



Welcome to Hermitage Nursery

“Growing life-long learners”



Hermitage Primary School
Focused on Excellence; Surrounded by Care

We focus on academics, with a strong pastoral focus.

This includes exploring:

- Behaviour
- Self regulation
- Feelings and emotions
- Working as a team
- Being a life long learner



At Hermitage, we realise that our children need more than just an excellent academic education to succeed and prosper.

Hence, our values are developed through our bespoke S.M.I.L.E. Programme.

We believe all our children should have / be:

Socially confident

Mentally healthy

Intellectually curious

Life long aspiration

Emotionally regulated



Our Caring Code



Hermitage Primary School

Our Caring Code

Always be kind
and helpful



Treat everyone
and everything
with respect



Fulfil
responsibilities
with care and
attention



Be the BEST that
you can be!

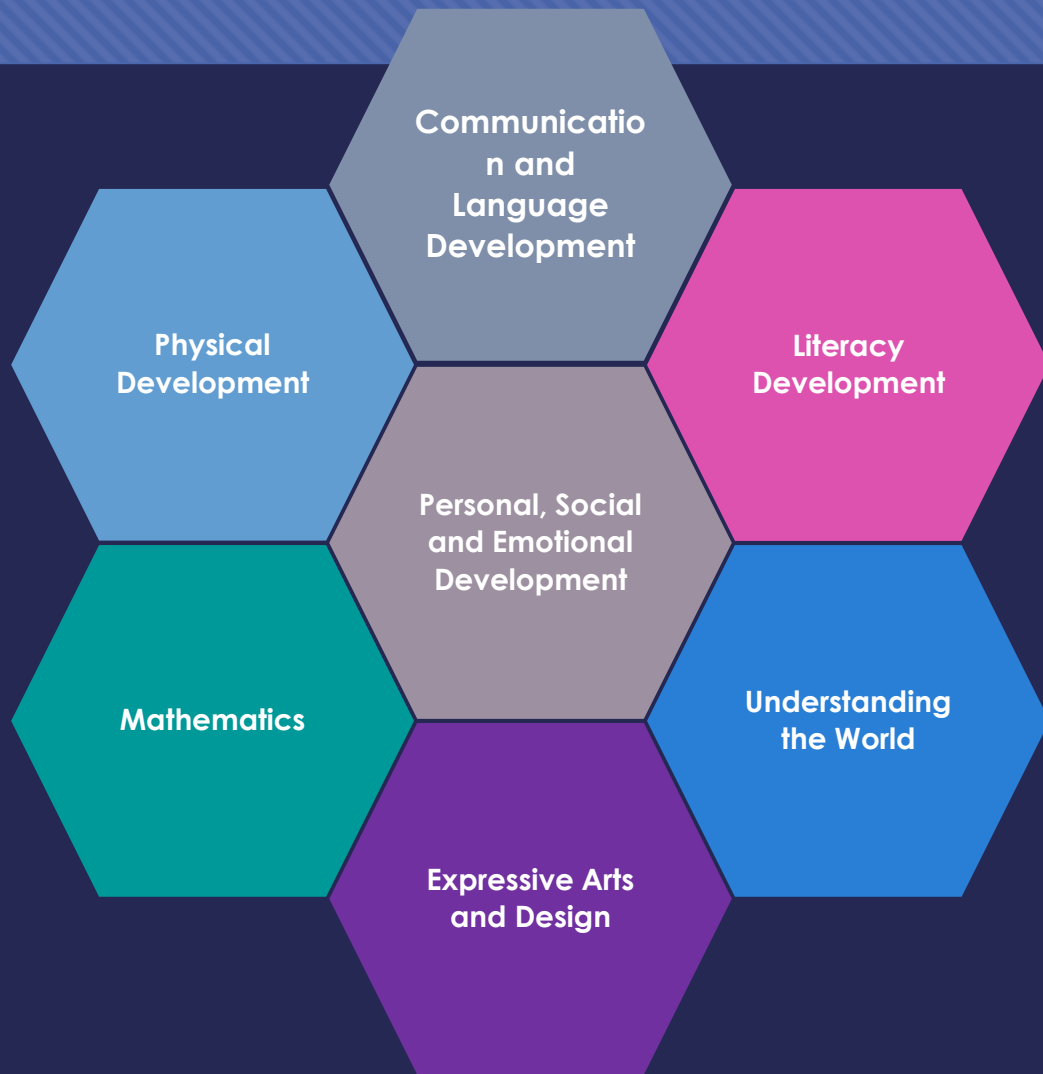


In our Nursery setting, children create their own 'Golden Rules' which are linked to Our Caring Code.

