



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



Aspiration

Our children and parents have the desire to be the best version of themselves. We seek new opportunities to broaden horizons and motivate our children to strive for their dreams.



Community

Our learning environment creates a happy, healthy and supportive community, regardless of background. We value and celebrate a broad range of experiences and are inclusive of all within the Hermitage family.



Relationships

We seek to build strong and positive relationships through being kind, considerate and honest, working together effectively as one team. We value the importance of our contributions and how we can support each other's personal development.



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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 aspirational

Emotionally regulated



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Our Caring Code



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Our Caring Code

Always
be kind
and helpful



Always be
kind and helpful

Treat everyone
and everything
with respect



Treat everyone
and everything

Fulfil responsibilities
with care and
dedication



Fulfil responsibilities
with care and dedication

Be the
BEST
that you can be



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



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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 – Motivation –

- 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, basics, topics, 1 wonder questions, independent learning time and activity
- Outside time
- Phonics
- Story time and singing



What your child is going to learn:



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- 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



Communication



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- 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



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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



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Independence

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 out 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.

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 can be too tired to talk about their day – and that is fine. Be positive by saying something like 'you must have had a busy day at play' or 'I am looking forward to hearing more about what you are interested in and proud that they are doing with all of the new things they are learning'.
- When your child has rested and had time to enjoy 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 happier during the day. Getting the right amount of sleep also helps them to pay attention in Nursery and reduces the risk of infection and illness. We recommend 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 can advise.

School Rules



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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 at the latest.
- Once a child reaches statutory school age, school's are required, by law, to record any school absences. These that are not authorised are recorded as 'unauthorised'. If a child is persistently absent, the Local Authority will make contact with the parents.

Behaviour and Boundaries



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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 consistent at home and reinforced at school.



Parent Code of Conduct



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- The Head of School, Staff and Governing Body take their responsibility for positive parent and 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 feel 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 learn from and achieve in an atmosphere of mutual understanding and respect.
- To see our complete Parental Code of Conduct Policy, please go to the Parent Section of our website.

Starting Nursery in September

- Our Nursery brief will send home oral information packs, 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.



PLAY IS OFTEN TALKED
ABOUT AS IF IT WERE A RELIEF
FROM SERIOUS LEARNING.
BUT FOR CHILDREN PLAY
IS SERIOUS LEARNING.
PLAY IS REALLY THE WORK.
OF CHILDHOOD.

- Fred Rogers

We understand your child

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



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- Being happy
- Having fun
- Making friends
- Learning new skills
- Independent learning
- Helping each other
- Being kind
- Adventures – never giving up
- Willingness to try – taking a risk
- Rising to new challenges
- 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