



# Nursery Prospectus

Redbourn Infant and Nursery School  
2018-19



Thank you for your valued interest in our Nursery which is an integral part of Redbourn Infant and Nursery School.

We believe our school should be at the heart of the community, which is why we work in close partnership with our parents, our junior school, playgroups and the village community. We see our parents as the child's first educator and strive to involve them in all areas of the child's nursery experience. We aim to visit every child in their home before they start at Nursery so that we can learn more about them and to give you the opportunity to ask questions, share information and meet us in a familiar setting for your child.

We want all our children to:

- have the best possible experience as they start their education and work closely with parents and carers to make this possible.
- be enthusiastic to attend Nursery, love their learning and to be proud of their achievements.
- be healthy and stay safe and to be caring and respectful towards others.

Our teachers plan for a wide range of learning opportunities that match the interests and the needs of the children.

Tours of the Nursery have been arranged for prospective parents – these are published on the website and can be booked with the office. We hope you will enjoy learning about our Nursery and look forward to welcoming you on one of our tours.

**Head teacher:**

**Mrs Jane Byrne**

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Nursery School**

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# Why should you choose our Nursery for your child?

We believe that we offer every child the very best start to their education. Here are some of the reasons why:

Rated as outstanding in all areas by Ofsted November 2015.

We offer flexible hours with the option of children staying for lunch or for both Nursery sessions.

Our Nursery children are taught by experienced, qualified teachers supported by qualified Early Years Practitioners.

Safeguarding is of paramount importance and we have an excellent record for this.



We offer a comprehensive transition programme to support children with their move to Reception.

We offer a fantastic, stimulating indoor and outdoor environment.

The children are at the heart of all our decision making and practices.

Our Nursery is fully integrated with the school and the traditions, celebrations and resources it has to offer.

Our Early Years Foundation Stage team has been awarded Gold for the Early Years Standards accreditation.

Our outcomes at the end of year two for children who attended our nursery compare favourably and often exceed expectations.

<b>The Structure of a Typical Nursery Session</b>	
Arrival at Nursery	The children go to their key worker group and take part in a simple activity to develop their fine motor, literacy or mathematical skills before the register is taken and we sing our welcome songs.
Teacher Learning	Learning Owl shares with each Key Worker group what they will be learning to do that day. The teacher works with small groups on an activity related to one of the areas from the curriculum.
Learning Through Play	The children decide which area they would like to play in and are given time to develop their ideas and pursue their interests.
Snack Time	The children come back together in their Key Worker groups to share a drink and a snack. This is also used as a teaching time and for group discussion.
Phonics	The children stay in their Key Worker groups for Phonics. They play various games and join in activities designed to develop their phonic knowledge and awareness.
Learning Through Play	Again, our highly qualified practitioners interact with and observe the children in their play, supporting them to develop their skills and understanding.
Story	Typically the session ends with a story before the children sing the 'Good bye' song to mark the end of the session.



## Our Nursery Environment

Our Nursery building is attached to the main school, with its own, large outdoor area which is shared with the Reception class. Risk assessments are carried out daily and our site manager is on hand to address any maintenance issues as they arise.

### Outdoor Area

We know how important outside space is to all children and that many children learn best when they are outdoors. The children in our Nursery have daily access to the outside area. There are canopies to give shade in the summer as well as shelter from the rain. Our equipment provides the children with many opportunities to develop their skills. These are some of the many fantastic things that our outdoor area has to offer.



The Nursery has regular access to the school's Woodlands area, where the children can benefit from further outdoor learning activities. We are also able to take advantage of the larger school playground with its extensive range of play equipment.



## Indoor Area

Our purpose-built Nursery is warm and inviting with a quiet cosy area to relax and where children listen to, or share a story. There are two main carpet areas, where the key worker groups share time together and where the children can have space to build, and engage in imaginative play. The wet area is where the children enjoy exploring the water and sand or producing art work. The role play supports children to re-enact their own experiences and is changed regularly to match the children's interests. The toilets are just the right size for the children to use, with sinks at an appropriate height to enable independence.



## How and What We Teach

As a Nursery, we follow the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum. This covers three Prime areas:

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

It also includes four Specific areas:

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



Our environment is set up to support children's learning through all these areas in their play.



Experienced, qualified teachers plan the teaching activities and resources each week so that the children are constantly stimulated and taking their learning forwards. We encourage the children to take ownership of their learning and to talk about their 'next steps'. Each child has a personalised 'next step' to work on.

### **Personal, Social and Emotional Development**

underpins all that is happening in the Foundation Stage, and most learning opportunities will have a PSED learning objective as well as one from the main focus for learning. Teaching children to play or work together, to form positive relationships based on respect and to be tolerant of each other's feelings are skills which will impact on their ability as lifelong learners as much as being able to read and write. We teach these skills through our whole approach to the curriculum.



