



Welcome to Tavistock Primary Nursery School!

2024/25



Staff

Teaching staff



Mrs Sarah Jones

Keyworkers and Meal Time Assistants



Gemma Nicholls
(Wednesday, Thursday and Friday)



Michelle Stephens
(Monday & Tuesday)



Bethany Hawkins
2 Year Old Room Leader
Wednesday, Thursday and Friday
(Currently on Maternity Leave)



Rachael Matthews
2 Year Old Room Leader
Monday-Friday



Rachel Page
MTA and Nursery
Assistant
(Monday- Friday 11am-2pm)



Emily Besgrove
2 Year Old Room
Nursery Assistant
(Monday to Friday)



Ailish Walker
Nursery Assistant
(Monday to Friday)



Laura Warne
Meal Time Assistant
(Monday to Friday)

Nursery environment

Nursery classroom

Reading corner



Maths Area



Role Play Area



Creative Area



Small World Area



Carpet Area



Toilets



Nursery Garden



Nursery Curriculum

The curriculum is based on the guidelines set out in the Early Years Foundation Stage, where children learn through play.

We provide altogether sessions where all the children come to learn together, group-work where children learn in small groups, one-to-one adult directed time where we teach your child using a small activity as a focus and provide stimulating and carefully planned resources for your child to learn from through their play.

The Nursery curriculum is focused on the following seven areas of learning:

- Personal, Social and Emotional Development
- Physical Development
- Communication and Language
- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the World
- Expressive Arts and Design

Personal, Social and Emotional Development, Physical Development and Communication and Language are designated the Prime areas of learning and are the main focus of the teaching in Nursery.

In Nursery we place emphasise on developing the skills and characteristics of effective learning:

- Playing and exploring
- Active Learning
- Creating and Thinking Critically

Nursery Sessions

Nursery sessions run from 9:00am to 12:00pm and 12:00pm to 3:00pm. Many children attend for full days, from 9:00am to 3:00pm.

Additional hours are able to be purchased on a regular basis at a cost of:

2 Year Olds : £5.50 per hour

3/4 Year Olds : £4.50 per hour

Please speak to Mrs Jones, Nursery Teacher, or Mrs Wright, School Business Manager.

For children above the age of 3 Years, we also offer the school's Breakfast and After School Club (8:00am to 6:00pm). Please speak to the office if you require sessions.

Morning/Lunchtime Entry

2 Year Olds enter the setting via the main Foundation Stage Building entrance, where children will be met by a member of staff. Parents/Carers will then accompany children into the room and hang up their belongings.

3/4 Year Olds enter through the nursery garden and through the glass classroom doors, where they will be met by Mrs Jones. Please hang your child's belongings on their peg, put their lunch box on the trolley and water bottle in the box.

What I need for my day at Nursery

Please ensure that all of your child's belongings are labelled

- Coat
- Sturdy shoes that are easy to take on/off
- Wellies
- Sun hat (on good weather days)
- Suncream (please see additional information on suncream application in hot weather)
- Water bottle (please take to water bottle box)
- Lunch (if attending an afternoon session or staying all day) A school lunch can also be ordered
- Full change of clothes in a bag
- If your child needs toileting support please provide us with nappies/pull-ups, wipes and nappy sacks

My clothes and my learning!

Please remember:

- I may sometimes get paint on myself as I work, which shows that I have been creative at Nursery.
- I may come home a bit wet or with sand on my clothes, I learn huge amounts of maths and science whilst playing in the water and sand trays.
- The mud kitchen is very messy but I develop my imagination and ability to use descriptive language whilst playing in it.
- I may sometimes get pen on myself but I am trying hard to learn how to develop my writing and mark-making skills.

For these reasons please bring your child to Nursery in practical clothes and practical footwear or if you are taking them somewhere else after Nursery bring spare clothes so that they can play and learn freely!

Lunches

Your child can bring their lunch in a named lunch box but please ensure you do not bring any foods that can trigger allergies in other children, such as **nut-based** foods and snacks e.g. peanut butter and Nutella as well as cereal bars that contain nuts. We currently have a child within our Foundation Stage setting that suffers from a severe, airborne **Sesame** allergy. Please check your food labels for this allergen before packing any lunch or snacks.

