



Fox Hill Nursery

Fox Hill Primary,
Keats Road,
Sheffield S6 1AZ
01142313469



We would like to welcome you and your child into our Nursery.



Fox Hill Nursery is part of Fox Hill Primary, within the Steel City Schools Partnership.

The Nursery has 52 places (morning and afternoon) and is staffed by a fully qualified and dedicated team who are always willing to help you.

Introduction.

Starting Nursery is an important step in your child's life. It will help if your child

- Attends a toddler or playgroup.
- Is used to the company of other children and adults.
- Is allowed to help with shopping, baking, in fact any tasks around the house and garden.
- Is used to enjoying stories and singing Nursery rhymes.
- Has been encouraged to draw and paint.

Aims Our aims are

- to create an atmosphere in which the transition from home to school is a positive and enjoyable experience for your child.

- to provide a stimulating, structured environment in which your child will be able to investigate, discover and progress.
- to give children a wide variety of valuable learning experiences, which will help them to grow in confidence, understanding and independence.

These early years are some of the most important in a child's life as they are learning and developing so rapidly and we take great pride in being able to share these early years with you.



The Nursery Curriculum

We follow the seven areas of learning in the Foundation Stage; undertaken both indoors and outdoors. Children are free to access the outdoor classroom for the majority of the session. The activities and experience will revolve around play where children learn both about themselves and their environment.

Communication and Language

Children are encouraged to talk and interact with others by providing opportunities for them to share ideas, develop good listening and concentration skills.

Physical Development

We encourage the children to develop gross motor skills required to move about, the finer motor skills need to develop control of smaller objects. As children develop control and coordination they eventually learn to handle such items as pens, scissors and paint brushes. Through the health and self-care aspect children find out about the effects of a healthy life style on their bodies and managing their personal needs such as dressing.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

We work with children to help them become independent and to interact with other children and adults. Children are helped to think about what is right and wrong and help them to establish meaningful relationships with others. We do this through individual activities as well as group time activities such as group/story time.

Literacy

We provide for a variety of mark making opportunities from writing with a pencil to writing in the sand with a stick, hoping this will lead to them writing their own name. A love of books is encouraged through story telling at our group times, which will help promote pre-reading skills.



Mathematical Development

Children are encouraged to gain an understanding of what numbers actually represent and help develop an ability to count beyond 10. We use mathematical language and develop skills in comparing, sorting, ordering and grading objects and through singing a range of number rhymes. Our activities also develop concepts such as shape, colour, size, weight and time.

Knowledge of the World

Children look closely at their own world, at changes in the seasons and growth and they are encouraged to develop an understanding of how other people live including their different cultures and beliefs. We encourage a questioning and enquiring mind through a range of activities from baking to growing seeds. They will have the opportunity to use and understand a range of Information and Communication Technology (ICT).

Expressive Arts and Design

Children enjoy a range of creative activities including art, music, dance, role-play and imaginative play through which they learn more about their world. We provide for painting, drawing, cutting, sticking, the use of clay and playdough and music.



Clothing

Children are involved in outdoor play and messy activities so please try to ensure that your child comes in easily washable clothes. We do have aprons for painting but they do not always give 100% protection.

Please try to ensure that your child wears clothing that they can easily manage, fasten and unfasten. This will help them to visit the toilet independently and help avoid 'accidents'. Belts, dungarees and tight jeans potentially cause problems for young children.

Encourage your child to become independent in dressing and undressing, particularly with regard to putting on their own coats and shoes. We have a store of Nursery wellies for the

children to use to go in the woods; laces can cause problems for young children. **Please put your child's name on all items of clothing particularly coats, hats, cardigans.**

Toys and Jewellery

We would prefer if children did not bring jewellery or toys as they often can get lost or broken. However comfort toys are allowed, particularly when your child starts Nursery, but we cannot accept responsibility for them.

Milk and Snack Fund

Milk is available each session and is free of charge together with a piece of fruit. Water is always available for children to access independently. We would ask for a voluntary contribution of 50p per week which helps to provide for baking and food tasting activities. *Your voluntary contribution is very much appreciated.*

Helping your child at home.

Every half term we send home Class News which gives you ideas of how you can help you child listing

- the books we are reading - you can then read them at home,
- the songs we are singing together with the words,
- the maths focus.

Encouraging talk is very important to your child's development - talk with them about their day at Nursery and tell them about your day too.

Nursery Places and Admission

Nursery places are offered free of charge when available to children on the waiting list when they are 3 years of age or older according to availability. Children's names can be put on our list at any time and parents and carers are welcome to visit the Nursery to have a look around and complete an initial admission form.

Notification of an offer of a place will be by letter. Your child is entitled to fifteen hours of nursery provision which can be taken as a morning place (9.00 a.m. until 12 noon) or an afternoon (12 noon until 3.00 p.m.) or over 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ days. Days and times will be decided after discussion with families which be done at our Home Visit. Starting dates are staggered so that children can be welcomed in gradually and to give families and staff time to get to know each other.

It important that your child is brought and collected within the times stated above. However, if you are unavoidably delayed then please telephone. For the safety of your child please inform Nursery if your child is to be collected by someone different.

Transferring to School

Children can transfer to school in the academic year following their 4th birthday - they can choose to go in September, January or April. A separate application must be made by parents and we will help with yours child's transition into school.