Children are encouraged to:

- Be Kind and helpful
- Treat everyone with respect
- Pay care and attention
- Be the best that they can be

The EYFS Curriculum



In Nursery, we following the Early Years Curriculum, preparing children ready for Reception.

Playing and Exploring – Engagement –

- Finding out and exploring
- Playing with what they know
- Being willing to 'have a go'

Active Learning – Engagement –

- Being involved and concentrating
- Keeping trying
- Enjoying achieving what they set out to do

Creating & Thinking Critically – Thinking –

- Having their own ideas
- Making Links
- Choosing ways to do things

Learning in Nursery

- Soft start – settling children in
- Carpet sessions – phonics, counting, books, topics, I wonder questions, independent learning time and activity
- Outside time
- Phonics
- Story time and singing



What your child is going to learn:

Independence

Emotional Intelligence

To try new things

To ask questions

To problem-solve

To work together – as a team

To explore their environment

To mark make

To investigate numbers



Early Reading in EYFS

In EYFS, we encourage Early Reading from the very early stages - from Nursery through to Reception. Through continuous provision, the children have access to a wide range of books.

We follow the Read Write Inc. phonics scheme from Reception-Year 2, this involves *Read Write Inc. Phonics* includes reading books written using only the letters they have learnt at each level (and a small number of separately taught tricky words).

We also follow the Oxford Owl reading scheme which allows parents and pupils to access the reading books weekly that your child has read during their phonics sessions that week.



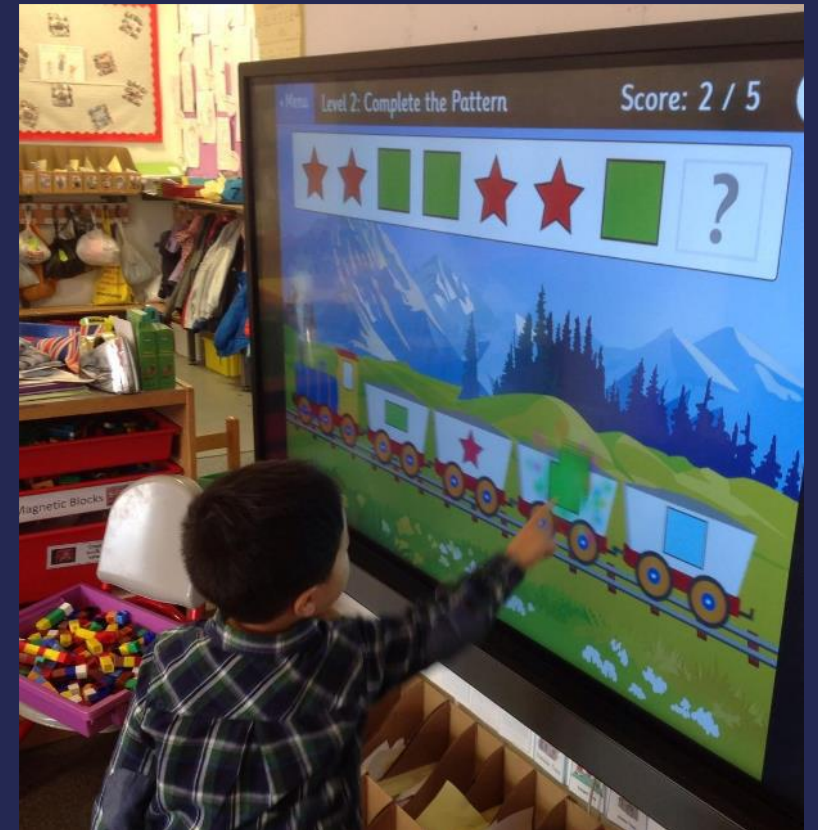
Communication

At Hermitage Nursery we have an open door policy, so should you wish to discuss anything, a member of staff will be happy to speak with you.