You can also order a school dinner. The menu is on the school website or can be obtained from the main school office. Each day there is a choice of a hot meal, a vegetarian option, Jacket potatoes with different fillings or sandwiches. Unless you have successfully applied for Free School Meals on the Citizen Portal, the daily cost of a school lunch £2.40. Your child's lunch can be ordered via the Live Kitchen App and be paid for via the Parentmail App (please see links below).

Medication and Sickness

If you require medication to be administered to your child during their time at nursery, you must complete a form at the school office prior to handing the medication to nursery staff. This includes topical creams and inhalers.

If your child is unwell, please phone the school office to inform us of their absence. If your child has had diarrhoea or vomiting, they cannot return to school for 48 hours.

For further information please see the NHS link on the school's website.

Suncream Policy

In the event of sunny weather our Nursery policy on the use of suncream is as follows:

- If your child is attending for a half day sessions please administer sun cream before your child comes to Nursery.
- In order to ensure that we can efficiently and effectively protect your children during the school day, and taking into account some allergens that are present in particular suncreams, we have introduced a suncream scheme, whereby parents make a small contribution towards suitable suncream provided by the school (Garnier Ambre Solaire, Kids Sensitive Advanced, factor 50+). A member of staff will apply this to your child at lunchtime, or as required. Please complete the suncream scheme consent form and return to the Nursery team.

On sunny days, please can your child wear a sun hat. Please ensure your child's name is written in the sun hat.

Potty training advice for parents

Whilst most of our 3 year olds starting Nursery are potty trained we recognise that due to medical reasons some children require further support to learn to use the toilet. Please see our nursery potty training leaflet for support with your child's potty training.

Reasons to potty train:

- You will save money! According to 'What Price' the average cost of an 18-24 month old using nappies is £124.10 for a year. Keeping a child in nappies for two years costs £800. If your child continues to wear nappies beyond 2 years old this cost will continue to increase. Reference:
<http://www.whatprice.co.uk/health/parent/nappies.html#ixzz4jizZtGVk>.
- From as young as 16 months there is an expectation in the Early years curriculum for children to become aware of toileting and by **age 4** children are ultimately expected to be able to **use the toilet independently to meet age-related expectations for physical development.**
- Children who require nappies and pull-ups to be changed whilst at Nursery do miss out on some learning opportunities as they are having much more frequent personal care provided and this often stops them from being present at group-time and altogether time where various aspects of the curriculum are being taught.

How to potty train:

Please see below for some useful links to supportive websites. It is worth noting that potty training advice supplied by nappy or pull-up companies whilst at times useful does have a nappy pant or pull-up selling agenda!

- NHS advice:
<http://www.nhs.uk/Conditions/pregnancy-and-baby/Pages/potty-training-tips.aspx>.
This website provides many links to videos and advice for common questions. You can also ask your Health Visitor for support with potty training.
- ERIC website:
<https://www.eric.org.uk/Pages/Category/potty-training>.
This website also provides answers to many frequently asked questions as well as 10 top tips for potty training.
- Please remember staff at Tavistock Nursery School are available to support you and your child with the process. As with any learning it can take time and you may have days where children have more 'accidents' than others but this is normal and part of the learning process.
- The Children's Centre is also available to provide further support with potty training.

Communication and Tapestry

Please feel free to approach any member of staff if you have questions or queries about any aspect of Nursery life. Your child's Key Worker will know them best but all staff work closely together and we pride ourselves on getting to know all of the children well. Key information will be reported back to you at the end of each session but please do ask if you have further questions.

We use 'Tapestry', an online system to document some of your child's learning; this is a great source of information and provides an insight into day-to-day activities. We aim to upload at least once a week for each child. Please ensure that you activate your account as soon as you have details.

Parent consultations are held in October and February, in line with the rest of the school; however, due to the number of nursery pupils and the staggered points of entry throughout the year, appointments may need to take place outside of these dates.

Useful Links

- Parent Mail- pay for lunches and other items
<https://pmx.parentmail.co.uk/#core/login>
- Live Kitchen- order school lunches
<https://schoolgrid.co.uk/lk/>
- Tavistock Primary and Nursery School Website- Term Dates and other useful information
<https://www.tavistock-pri.devon.sch.uk/website/home/1569>
- Tapestry Online Learning Journal
<https://tapestry.info/>