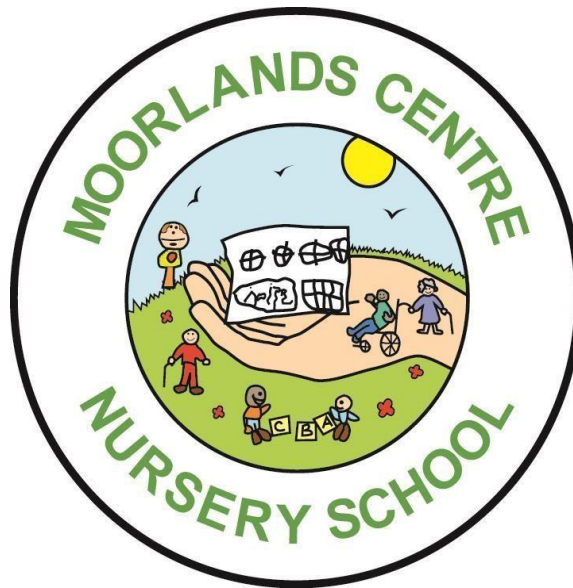

Moorlands Nursery School Prospectus



A Guide for Parents & Carers

2024-2025

Moorlands Nursery School
Beanhill Local Centre, Dodkin, Beanhill, Milton Keynes MK6 4LP

Tel: 01908 113008 Mobile: 07584 308 835
Email: office@moorlandsnurseryschool.co.uk
Web: www.moorlandsnurseryschool.co.uk

Meet the Team

STAFF:

Will Brooks	:	Interim Headteacher
Ruchika Aggarwal	:	Teacher / 3s lead (Child Key Worker)
Bitte Revell	:	Nursery Nurse (CKW)
Yvonne Turner	:	Teaching Assistant
Shirley Huggett	:	Nursery Nurse – 2s lead (CKW)
Janine Collins	:	Teaching Assistant
Justine Collins	:	Cover staff
Elaine Worsley	:	Business Support Manager

GOVERNORS:

June Harrison	:	Co-opted Chair
Charlie Marsh	:	Co-opted Vice Chair
Will Brooks	:	Interim Headteacher
Bitte Revell	:	Staff Governor
Janine Collins	:	Co-opted Governor
Lauren Harrison	:	Co-opted Governor
Claire Koutsou	:	Co-opted Governor
	:	Co-opted Governor
	:	Local Authority Governor
Vacancy	:	Parent Governor
Vacancy	:	Parent Governor Opening Times

NURSERY SESSION TIMES:

Morning session	:	8.30 - 11.30am
Afternoon session	:	12:30 - 3:30pm
All Day (30 hour provision)	:	6 hours a day How to Contact Us

Nursery Telephone	:	01908 113008 / 07584308835
Facebook	:	Moorlands Nursery School
Website	:	www.moorlandsnurseryschool.co.uk

About Moorlands Nursery School

Moorlands Nursery School is a unique family-centred, inclusive Early Learning environment with a long history of serving a diverse wider community. We put the children at the heart of everything we do to provide a strong start to early education for 2, 3 and 4-year-olds.

Our nursery is a 72 place, Local Authority Nursery School which forms part of the Moorlands Family Centre. We have provision for 2-year-olds under the 'Time for Twos' funding and for eligible working parents, along with provisions for 3- and 4- year olds. We also offer places to privately funded children subject to availability.

Moorlands Nursery School's vision is built around community – together we help children aim high. We achieve this through fundamental principles of community:

Commitment - to aim high in our aspirations and service to others.

Confidence – to know our strengths and foster self-confidence in others.

Collaboration – to work in community partnership to nurture every child's individual potential.

*Strengthening a community to create confident learners.
Serving a community for generations.*

At Moorlands Nursery School, we believe in the following values:

Community

Happiness

Independence

Learning

Diversity

Respect

Environment

Nurturing

Ofsted recognise our setting as a GOOD provider and in our recent 2024 inspection note
"Children arrive each day with a huge smile. They enjoy coming to school and look forward to the exciting activities adults have planned for them.... Parents are overwhelmingly positive about their children's experiences at Moorlands Nursery. They comment on the confidence their children have and the progress they make."

Ofsted: Good (2024) Our

full Ofsted report is available on our website.