We use an app called *Class Dojo* throughout the school as it is an excellent way of sending home messages and news from the Nursery to our parents.

All formal information from Hermitage is sent home to parents via email

Our website is regularly updated with dates, news and events.



Parent Partnerships

Whenever possible, we encourage our parents to visit the Nursery and interact with children and staff.

We do this through:

- Stay and Play
- Parent Consultations
- Parent Workshops
- Trips and Visits
- Sports Day
- Performances



How you can help your Child



How you can help your Child

It is very important that you encourage your child to be independent and to praise them for their achievements.

Before your child starts Nursery, you should ensure your child is able to use the toilet by themselves.

Mornings

Set our a good morning routine, which includes a healthy breakfast.

Make sure your child uses the toilet before Nursery, washes, cleans their teeth, brushes their hair and gets dressed. Encourage them to do these things by themselves so that they learn their routine and can learn to do it independently.

FIVE ESSENTIAL THINGS YOU DO EVERY DAY THAT HELP YOUR CHILD'S GROWING BRAIN

FIVE TO THRIVE

Respond • Cuddle • Relax • Play • Talk

Do these five things each time you interact with your child from the time they are born and you will help to grow a healthy, strong and confident child.



MY BRAIN GROWS
BETTER WHEN YOU
RESPOND TO ME

I feel safe when I hear your voice, you look at me and you are close to me.

I learn from watching and interacting with you, other children and adults.



MY BRAIN GROWS
BETTER WHEN
YOU **CUDDLE** ME

I feel most safe when I get the contact I need with an adult who loves me.

I learn when you spend time singing songs and rhymes with me.



MY BRAIN GROWS
BETTER WHEN YOU
RELAX WITH ME

When you are calm, I am calm.

I learn from you sharing stories and books with me.



MY BRAIN GROWS
BETTER WHEN YOU
PLAY WITH ME

Toys are great but the best toy in the world for me is you.

I learn when you give me opportunities to play and become independent, so let me have a go.



MY BRAIN GROWS
BETTER WHEN
YOU **TALK** TO ME

I learn from the sound of your voice. The more you talk to me, the more I copy you.

I need you to listen to me and take notice of what I am trying to say.

How you can help your Child

Evenings

When you collect your child from Nursery, talk to them about their day and their experiences. You can use the class DoJo app to share pictures with them that their teacher has posted during the day.

Sometimes, children are too tired to talk about their day - and that is fine. Be positive by saying something like 'you must have had a busy day of playing and learning today'. This shows your child you are interested and proud that they are doing well at Nursery.

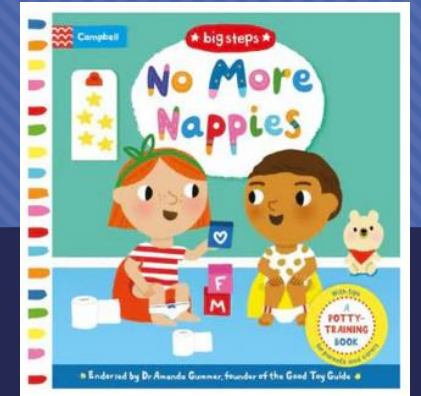
When your child has rested and had their evening meal, read with them, not only will this support their love of reading but it will be part of their going to bed routine.

Make sure your child has a good night's sleep. Sleep is important for your child's health, growth and development. When children get enough good-quality sleep, they're more settled and happy during the day. Getting the right amount of sleep also strengthens your child's immune system and reduces the risk of infection and illness. It is recommended that children in Early Years have at least 10 hours sleep per night.

Please let us know if your child has had a bad night or something has happened at home so that we are aware.

Toilet training

When joining our school, we ask for your help in supporting your children with toilet training by sending your children to Nursery without nappies.



We completely understand this can be a big challenge and endeavor to support families where necessary, but encourage families to try their best to ensure their children are comfortable using the toilet before they start. We will always have plenty spare pants, knickers and clothes in case of any accidents.

Please see some information attached and below that may support this process.