**Communication and Language** covers all areas of speaking and listening and the essential communication skills. We spend a lot of time developing these skills in Nursery. The children are frequently encouraged to share their ideas with others and are supported to extend their vocabulary. They listen to and join in with stories and rhymes. Children talk about their own experiences and answer questions.

**Physical Development** is very important to these children who are still growing and developing and it is vital they have lots of opportunities to develop their muscles through large gross motor movements such as running and climbing and smaller fine motor skills such as scissor and pen control and building bricks. In Foundation Stage we ensure the children have plenty of opportunity to be outside so they can move freely and practice all these skills to strengthen their muscles in their play.





**Literacy** encourages children to develop the skills for reading and writing by seeing others doing it and by having a go themselves. They are introduced to the skills they will need to develop. For example, they are encouraged to hear the sounds letters make and to say what they are trying to write when they put marks on paper. They have opportunities to write for a range of purposes.

**Mathematics** is taught through practical experiences as children need to be able to count and know which number name relates to each symbol before they can start doing sums on paper. They need to develop the concept of what each number actually means. Children also need to be able to use everyday language to talk about size, weight, time and money. They should notice patterns around them and name/describe everyday objects and shapes.



**Understanding the World** refers to all the enquiring and thinking skills which will later be seen as science, history, geography, R.E and technology. Through these the children learn about the world in which they live. Our teaching always has a topic base as young children see life as a whole and not in parts. They will have the chance to explore their world in practical ways which will enable them to follow their own enthusiasm to learn.

**Expressive Arts and Design** is an essential area of learning for young children to explore the many textures and materials and find ways of expressing their feelings and emotions. Many young children need to spend a lot of time exploring how materials and tools work so they can use this knowledge later to create their own designs and know how things work. They also sing songs, make music and dance.



## **Our Core Offer**

We offer 15 hours of teacher-led Nursery education over either five morning sessions, (from 8.40am -11.40am) or over five afternoons (12.30pm - 3.30pm).

## **Extended Hours**

We are also able to offer a limited number of extended hours places at either our Lunch Club or Treetops Club.

Children attending Lunch Club will attend from 8.40am – 12.30pm (if they are in Morning Nursery) or from 11.40am – 3.30pm (if they are in Afternoon Nursery). There is a charge of £5 per day and a packed lunch must be provided.

Treetops Club allows children to attend Nursery from 8.40am until 3.30pm (or 2.40pm for 30 hours free childcare with an option to extend until 3.30pm at a cost of £5 per day). A packed lunch must be provided. The cost is £20 per day and Childcare Vouchers are accepted.

We do not offer part time or flexible places involving split funding. Parents entitled to 30 hours free childcare may choose to accept a Nursery place and access the additional 15 hours with an alternative provider (childminder or PVI setting). The school is prepared to meet with parents or carers on a case by case basis to discuss individual needs of their child if necessary.

## **Admissions**

Redbourn Infant and Nursery School is a community school and follows Hertfordshire County Council Guidelines for school admissions. (For more information please see the school admissions page at [www.hertfordshire.gov.uk](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk) ). All schools with a Nursery are responsible for managing their own Nursery admissions.

We have a single intake policy for Nursery so all children will be admitted in September. The Headteacher and Governors may decide to admit individual children outside of these timetables at their discretion.

## **Our Application Process**

We will publish information relevant to the Nursery application process on our website. This information will cover:

- ❖ Dates when parents/ carers can come and visit our Nursery
- ❖ The timetable for admissions
- ❖ An application form
- ❖ The criteria used to allocate places

## **It is very important to ensure applications are submitted on time.**

After the closing date, the school will process all the applications and the results of the Nursery allocations will be communicated to parents who can either accept or reject the place. Applications for morning and afternoon places and extended hours will be invited after this stage.

## **Caring for our Children**

All our staff understand that if a child feels happy and secure they will be better able to learn. It is very important that we are informed of any issues concerning your child's health and well-being.

All of our Nursery staff are qualified as emergency first aiders with many who have specialised in Paediatric First Aid. Our teddy bears are always ready to help comfort an upset child.

In Nursery the vast majority of children are quick to learn the expectations and behave very well. They become aware of the needs of others and learn to take turns and wait for their needs to be met. We use praise and positive reinforcement to promote good behaviour. Our 'Golden Rules' and ethos of 'caring and sharing' underpin all that we do in Nursery.

## **Safeguarding**

The safeguarding of everyone connected with our Nursery and school is of paramount importance. All staff and volunteers must have an enhanced DBS check before they can work with the children. Volunteers are also asked to read, sign and adhere to the points made in the Volunteers Handbook, which relate to safeguarding and health and safety.

## **Child Protection**

Our teachers and Early Years practitioners are fully trained in Child Protection. We follow the procedures defined by Hertfordshire County Council to ensure all of our children are safeguarded. The Nursery, as part of the school, may need to share information and work in partnership with other agencies. Our policy and the Hertfordshire County Council Policy are available from the school office or from the school website.

Our Head teacher is the Designated Senior Person dealing with Child Protection.