



Woodlands Academy  
Nursery Class  
2024/25

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# Welcome to Woodlands Academy!

Woodlands is a warm and friendly school and we believe in working in partnership with you to care for, and educate your child. We believe that home and school are complementary and should work closely together to help your child grow and learn. As a school we are committed to ensuring that every child has the very best, happiest and smoothest start to their school life and that parents and carers find it as painless as possible too!



# Nursery Class Team

Here is our nursery class team.



Miss Sherborne:  
Nursery Teacher



Miss Stone:  
Teaching Assistant



Mrs Braine:  
Teaching Assistant  
(Friday afternoons)

## Nursery Sessions

We have 3 different sessions each week. These are the timings for each.

**If your child is having a 15hr space they will attend:**

**Monday and Tuesday 8:45—3:15,**

**Wednesday 8:45—11:45**

**OR**

**Wednesday 12:15—3:15,**

**Thursday and Friday 8:45—3:15.**

**If your child is having a 30 hrs space they will attend**

**Monday—Thursday 8:45-3:15 and**

**Friday 8:45—12:45 (this includes lunchtime).**

*Attendance is really important and we expect children to attend every session unless they are unwell or have an appointment, When children miss sessions it can mean they are unsettled when they return.*

*Its also important that children arrive on time each morning/afternoon so they can fully enjoy their nursery session.*

*If your child is going to be absent we ask you phone the office each morning before 8:45.*

## Settling into Nursery

To ensure your child feels secure and happy at Nursery we offer a home visit, a stay and play and reduced sessions. This gives each child a chance to meet staff and feel familiar in the new environment before they attend without their adult.

### Home visit

All children will be offered a home visit prior to starting nursery. This is a very important part of their transition to nursery as they get to meet their teachers in their home environment and become familiar with the adults they will see at school. At the home visit we will fill in some forms with you and you will have the opportunity to discuss any concerns or worries.

*You should already have a date and time for a home visit, please let us know if it isn't convenient and we can change this for you*





### Stay and Play

We will be having a 30 minute stay and play session on Thursday 5th September, 3:30-4:00pm for new children to attend with their adult. This is an opportunity for your child to meet staff and explore the nursery classroom and garden. Our staff team will be available to answer any questions or queries.

### Reduced sessions

When you receive your welcome letter you will be given a start date for your child. This will also outline the sessions your child will do as they settle into Nursery. These are not set in stone and can sometimes change if a child needs a longer settling period or are very settled and can build up to full hours sooner than planned! A member of the team will talk to you if these hours need to change at all.

## Curriculum

In Nursery we follow the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum. This curriculum emphasises play based learning to help children's development, fostering a safe and engaging environment for children to grow. By following the EYFS we can support your child's development. We have a topic each term as our main focus but also use children's interests and fascinations to help us plan engaging activities.

These are the termly topics.

Term 1	Me, Myself and I
Term 2	Let's Celebrate
Term 3	Fantastic Fairytails
Term 4	It is Spring!
Term 5	Up, up and away!
Term 6	Hooray...let's go on holiday!



## Our Day!

Here is an example of the Nursery day.

**Welcome time** – We sing our hello song and count how many children are in using our counting wand!

**Group time** – this is an adult led group time where children complete an activity.

**Free Flow** – Children choose to play inside or outside.

**Story time**

**Snack time** – We sit and share a piece of fruit and milk

**Free Flow** - Children choose to play inside or outside.

**Lunchtime** – We sit and eat lunch in the classroom with our teachers.

**Relax time** – Children listen to relaxing music whilst they lay down quietly for 5-10 mins.

**Group time** - this is an adult led group time where children complete an activity.

**Snack time** - We sit and share a piece of fruit and milk

**Singing or story**

**Home time**



## Snack Time

Snack time is a lovely sociable time of our day. We sit at the table and children can select some fruit and choose to have milk or a drink from their water bottles. Independence is encouraged and adults support children if needed.

