

Welcome



to
St John's School
Nursery

**At St John's School Nursery we aim to provide a
Thinking, Learning, Caring Community.**

Meet the team.....



**Mrs Bekusch
Nursery Officer**



**Mrs Jones
Class teacher**



**Mrs Mercier
Nursery Officer**

Nursery

Our Nursery hours are:

**8.45am – 12.45pm/1.45pm/2.45pm
Lunch is between 11.45am – 12:45pm**

We aspire to create a happy, relaxed atmosphere in our nursery class.
Please help us to achieve this by always entering the class calmly during
transition times at the start and end of sessions.

Our doors open at 8:45 each morning. If you need to pass on any relevant information regarding your child e.g. if they are tired due to a sleepless night, or any other factor that might affect their learning that day, please speak to your child's key worker. At the end of the session it is important to collect your child promptly, as they can become anxious if everyone else has gone and they are left alone. Due to our safeguarding policy, please ensure the nursery staff know who is picking up your child at home time. If a different person to normal is coming to school to collect, please notify the school secretary. Older brothers and sisters are not considered sufficiently responsible to collect children from nursery.

Registration of nursery places

Please phone our school secretary or collect a form from school to register a new child for Nursery. It is advisable to do this as early as possible.

Admissions Policy

- * Prospective parents and their child/children are requested to make an appointment to visit the school.
- * Places will be allocated according to CYPES criteria.
- *Nursery Age children are entitled to 20 free hours which we spread across our 5 morning sessions. Additional hours are available and the registration form is available at gov.je

A place in St. John's School Nursery does not guarantee a place in the Reception class the following year. For current Reception procedures for admission, please visit gov.je



Aims and Objectives of our Nursery

Our setting aims to provide:

- A caring environment.
- Opportunities to 'have a go' without fear of failure.
- A safe place where we are all recognised as a unique individual.
- An environment where we are listened to and valued.
- A place where self esteem is given a high priority.
- Positive opportunities for all children, regardless of gender, ethnic origin or social circumstance.



Our nursery is a place where we give time and space for the children to discover the world around them. We value the importance of treating children as individuals and embrace their learning styles. The adults in our setting tune into children's interests to facilitate quality reflective learning experiences.

We place great priority on building quality, secure relationships between adults and children. Learning opportunities initiated by children will be used to provide a platform to model a dialogue of enquiry and provoke curiosity. This is achieved by displaying a genuine interest, giving encouragement, welcoming and clarifying ideas and asking open questions to support and extend the children's thinking and helping them to make connections in their learning.

'Development Matters'

The fundamental purpose of our planning is to tune into the needs of our individual children using the guidance in our 'Development Matters' Early Years Curriculum.

We use the 'Early Excellence' online Learning Journey to observe and record your children's achievements.

We work in partnership between home and nursery and value parental contributions.



Each child is assigned a Key Worker who helps them settle into the Nursery and also records each child's development.

During the day the children have the opportunity of working in their Key Worker groups. In these small groups all areas of the curriculum may be visited. The Nursery Staff are always willing to discuss and answer any questions about your child's experiences.

The ethos of the school, **Thinking, Learning and Caring** is a sentiment at the very 'heart' of our nursery. In our attempt to fulfill this mission statement we aim to . . .

- Give children time/space to experiment with any existing skills/knowledge they already have.
- Help children to discover things for themselves and most importantly see obstacles as part of their learning.
- Work alongside each child to test theories, make suggestions and reflect.
- Provide resources to support independent learning.
- Use the language and vocabulary of thinking.
- Give praise and value to children's efforts, suggestions and successes.
- Allow children to develop a 'can do' attitude by taking risks, to move out of their comfort zone in a safe environment.
- Model resilience, thoughtfulness and willingness to listen to the ideas and opinions of others, to make mistakes and learn from them.



The curriculum provides opportunities to develop the children's conceptual thinking in Prime and Specific areas. This is in line with the Early Learning Goals set in the Foundation Stage of the Jersey Early Years Curriculum (Development Matters guidance).

Contributions

We ask for a nursery contribution to cover costs such as snack, cooking, outdoor activities and to enhance any extra projects that the children take an interest in. Snack is provided every day and is usually a cup of milk/water with something savoury such as cheese and biscuits followed by fresh fruit, but we also try to introduce the children to many new tastes during the year, including cuisine from other countries. We do not allow sweets, chocolate or fizzy drinks to be brought into Nursery.



At the beginning of each term we make a request for payment. We ask for a cheque to be made payable termly in advance to St Johns School Nursery. The amount is £60 per term for each child.