At Moorlands Centre Nursery School we aim to:

Provide a secure and welcoming environment, helping children to make a positive transition from home to Nursery.

We work hard to:

- Enable all children to make the best possible start to their education and to achieve their potential.
- Work in close partnership with parents/carers.
- Create an ethos which promotes children's all-round development and fosters positive attitudes to learning.
- Provide a curriculum which is appropriate to the needs of young children and recognises their need to work through first-hand experience. Play and talk creates a foundation for later achievement.
- Work within the framework of Moorlands Centre and the wider community to provide extended support and opportunities for children and their families.
- Work closely with all the local schools in the Woughton area and have a shared vision for all children and young people.

Our Typical Nursery Day



Children arrive and self-register by putting their name on the wall. Children are free to choose from a variety of resources as they play, explore and learn. The nursery environment is thoughtfully and purposely set out to enable children to access their own equipment to foster independence. Opportunities are provided for children to participate in all areas of the EYFS curriculum. Resources include sand, water, painting, role play, writing and drawing, construction sets, puzzles and games, small world, numbers, ICT equipment and access to outdoor gardens play equipment.

The staff follow an 'In the Moment' style of planning and expertly support and encourage the children to further their learning, following their individual interests at their own pace. The adults spend time observing the children and encourage them to experience new challenges. Learning takes place both inside and outside as the children have independent access to the indoor and outdoor areas for the majority of the session.

During each session children are provided with the optional opportunity to have a healthy snack and free school milk, which they enjoy sitting around a table with their friends. It also provides an opportunity for children to learn how to carefully pour drinks, spread butter, cut up fruit, etc, all under watchful supervision of a member of staff. Learning good table manners is another important skill.

At the end of each session children help to tidy up and then come together in their small 'Key Worker' group. This gives them the opportunity to talk to their Key Person and a small group of other children. They may have fun with a phonics or number-based activity. listen to a story or enjoy a music / singing session. It is a very important part of the day and develops many of skills, such as listening to others, developing the confidence to talk in a small group, etc.

The children follow a home time routine before greeting their parents at the end of the session.

Safeguarding

The safety of our children is paramount. We ensure that during their time in Nursery all children are kept safe and that they are listened to. If we have concerns about a child's welfare in or out of the nursery school we will discuss this with parents and carers. Should the need arise, we seek advice and support of practitioners in the Social Care team.

We introduce the children to 'signs for feelings' – signs which enable and encourage the children to express how they might be feeling if they want to share this with a member of staff. This gives the children who may find expressing themselves verbally a 'voice' to share their feelings and promotes a safeguarding culture.

Curriculum Provision

Our Nursery provision, resources and any planned activities are based on the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) guidance.

Our Responsive Curriculum is founded on the principal that all children have an individual learning journey and therefore adapts to the needs and interests of our children to ensure there are no barriers to the love of learning.

This ensures that the children have the opportunity to develop many of the skills that will enable them to progress onto the next stage in their education with ease and confidence. Below are the key factors of the EYFS.

Area of Learning & Development	Aspect
Prime Areas	
Personal, Social and Emotional Development	Making relationships
	Self-confidence and self-awareness
	Managing feelings and behaviour
Physical Development	Moving and handling
	Health & self-care
Communication and Language	Listening and attention
	Understanding
	Speaking
Specific areas	
Literacy	Reading
	Writing
Mathematics	Numbers
	Shape, space and measure
Understanding the World	People and Communities
	The world
	Technology
Expressive Arts and Design	Exploring and using media and materials
	Being imaginative

Forest School

We are fortunate to have a practitioner trained at Level 3 to lead Forest School sessions for our Nursery. Our developing outdoor learning environment sessions teach the children about all aspects of their environment including the wildlife within it, caring for it and enjoying it!



'EPIC' Programme

This is an intervention programme that we have developed to support children's speaking, listening and interaction skills. It may be that children are reluctant to speak out in bigger groups so this gives them the opportunity to develop their confidence. It may be that some children need support to be encouraged to listen while others are talking. Or it may be that your child is a good role model for other children. For whatever the reason, EPIC provides fun sessions for the children and proves to develop the children's skills. If your child is chosen, their Key Person will always be happy to give you an explanation of the process so that you can share this experience with your child.