Children all have free milk until the term after they turn 5. This is offered once a day.

Fruit is also available as part of the school fruit and vegetable scheme and a piece is offered once a day. We have a different sort of fruit or vegetable each day!



## Lunches

Your child may have a school dinner or a packed lunch. Unfortunately, nursery aged children are not included in the universal free school meals, unless you are entitled to free school meals you will need to pay for these, they are currently £2.40 a day. School dinners need to be ordered and paid for in advance via the 'Parentmail' website or app. This will be set up for you ready for the beginning of September. If your child has a packed lunch this needs to be in a labelled container or bag and must not contain fizzy drinks, sweets, chocolate bars or anything containing any kind of nut as we are a nut free school!

We all sit in Nursery with our teachers to have our dinner.



## Library Sessions

We are very lucky to have a lovely library at our school . Every Tuesday and Thursday morning we walk upstairs to visit it. The children love looking at the books and sharing them with the adults. The children can then choose a book to bring home and share with you! These are perfect for a bedtime story or for sharing after a busy day. If your child then returns the book the following week they can choose another to bring home.



## Uniform

All children, including those in Nursery, are expected to wear our school uniform with pride.

Children are expected to wear a white polo shirt, school jumper (or a plain dark blue jumper) with dark-coloured bottoms.

Uniform needs to be ordered online through the Price & Buckland website. Woodlands Academy ([pbuniform-online.co.uk](http://pbuniform-online.co.uk))

Nursery children can wear jogging bottoms or leggings in dark blue, dark grey or black to enable them to use the toilet easily.



## Tapestry—Online Learning Journal

Tapestry is an app that we use to record observations of your children. This includes photos and videos. You can then access these observations on an app that is on your phone.

It can also be used by yourself to show us things your children have done or achieved at home. When you upload a photo or video we receive a notification and can comment on your post. We really enjoy seeing what your child has been doing at home!

We value quality over quantity and you will find observations at school record WOW moments and recording special activities we have done together, such as sports day.

At your home visit staff we ask for your email address which can then be registered with tapestry. You will then get an activation email to sign up to the website or app.



## Intimate care

In Nursery we encourage children to be potty trained before they start as this helps in their independence in school. However, we know that every child is different and some may not be quite ready for this. If your child is still in nappies, we have a changing area and just ask you bring a bag with nappies and wipes so we can change your child when necessary. All children who need extra support in this way will have an intimate care plan which we will personalise to your child.

When the time is right we can then support your child to use the toilet. We have a lovely bathroom with small toilets for the children to use!



## Nursery Events!

Here are some events that are pencilled in for this academic year 2024/25. These are subject to change and more information will be given nearer the time.

### Autumn Term:

**Christmas Dinner 18th December:** All children invited to attend.

**Christmas Production 11th December:** Parents come to watch us perform some festive songs! All children attend in the morning.

**Christmas Party (date TBC):** All children invited to attend for the afternoon.

### Summer Term

**Sports Day 25th June:** All Children attend in the morning and 15 hours children just do the AM.

**School Trip:** (Venue and date TBC) —all children invited and can stay all day,

**Nursery Graduation 16th July:** Children going to Reception celebrate their time in Nursery, only these children attend but all children are invited to attend with their parents at 11 for a picnic in the Nursery garden (weather permitted).





## Things to remember!

- Spare clothes (underwear, bottoms, tops, socks, nappies if needed) to be brought in named carrier bag or backpack (with name on) and kept in school.
- Please bring a water bottle each day.
- Children need a pair of wellies (named please) that they can leave in Nursery as we change into them every time we go outside!
- Children's shoes need to be Velcro or slip on (no crocs or laces please) to enable independence in putting wellies on and off.
- Coats, hats and gloves (according to the weather) can come with your child each day and taken home each day.
- Please bring in a family photo for our family tree display in Nursery.









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