

ST. MARY'S NURSERY



Apps you will need



Arbour - We share important information, key events and dates throughout the year



Tapestry - All observations and information about the class and your child's achievements



ParentPay - To pay for any fees, paid sessions, trips, etc.

ST. MARY'S NURSERY



Parent Information Booklet



St Mary's Nursery
St Mary's Primary Academy Folkestone
Warren Road
Folkestone
Kent
CT19 6QH

**ST. MARY'S
NURSERY**



Welcome to our Nursery

On behalf of the governors and staff at St. Mary's Academy, we would like to welcome you and your child to our nursery. We hope that our relationship will be one of trust, understanding and a positive experience for all involved.

St. Mary's Nursery is managed by qualified and experienced Early Years' teachers and staff.



Our Aims:

- To develop in every child a positive self image, confidence and sensitivity to others.
- To help children and their parents to make an easy transition from the family home to the larger community of the nursery and school.
- To maintain a welcoming, secure and stimulating environment in which little minds and bodies can grow happily and at their own pace.

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As a parent/guardian, how can I help with my child's learning?

All the fun activities that you do with your child at home are important in supporting their learning and development and have a long lasting effect on your child's learning as they progress through school. Even when your child is very young and is not yet able to talk, talking to them each day helps them to learn and understand new words and ideas.

At St. Mary's Nursery, we like our parents to be involved in their child's learning and development, when your child starts you will be set up with an account on Tapestry where you will be able to see your child's observations in nursery and what learning they have done. You will be able to add photos and observations from home as well. Every week your child will be set some home learning specific to them that you can support them at home.

Every 6 weeks your child will come home with a Focus child sheet which you complete and bring back to nursery for the start of their nursery week. It is really important the focus sheet is completed and handed back to the nursery staff.

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What will your child need to bring?

- A spare set of clothes in a named bag to be placed on their peg.
- A named coat
- Nappies and wipes if needed.
- A named lunch box with a healthy lunch to be placed on the table outside if your child is not entitled to a free lunch or you are not paying for a lunch. Lunch boxes should contain starchy food, such as bread, potato, rice or pasta, at least one item of fruit, vegetable or salad and a balance of foods from different food groups.
- Slippers if your child would like to wear them inside.
- In the hot weather, we ask that children have sun cream applied before arrival and they bring a suitable sun hat.

Please could children wear shoes that they can easily take on and off as children like to take their shoes off inside.

What Nursery will provide!

- Morning healthy snack
- Milk (available for snack time and throughout the day)
- A hot school lunch for children receiving EYPP funding or paid lunch.
- Wellies
- We have a selection of wet weather clothing. We like to learn in all types of weather!

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Price List:

Additional sessions on top of the Free Early Educational funding.

Hourly rate for 2 and 3 year olds - £6.00

Weekly for 15 hours for 2 and 3 year olds - £90.00

Early start with breakfast 08:00—09:00 am. - £6.00

Early start without breakfast 08:30—09:00 am. - £3.50

Late collection 15:00—15:30 pm. - £3.50

Nursery fees are required if your child is not receiving Free Early Educational funding.

Fees are expected to be paid termly and in advance.

Fees can be paid through Parent Pay or the tax-free government scheme.

Early start sessions and late collections have to be pre-booked termly with Miss Tugwood or Mrs Thompsett.

Any questions or requests for early start sessions please email nursery@st-marys-folkestone.kent.sch.uk



Our Daily Routine:

- 09:00 Nursery day begins
- 09:05 Welcome Time
- 09:10 Key Group Time
- 09:35 Child Initiated Learning
- 11:40 Story/Singing Time
- 12:00 Lunch
- 12:30 Child Initiated Learning
- 14:30 RWI or Phonics
- 14:50 Story Time
- 15:00 Home Time

Children will attend the forest area during their sessions

Our timetable changes due to the needs and interests of the children throughout the day.



What is the EYFS framework?

The EYFS Framework exists to support all professionals working in the EYFS to help your child and was developed with a number of early years' experts and parents.

In September 2020, the framework was revised to make it clearer and easier to use, with more focus on the things that matter the most. This framework also has a greater emphasis on your role in helping your child's development.

The EYFS Framework sets out:-

- The legal welfare requirement is that everyone registered to look after children must follow to keep your child safe and promote their welfare
- The 7 areas of learning and development which guide professionals' engagement with your child's play and activities as they learn new skills and knowledge
- Assessments that will tell you about your child's progress through the EYFS
- Expected levels that your child should reach at age 5, usually by the end of their Reception year; these expectations are called the Early Learning Goals

At St. Mary's Nursery, we use the framework to ensure your child will be learning skills, acquiring new knowledge and demonstrating their understanding through 7 areas of learning and development. Children should mostly develop the 3 Prime areas first.

These are:

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

These Prime areas are the most essential for your child's healthy development and future learning. As children grow, the Prime areas will then help them to develop skills in 4 Specific areas. These are:

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

These 7 areas are used to plan your child's learning and activities that take place at St. Mary's Nursery, ensuring activities are suited to your child's needs. Children in the EYFS learn by playing and exploring, being active and through creative and critical thinking, which takes place both indoors and outside.



What do I do next?

Children's names can be entered for a place any time after birth. This must be done by collecting a register of interest from St. Mary's Academy Office or the nursery.

The completed form should be returned to the nursery or academy office. Evidence of your child's home address and date of birth need to be seen when you apply. This could be a Doctor's letter, National Health document etc.

Once we have received the completed form, your child will be placed onto our waiting list. You will be contacted by telephone within a month of your chosen start date to offer a place in the nursery and arrange a Stay and Play session and/or a start date. You will be informed of session availability when you are contacted.

If you have any questions, please ring the academy office (01303 251390) and a member of nursery staff will contact you.

We look forward to welcoming you and your child into our friendly nursery. You are welcome to come and look around. Just contact the academy office to book a time.

Please check our website for more information: www.stmarysfolkestone.com



St Mary's Curriculum Planning

Our nursery follows a child led approach to learning. This means that our nursery day is led by the children and their interests. When children are playing and selecting what they do themselves, they become deeply engaged. While this is happening, our adults are observing and waiting for the moment in which they feel they can make a difference. Our adults value and listen to the ideas and needs of every individual child. This ensures that every child has a voice in our nursery and our highly skilled staff expertly enhance their learning experiences and implement each child's next steps effectively.

This approach to learning ensures the relationships between our staff and the children are successful and that the children feel excited and empowered by their learning.

Each week every key group has a focus child where the key person will plan activities for that child following their interests and their next steps. The children are then given time to practise and develop these skills through child-initiated time.

When you tour the nursery or attend any stay and play sessions our staff will be willing to explain this further and demonstrate how it works during a typical nursery day.