- <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/baby/babys-development/potty-training-and-bedwetting/how-to-potty-train/>
- <https://www.pacey.org.uk/working-in-childcare/spotlight-on/2-year-olds/development-in-2-year-olds/toilet-training-tips/>
- <https://eric.org.uk/potty-training/>

Books and stories - <https://www.madeformums.com/reviews/best-potty-training-books-for-toddlers/>

There are also a number of other resources and information here under 'Toileting Resources' - <https://padlet.com/hermitageprimaryub8/welcome-to-the-wonderful-world-of-the-early-years-t6egxywxgkujpc9>

School Rules

Clothing

Children attending Nursery do not need to wear school uniform. Season appropriate comfortable clothes are recommended. Please make sure your child has comfortable and supportive footwear, as they do a lot of running about in Nursery!

Attendance

If your child is not going to be at school, please email **absence@hermitageprimary.org.uk** with your child's name and the reason for the absence. This should be sent by 9.30am latest.

Once a child reaches statutory school ages, school's are required, by law, to record any school absences. Those that are not explained are recorded as 'unauthorised'. If a child is persistently absent, the Local Authority will make contact with the parents.

Behaviour and Boundaries

It is important to set rules, limits and routines, as these help children to know what you expect of them.

- Be clear
- Be consistent
- Be firm, but not cold
- Acknowledge and praise your child's efforts

Rules and boundaries should be established at home and reinforced at school.



Parent Code of Conduct

The Head of School, Staff and Governing Body take their responsibility for positive parental relationships very seriously.

At Hermitage, we are extremely fortunate to have supportive and friendly parents, as our parents recognise that educating our children involves an effective partnership that will equip our children with the necessary skills for adulthood.

For these reasons, we continue to welcome and encourage parents to participate fully in the life of our school and their child's education. The purpose of our Parental Code of Conduct is to provide a reminder to all parents and visitors to our school of the expected conduct. This is so we can all continue to develop and achieve in an atmosphere of mutual understanding and respect.

To see out complete Parental Code of Conduct Policy, please go to the Parent Section of our website.

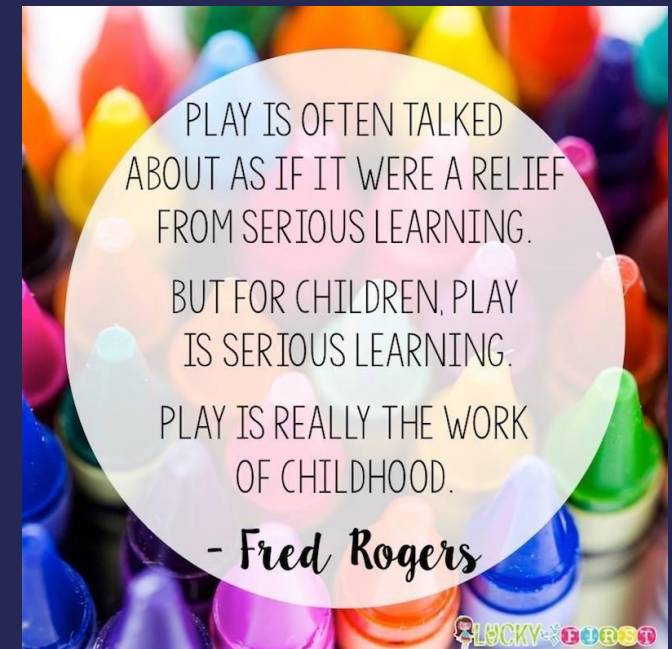
Starting Nursery in September

Our Nursery staff will send home an information pack, containing all the information you need, an application form and an appointment for a home visit. These visits normally take place in the first week of the new academic year.

Home visits are 15 minutes long and are designed to ensure a smooth transition for families and children. They help to build a positive and caring relationship between our staff, you and your child.

Children feel safe, settled and comfortable at home, so this is an excellent opportunity for us to ask questions and share information about your child. This will include your child's likes and dislikes, health issues and managing the transition from home to Nursery.

Start times will be staggered in small groups.



We understand your child

We understand all children begin their Nursery journey at different points and we are here to support and challenge our children.

Please do not compare your child's journey, as we know every child has their own special route.



Learning in Early Years is all about...

- Being happy
- Having fun
- Making friends
- Learning rules
- Independent learning
- Helping each other
- Being kind.
- Resilience – never giving up
- Willingness to try – taking a risk
- Rising to the challenge
- Being the best you can be



The early years
are an unending
wave of sensory
experiences that
children eagerly
engage with their
whole selves—
we call this

PLAY