

Nursery Learning at Asterdale



Welcome to Nursery at Asterdale

We have a spacious purpose-built nursery building and garden in the grounds of Asterdale Primary School. Nursery sessions cater for up to 26 children and are planned and taught by qualified teachers and supported by experienced Teaching Assistants.

We are an integral part of the school community and participate in whole school activities regularly when appropriate. Nursery children do not wear uniform but explore learning activities in the comfort of their own clothes.



Asterdale Nursery Offers:

- Consistent, high-quality teaching and learning
 - A close partnership with parents
 - Wraparound Care
 - School dinners in nursery (optional)
 - Stay and Learn sessions for parents
- Forest School sessions in Summer Term
 - School enrichment opportunities

A place for your child at nursery in the term following their third birthday (provided that spaces are available). Either 15 or 30 hours of funded education per week (term time only). Sessions are allocated in three hourly slots.

- 15 hour sessions are available
 - ❖ 5 mornings or 5 afternoons
 - ❖ Early week (Monday, Tuesday all day + Wednesday morning)
 - ❖ Late week (Wednesday afternoon, Thursday and Friday all day)
- 30 hour sessions are 5 full school days, Monday to Friday

Please fill in a nursery application form as soon as possible so we can accommodate your first choice of sessions.

Forms are available from the nursery or school office.



Learning in Nursery

Our EYFS curriculum in nursery is primarily play-based using an integrated themed approach. Children learn about the world, topical community events and seasonal changes but there is also time for children to follow their own needs and interests.

Daily guided activities are set up and planned for that cover different aspects of the EYFS curriculum and support children in their learning. Our days are structured so there is a blend of whole group, small group and independent time, where children can explore learning activities in the provision of the setting.

Asterdale EYFS provision ensures that our indoor and outdoor learning environments promote the characteristics of Effective Learning:

- Playing and exploring
- Active learning
- Creating and thinking critically

We also follow our school's phonics scheme of Little Wandle and White Rose Maths in nursery, and these learning activities are provided on a daily basis.

Staff in nursery make weekly observations of the children's learning to ensure their achievements are celebrated and these are collected in each child's Learning Journey.

Nursery staff regularly assess, using observations and assessments to ensure planning, adult interactions and the learning environment are supporting our children effectively in their learning. Children at all levels are helped to achieve their potential, from challenging those that are capable to providing early support to those that children that require it.



Preparing for Nursery

1. Talk (and listen)

It seems very obvious, but one of the best things you can do for your child's learning is to spend time talking together. They are constantly learning new words and will be exploring ways to build sentences and put words together through trial and error. Encourage eye contact and back-and-forth conversation.

2. Read, read, read

Time spent reading together brings so many benefits to your child – and you! Through reading, your child will hear lots of words that they might not be as likely to come across in everyday conversation. They will also develop their listening skills and develop their understanding of how stories work.



3. Sing songs and rhymes

Have lots of fun singing songs and nursery rhymes together. Don't worry about how good your singing voice is! Singing songs and saying rhymes can help your child to develop early language skills.

4. Point out numbers

Point out the numbers you see when you are out and about and encourage your child to do the same. Look for bus numbers, prices and house numbers. When shopping, ask your child to select the number of apples or bananas you need – they're helping you out, and learning at the same time.

5. Using the Toilet

Spend time with your child to help them be confident using the toilet and washing their hands. These skills will really boost their independence.

6. Dress up

Dressing up and role play are great opportunities for talking and listening and for imaginative play. On a practical level, a fun dressing up session can help your child to practise getting themselves dressed. You can fit in a sneaky bit of training with those tricky zips, armholes and buttons.

7. Go Out

Make sure you go out and about regularly so your child is familiar with their local environment. Talk about where you are going who you are seeing. The local playground or a walk in the park are exciting places for young children.