Lunchtime Provision

Children will be required to bring a packed lunch in a named lunch box. Nutritious ideas could consist of a sandwich or pasta, fruit or yogurt and/or a biscuit or small cake etc. Children will also need a named water bottle which they can access throughout the day to stay hydrated. Nursery policy does not allow sweets, fizzy drinks or nuts.



Toilet Training

We would hope that children starting Nursery are toilet trained and capable of using the toilet without the help of an adult. Should you require support in this area please contact your Health Visitor in advance of your child starting Nursery. (If further assistance is required, the nursery would work with parents and other agencies to implement a care plan.)

Please try to ensure that the clothes your child wears to Nursery are loose fitting and easy for them to remove and fasten again. If a child has an accident we do have a limited stock of clothing that can be worn home, however, please try and return these as soon as possible. We find it really helpful if you can provide a PE bag of spare clothes for your child which can be left on their peg.

Clothing

Practical, comfortable clothes that are suitable for painting, water play and outdoor learning are best for attending Nursery. We do provide aprons for messy activities but accidents do happen. We do go out in all weather and with this in mind, your child will therefore need a suitable named waterproof coat for the winter months and a pair of named Wellingtons to leave at school if possible.

All in one waterproof dungarees are really useful.

Please **do not** allow your child to wear jewellery as this can be dangerous and can cause distress if it breaks or gets lost.

During the summer term, it is advisable that the children have a sun hat and are wearing an all day sunscreen on sunny days for outdoor activities. We recommend children have covered shoulders and wear closed toe sandals or shoes for safety.

Library Books



We have a lending library box at school. Children are encouraged to take books home regularly. Please allow some time to share these with your child as they provide valuable learning activities as well as being an enjoyable few minutes together.



Starting Nursery

Starting Nursery is a big step for children and parents!

We want to make your child's Learning Journey is a happy one and do all we can to provide a positive, secure environment.

In the early days, we ask that you settle your child in at the beginning of the session. Let your child know that you will stay to play for a short time and when eventually you do leave, say goodbye and reassure them that you will be returning at the end of the Nursery session. We have a waving window that the children love to use as part of this routine.

The Nursery team will support children and carers during this transition time.

How can you help at home?

You can help at home by giving your child a wide range of experiences, which prepare them for nursery.

- Encourage your child to use the toilet properly, dress and undress, including doing up buttons, buckles and zips.
- Teach your child to put away all toys and books after playing with them.
- Give your child opportunities to play and share with other children.
- Ensure that your child has opportunities to develop listening skills.
- Learn songs and nursery rhymes and sing them together.
- Encourage your child to make marks, use scissors safely, play with playdough, construction toys, dress up, help with cooking etc.
- Talk about some of the exciting things that they will be able to do in Nursery, such as going out on trips on the mini-bus, riding bikes, gardening, singing and learning outdoors.
- Make special time to share books with your child and talk about everyday events.
- Encourage lots of physical outdoor experiences.
- Above all, help your child to become **INDEPENDENT** as early as possible.



Parental Help

We encourage parents to join us to support our nursery class visits. We promote a home school partnership and encourage active involvement in learning initiatives. Parents will also be invited to attend various events to celebrate the learning of the children.



Illness

If your child is ill, on any medication or suffering from an infection that may be passed on to another child, please keep them at home and let us know as soon as possible either by telephone 861692 or by emailing to admin@stjohn.sch.je and your message will be forwarded on to the Nursery Team. Education Department policy states that children who have highly infectious conditions such as diarrhoea and vomiting must stay at home for 48 hours after the last symptoms.

Inhalers for asthmatic conditions must be labelled and school procedures for completing a medical form followed. If your child needs ongoing medication please talk the issue through with the staff and a care plan will be put in place. When your child starts in Nursery and at any other subsequent time you must inform us of any medical condition.

Additional Information

We often host student childcare practitioners who are in training. They usually take photographs and make written observations of children. They always change the names in their reports and their work remains confidential between themselves and their tutors. If you have any reservations about this please talk to the Nursery team.

The playground and parking areas outside the school are very busy at both the beginning and end of the day, therefore, it is vital that an adult holds the hand of the child in order to keep everyone safe. The School can be entered by using the side gate adjacent to the Parish hall. You can then access the nursery by walking along the perimeter pathway of the playground, round to the side EYFS Nursery entrance.

The climbing equipment in the main school playground should not be accessed at any time.

And finally . . .

We do hope that your child has a wonderful start to their 'Learning Journey' at St John's school Nursery!

We look forward to welcoming all of you and starting an exciting new adventure.



