Times we explore four colour zones—**blue, green, yellow, and red**—that represent different emotions like sadness, calm, excitement, or anger. This helps children begin to recognise how they feel and learn gentle strategies to feel safe, calm and ready to learn.

We will continue to update you on these, alongside other Curriculum learning and development in our weekly updates which are emailed to you on Fridays. Please do let us know if you are not receiving them.

We are so proud of how the children are settling at Nursery, whether they have returned after the break, or are brand new to the setting, when you are 3/ 4 years old, leaving a parent/ carer and coming into a busy environment can be a little overwhelming. For some children it can take a little longer and we will always work with you to help your child to feel confident, relaxed and happy in our setting. If you leave them confidently and with a smile, it can really help them to feel secure. All the children are already learning so much and we are all looking forward to our time together.



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IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



AUTUMN TERM 2026

Friday 23rd October 2026 - break up for half term - Community Nursery Nurse visiting

Monday 26th October - Friday 30th October - Half Term

Monday 2nd November - INSET Day - **NURSERY CLOSED**

Tuesday 3rd November - Children return to School

Friday 18th December - break up for Christmas Holidays. **Nursery closes at 11.45AM**

Monday 4th to Wednesday 6th January - home and Nursery visits with our new children. **NURSERY CLOSED**

Thursday 7th January - all children return to Nursery



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Thank you to everyone who has been able to contribute £25 towards our annual fund. Your support makes a huge difference, helping us provide enriching experiences such as visits from reptiles, farm animals, the Earth Song Drummers and the Living Eggs programme. It also enables us to maintain a high-quality learning environment, with a wide range of resources available for the children throughout the year.

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How we will share your child's learning and development

We wanted to explain when and what we share with you throughout your child's time with us, so that you are kept fully informed of your child's learning

Settling In

Following our initial phone calls, home visits and nursery visits the children's start dates are staggered so that each child has 1:1 time with their key person to support their settling. In their first few weeks your child's key person will send a settling in sheet with photos about what they have been doing. This information will be used for initial starting points and informs our planning of the provision, curriculum and environment.

Progress Discussions

We track and monitor children's progress against our curriculum goals and the statutory framework as well as check their speech and language development.

Each term your child's key person will meet with you to talk about their progress. We want to hear about how they are learning and developing at home as we acknowledge this is just as important as their time at nursery.

Adult-Led Time

During each session the children will gather as a group or individually for some adult-led learning as well as a daily story and singing session.

Curriculum

Our teams have designed and planned a progressive curriculum full of rich and challenging activities and experiences designed to spark the children's curiosity, engage them and encourage deep learning and thinking. It promotes a balance of child-led, play based learning and adult-initiated activities in both indoor and outdoor environments. We value each child's interests and strengths, using them to inform our teaching while recognising children as capable learners. Parental involvement and a supportive home setting are crucial for every child's growth. Our ambitious curriculum goals set out the key skills, concepts and attitudes we want children to learn.

Emails

Our **'Weekly Update'** is emailed with an explanation of the children's learning during both free flow and group time. We share ideas for how you can support your child at home to complement the learning at school. Our termly **newsletters** will be emailed and show you a snap shot of the learning alongside other important information. These are both available on our website.

Environment

Our learning environment inside and outside is planned for children's development across the curriculum. The resources are accessible to support each child's own enquiry, curiosity and independence. Each day the adults set the environment up based on the interests, fascinations and learning from the previous day. Resources and displays are designed to develop skills, knowledge and vocabulary.

Learning Journey Folder

Your child's folder will illustrate their learning journey through the year. The adults will add photos of special events, wow moments and termly photo sheets from your progress discussions.

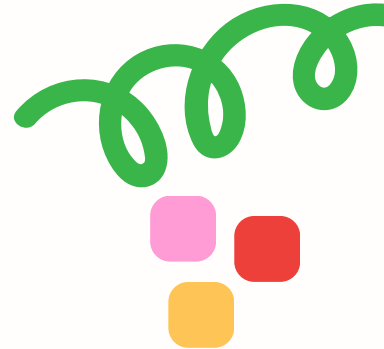
Come and Play

Each term parents are invited into the nursery to join their child to play and learn together focussed on a particular area of the curriculum.

End of year leavers chat

At the end of the year, parents and key people meet to celebrate your child's progress and development, supported by photos of their Nursery experiences.





A visit from our Community Nursery Nurse - Friday 23rd October

Belinda Crocker is our Community Nursery Nurse for Cookham Nursery School. She is also the Early Years Lead at The Best Start Family Hub. Belinda will be here at Nursery on Friday 23rd October, to offer advice and answer any questions on all things related to young children.

Belinda has a wealth of experience across the Early Years and provides researched based, up to date information on, for example, toileting, dummies, eating, nutrition, bedtime and routines.

Please do call in on Friday 23rd October. Belinda will be here for about an hour, in our new cabin. You will be able to leave Nursery around the back so that your child doesn't see you after you have already said goodbye!

Please email the office with any specific questions ahead of the date if you would like to, and we will send on to Belinda, so she can come well prepared.

Alternatively, just pop in!

Please sign up at the School Office, so that we have an idea on numbers.



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NHS GUIDE TO KEEPING CHILDREN HOME WHEN ILL

As we approach that time of the year when coughs and colds begin, the NHS have provided some simple but effective steps you can take to reduce the spread and help keep your children in school. Please see the link below for a guide as to whether or not you should send your child in if they are ill.

[Is my child too ill for school?](#)

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