Nursery Expectations

Attendance

Regular attendance and punctuality are crucial for all children. If they do not attend they cannot learn and experience all that our Nursery school has to offer. Regular attendance also gets your child into the routine of getting ready for and attending school, ready for when they move onto their next school. We would ask that you only keep your child at home if they are ill. You must **always** phone (01908 113008 – option 2) or text 07584 308835 to inform us of absences. Should you wish to take a holiday during the school term we would ask that you speak to the Head Teacher. Repeated low attendance may result in loss of place for your child.

Punctuality

It is very important that you bring your child to Nursery on time. Arriving late and having to join Nursery once the rest of the group are playing can be unsettling for some children. More importantly your child will miss out on crucial learning opportunities, therefore please make sure you arrive on time.

Behaviour

We have a behaviour management policy based on the belief that children respond best to positive praise and encouragement. We are very happy to share strategies with you if you feel that it will help you to support your child in a positive manner. Please see our website to view the full policy.

To support our positive behaviour strategy, we encourage the children to remember the following:

- We walk in Nursery
- We take turns
- We use quiet voices
- We share everything
- We are kind to others
- We help to tidy up
- We look after our Nursery

There may be times when your child is distressed and can't be settled by staff. In this situation we would telephone to request the child is collected and taken home. We are committed to working with parents wanting a happy and settled child in nursery.

Uniform

The Nursery has a book bag which we strongly encourage all parents to purchase if they want their child to bring books home from the nursery. **The book bag is the most important item of our uniform.** Our non-compulsory uniform consists of a jade green T shirt and sweatshirt. We keep the cost of the uniform as low as possible. Apart from this, we like children to be independent, and to wear clothes which they can manage by themselves. In cold weather they do need to have a coat as we do go out to play in all but the worst weather. Children should not wear jewellery to Nursery, except for simple stud type earrings.

Please put your child's name in all of their clothes.

Snacks

In addition to their ½ pint of free milk, we offer parents the opportunity to purchase healthy snacks for their child. This is charged at the rate of £5 for each half term and covers the cost of a **daily** healthy snack during your child's time at nursery for that half term period. As a non-profit organisation, we will not be able to provide snacks to children of parents who wish to opt out. Parents choosing to opt out of this provision may send their child to nursery with a piece of fruit for snack time. No other snacks will be permitted from home.

Lunch

For children who stay for lunch, a healthy balanced lunch must be provided from home. This should consist of something savoury (e.g. sandwiches), a piece of fruit, a drink and **one** sweet treat. **Please do not send multiple packets of crisps, biscuits, cakes or sweets.**

Collecting Children

Children must be collected by an adult. We offer a clear collection window between 11.20-11.30am and 3.20-3.30pm. It is parents' responsibility to ensure your child is collected on time. Failure to do so will incur a late collection charge of £5 per 15-minutes (or part of) to cover the cost of paying our staff to provide private extended supervision services outside contracted session times. If someone different is collecting your child please let us know in advance - a telephone message is fine. We operate a 'password system' if the adult is unknown to us. If we are in any doubt, we will check before letting your child leave the Nursery.

Photographs

We use photographs in many ways at Nursery. We display pictures of activities. We use pictures as evidence of skills that children have learnt and one of the favourite ways is the 'Learning Journey' books that we make. This is a record of the time your child spends in Nursery and will be yours to keep when they leave us to start school.

How Can I Help My Child Settle into Nursery?

Take Your Time

We encourage parents to stay with their child as long as necessary for their child to settle in happily. This will vary from one child to another. After that, it may be that your child tells you to go home, or they may need you to stay for several sessions. Either is okay! We may suggest that you collect your child earlier than the end of the session for the first few days or weeks to help them to settle better. We would always contact you if there was a problem; therefore you need to keep your phone switched on!

Keep Calm

Remember that you probably feel more worried than your child when they first start school. Keep smiling and be positive. If your child is feeling anxious or tearful, it can help to arrive in good time so that he or she can have time to settle before the session begins. Once your child is settled, smile and leave cheerfully - most tears stop as soon as you are out of sight. If there are continuing problems we will always let you know.

