



ST. MARY'S NURSERY

Looking for a safe, nurturing environment for your little ones? Look no further! Our nursery provides:

- ✓ Experienced and caring staff
- ✓ Secure and stimulating facilities
- ✓ Educational and fun activities

*Ofsted
rated
GOOD*

Our Contact :

01303 212701

Warren Road,

Folkestone, CT19 6QH

nursery@st-marys-folkestone.kent.sch.uk

WELCOME TO 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.



OUR CURRICULUM

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.



ADMISSIONS

St. Mary's Nursery caters for children aged from 2 years old and over. We have limited 2 year old spaces which can either be charged at a cost of £7.00 per hour or funded through FF2 funding or the new working family funding. Every child is entitled to 15 hours the term after their third birthday. There are 30 places per session. Children attend for two full days and one half day per week or all week if 30 hours is applicable and there is space.

Please enquire for more information on funding or visit this website kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/childcare-and-pre-school/help-with-childcare-costs

The sessions for Free Early Education funding we offer are as follows:

Little Learners: Monday and Tuesday, 9.00am to 3.00pm, Wednesday morning, 8.45am to 11:45am

Little Discoverers: Wednesday afternoon 12.00pm to 3.00pm, Thursday and Friday 9.00am to 3.00pm

We admit children on the following criteria:-

1. Children in Local Authority Care or formally in Local Authority care— a child under the age of 18 years for whom the local authority provides accommodation by agreement with their parents/carers (section 22 of the Children Act 1989) or who ceased to be so because they were adopted or who is the subject of a care order under Part IV of the Act.
2. Children who are on the Kent Social Services Child in Need Register or on the Kent Social Services Child Protection Register.
3. Children with brothers or sisters in the school at the time of entry.
4. Other applicants. These applicants will be prioritised according to proximity of residence. We use the distance between the child's permanent home address and the school, measured in a straight line using Ordinance Survey address point data.

It is hoped that most children attending our nursery will be able to transfer into the rest of the school as they get older, but separate applications have to be made. This is because parents do not have to take up pre-school placements but attendance in full time education is compulsory after a child reaches the age of five.

INFORMATION

What your child will 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 balanced lunch to be placed on the unit 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.
- In the hot weather, we ask that children have sun cream applied before arrival and they bring a suitable sun hat.
- A water bottle with water in.

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 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!

APPS YOU WILL NEED

We understand that communication between families and the Nursery is very important. We use different platforms to ensure we have excellent communication with you.

The following apps are essential to your child's journey in Nursery:



Arbor is used to keep all your child's details up to date for example contact details, medical information and is also used to book parent meetings etc.



Tapestry is used to upload photos and observations of your child in nursery as well as sharing information about key dates and general information.



Parentpay is used to pay for any paid sessions, any school resources such as book bags, hoodies or trips.



Caterlink is used to pay for school lunches if you would like your child to have a hot lunch.

