

Bells Farm Primary School

Nursery Prospectus



Enjoying our learning...
...aiming for excellence.





Welcome to Bells Farm

Welcome to Bells Farm Nursery.

This booklet provides you with information that will help your child settle in or continue their Nursery years.

At Nursery we aim to provide a good start to your child's education, where they can learn through play to explore the world around them, and develop confidence and skills which will set them up for future success.

Induction



Part of the process to help you and your child settle into nursery is an induction visit. We hope the visit will enable you and your child to meet the adults they will be with in Nursery. You will be able to explore the room and outside space, and meet other children your child will be with when they come to Nursery.

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We will also be asking you to sign up for an opportunity to chat to Miss Hancox, the Nursery teacher. At this meeting you can share information which will help make your child's time at Nursery an enjoyable learning experience. At this meeting, you will also be able to discuss a staggered start to Nursery - especially where your child is unused to being away from family .

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If your child is new to Bells Farm Nursery, the starting date will be Wednesday 9th September - this will allow the older children to get used to us again, and allow new starters to settle more quickly alongside the 'old-timers'. You will be able to access the Nursery through the green gate by the side of the Centre. There will be staff around to help you find your way. Please take your child round to the Nursery gate and through into the Nursery outside space. The gate will be open from 8.25am until 9am and from 12.10pm for the afternoon children. Nursery will be accessed through the sliding door where your child will be met by the nursery staff. Please remember that your child is your responsibility until they enter the building.

We know that for some children this may be a worrying time, (sometimes for the parents more than the children) so please do all you can to reassure your child and send them into nursery with a smile.



We think it is important that your child sees you and their teacher working and talking together, so please come along and play with your child in the Nursery room. Once you have left, if you are worried about your child settling, please do ring us. Be assured that if there are problems we will ring you and let you know.

Collecting your child

Please use the side gate when you collect your child. The gate will be open at 11.20am and again at 3.05pm.

Password

We operate a password system on site, which means we will only allow your child to go home with a familiar adult who has the password. Please do not be upset if we ask for this password - it is for your child's safety.

Before they start

Before your child starts nursery, please ensure that they are toilet trained. We cannot accept children in nappies, unless there is an underlying medical condition with evidence from a doctor. We understand that all children have accidents, so providing a change of clothes, in a bag, would help. To help your child, you could also begin to encourage them to put their coats on by themselves and to practise sitting and listening to stories and rhymes.



Uniform/Clothes

There is an optional uniform jumper or cardigan. These are available from Tesco on-line ordering service.

Part of the Nursery day is spent outside and the children are free to choose this space to play and to learn, so please make sure your child has suitable clothing - sunhats for hot weather and coats and wellies if it is wet. Please label clothes, especially uniform tops to ensure your child leaves in their own clothes.



Learning through Play

Children at nursery will have plenty of opportunity to play both inside and outside and to learn whilst they do so. They will develop in so many ways and you will be kept up to date with how they get on throughout the year.

We aim to support children in many ways

- social and emotional development - supporting co-operation and friendships, taking turns and sharing, and developing responsibility.
- Communication and language skills - chances to talk and to listen, to develop through active role play and to learn songs and rhymes
- Reading and writing - we give the children the chance to learn how to hold a pencil or pen, how to develop from making marks on paper through to learning how to write letters and numbers. We also give them opportunity to develop a love of books and reading through shared stories and even the chance to read with parents through our



library and 'share a story' times.

- Maths - children will develop understanding of numbers and shapes through rhymes and songs. They will be given opportunities to count and use mathematical words such as over or under.
- Creativity - children will learn songs and rhymes as well as having opportunities to colour, to paint and even to use mud

to make patterns. Children love all these types of messy play and don't even realise they are learning whilst they are having so much fun.



- Understanding the world - children will use their five senses to explore the world and things they see around them everyday. Chances to play in foam, sand or in the digging area are also important in helping your child develop.

- Physical development - children through playing learn how to control the movements their bodies make. They learn that trikes can be pushed, pulled or ridden; that the field and the space outdoors provide ample space to run and to play and even that holding a pencil correctly will help them write their imaginary 'letters' to a friend or to make lists of 'jobs to be done' whilst they play.

Drinks and snacks

We make water freely available in the Nursery and the children are able to use their own water bottles if they need a drink. During snack time, fruit and milk is provided. As part of the social experience of sitting down together, chatting and enjoying time together is actively encouraged.



Attendance and Punctuality

Children will attend Nursery for five mornings or for five afternoons each week. The Nursery will open from 8.25am until 11.25am, and then from 12.10pm until 3.10pm each afternoon. Where possible we have tried to accommodate your wishes when allocating these sessions.



We do expect all children to be brought in to Nursery on time, as being late means they miss the start of the session and the first teaching time. This time is when the session activities are set up. It is equally important that you collect your child punctually as many children do become upset if their parent is late and others have already been collected.

Illness and accidents

Please make sure that you keep your contact details up to date, so that in an emergency we can contact you quickly. If your child is unwell during the sessions, we will inform you as soon as possible. If your child is unwell and cannot attend nursery we would appreciate a call before the session starts. This would be to the school office on 0121 675 8666.

Thinking ahead.

We hope your child enjoys their time at Nursery, and that you will consider Bells Farm Primary School when it is time to move on. However, you will need to know that there is no automatic progression from the Nursery into the school. **YOU WILL NEED TO APPLY THROUGH THE LOCAL AUTHORITY SYSTEMS.** Booklets and information will come directly to your home, and the

school and Nursery have no influence on the admissions. We will help whenever we can, and inform you via letters of key dates.

We hope that the information in this booklet is useful, but if there is any other information which you need, please do not hesitate to ask.