Listen

Your child may come home very excited and eager to talk about every detail of their day, or maybe not say much at all. Both attitudes are quite normal. Remember after a busy session at Nursery they may be very tired. Be ready to listen when they want to talk to you.



Parental Involvement

There are many different ways that you can become involved in Nursery life. One of the best ways is to attend any events that we invite you to. The children love to have their parents join them in a session and share activities with them. You can also help 'behind the scenes', helping to make or mend things or donating items, or by becoming a school Governor. If you would like any information on **becoming a parent governor** or ways that you can help our school, please come and talk to any member of staff. The Nursery and the Family Centre also run a variety of groups and courses to help you to get involved with your child's education by finding out more about what they are learning. Any member of the Family Centre staff would be happy to give support or advice on any issue such as sleeping, eating etc so please do not hesitate to ask.

Communication

At Moorlands Nursery we want to work in partnership with parents and carers. The more we talk to each other, the better it is for the children.

Staff are always available 'on the door' at the beginning and end of sessions so share anything with us that you feel is important relating to anything to do with your child – it may be their health, something amazing they did that you would like to share or that they have a bruise because they fell over. If you want to talk in private or want longer to discuss something then we can invite you in at a mutually convenient time.

If you have a concern, we will always listen respectfully. Moorlands Nursery will not tolerate abuse, shouting or aggression – staff have the right to dignity at work and to feel safe. The nursery reserves the right to retract a place if staff are subjected to intimidating behaviour.

As part of our 'In the Moment Planning' you will be invited into Nursery at various times throughout the term to discuss your child's progress and achievements and to have an opportunity to discuss any concerns you may have about your child's development.

We have a Facebook page - Moorlands Nursery School. You can also access our website at: www.moorlandsnurseryschool.co.uk which has a page for parents and home learning tab full of ideas and ways to support children's development.

How Can You Help Your Child at Home?

One of the most important things that you can do to help your child is to talk to them. Talk about anything and everything and just as important, listen to what they say. A simple walk to the local shop can become more fun if you point things out on the way, let them help with the shopping and perhaps include a quick visit to the swings on the way back. Your child will be able to communicate more effectively if they have a good vocabulary. Children like to be independent it makes them feel very grown up. Support your child by encouraging skills like putting on their own coats; you will be amazed by the sense of pride they will show when they achieve something themselves. Try letting him or her help with jobs at home, such as dusting, cooking or washing up.

Toys need not be expensive. Children can get just as much fun from a few boxes! Try to make sure that they have access to pencils, crayons and paper. Scissors, glue and paints are lovely but need a bit more supervision.

Research has shown that children who know Nursery Rhymes and are read to at home make much better progress with reading when they start school. At Nursery we have a large collection of attractive books, some in dual languages, and children can choose a book to take home each week. Please take the time to share your child's book with them and share your comments with their Key Person.

Remember, the most important thing is to make your child feel that what they do at home and at Nursery is valued.



Special Education Needs

We follow the DfE Code of Practice 2014 in order to support any children with Special educational needs or disabilities (SEND). More information regarding our procedures for supporting children with SEND is available on our website www.moorlandsnurseryschool.co.uk. Follow the links to our SEN report and Inclusion Policy. You can also find all the information, advice and help you may need regarding your child's needs through the MK SEND local offer: <https://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/schoolsandlifelong-learning/send-local-offer/send-local-offer-parents> Please do not hesitate to talk to a member of staff if you have concerns relating to any aspects of your child's development.

Our Team

Staff

All the staff are highly qualified and have expertise working within Early Years. They have regular training to enhance children's learning and are trained in First Aid, Safeguarding and Health & Safety to ensure that all children at Moorlands Nursery School receive a safe, high quality education.

Governing Board

Our Governing Board is made up from a range of people including staff, members of the community and parents. We are always keen to attract new parents to the Governors as your support is valued by all. Please talk to the headteacher if you are interested.

If you ever have any concerns or questions, please come to talk to us as we pride ourselves on the open and honest relationship we have with parents.

Thank you

**Will Brooks – Interim Headteacher
June Harrison – Chair of Governors**



Nursery Staff will home visit

on:.....

at.....

..... will start Nursery on.....at.....

Please have your child's birth certificate to show the staff when they visit.

Thank you, we look forward to visiting you at home.