

St Oswald's C of E Academy

Nursery Information Booklet

2024/2025

Thank you for reading this booklet.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to come and see us.

We hope that you and your child enjoy your time at St. Oswald's C of E Academy Nursery.



Welcome to St. Oswald's C of E Academy

Our Aims

Working in partnership with parents, we aim to encourage children to work together and to co-operate with each other, learning to develop an understanding of themselves and their relationships with other children and adults.

We aim to provide a stimulating environment where learning can be approached with confidence. The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) curriculum is followed, which is broad and balanced, with opportunities to develop early literacy, numeracy and creativity. Individual needs of all children are both recognised and planned for.

"Leaders have designed an ambitious early years curriculum that promotes children's speech and language development. Children take part in lessons and activities that engage and excite them....

children make a successful start to their life at school" OFSTED June 2022—Early Years provision rated Good

School Contact Information

Address: Addison Road, Rugby, Warwickshire, CV22 7DJ

Telephone Number: 01788 543882

E-mail: school.office@stoswalds.covmat.org

Website: www.stoswalds.covmat.org

General Information

Executive Headteacher : Mrs M Cuskelly

Head of School : Mrs J Geran

Nursery Teacher: Mrs R Greer

Nursery Teacher is supported by a Learning Support Assistant

St. Oswald's C of E Academy has a 26 place nursery. Nursery is situated at the front of the main school building and has its own entrance and secure play area.

Session Times

Children attend Nursery for five morning sessions each week between 9am and 12 noon. These sessions are term time only and fully funded.

Child Protection

We are all committed to protecting the children at our school and children are taught about safety awareness. Through day-to-day contact with children, schools are particularly well placed to observe outward signs of abuse, changes in behaviour or failure to develop.

The school is required, in the interests of the child and as part of the Child Protection Procedures, to report any concerns to the school's 'Designated Safeguarding Lead' and if appropriate Children's Services.

We would encourage you as parents to please talk to our Designated Safeguarding Lead Staff if you have any concerns.

The staff are:



Mrs M Cuskelly



Mrs J Geran



Ms J Evans



This organisation is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

Understanding the World

In this area of learning, children are developing the crucial knowledge, skills and understanding that help them to make sense of the world. In Nursery, we provide a range of activities indoors and outdoors to stimulate children's interest and curiosity, e.g. the garden provides opportunities for observing seasonal changes, growth and living creatures.

We have different topics each term and go on visits. We also celebrate different festivals. All of these help children to become aware of and explore differences of gender, language, religion and culture. Pupils have access to a range of technology items over the year, e.g. CD players, computers, digital camera, interactive Clevertouch screens, iPads, remote controlled cars, etc.



How will my child's progress be recorded?

During their time in Nursery, the children will be observed working in all areas of the curriculum so that Nursery staff can plan for the next stage of your child's learning. We record photos and comments which we send to you via the 'class dojo' app. We warmly welcome your comments and photos of activities at home which you can send in by class dojo. We use a floor book in class to record photos and comments from the children which are regularly shared with the class. Additionally we share whole class learning once a week where we showcase the exciting adventures in our classroom.

Home Learning Challenges

On a weekly basis we provide a small suggested activity to support your child to link their learning to home. We encourage parents to send across comments, photos and work through Class Dojo so we can share the activities during whole class group times.

Special Needs

Nursery is resourced to support children with most special needs. If your child is experiencing difficulty, staff will raise and discuss the matter with you and work with you to support your child. This support may involve other professionals like the school nurse, speech therapist, educational psychologist, etc.

Collecting your child from Nursery

Please arrive on time to collect your child from Nursery. If you are unavoidably detained please telephone to let school know. If a friend or relative is collecting your child, please make sure that your child knows and that the class teacher knows what the arrangements are. **We will not let your child go home with someone else unless we have been informed of the arrangements.** When it is time to go home, Nursery staff will stand by the door and when they can see you waiting on the Nursery playground they will send your child out.

Before Starting Nursery

Before your child starts Nursery, it would be helpful if he/she could:-

- (a) Go to the toilet unaccompanied – clothes that your child can pull up and down on their own makes this easier
- (b) Recognise, put on and take off his/her own coat – please name your child's coat

Home Visits and Stay and Play sessions

Home visits are carried out prior to starting nursery at a time convenient to you.

From this your child will be offered stay and play sessions to build their confidence in our Nursery alongside you.

What do I do if my child is absent from Nursery?

Please telephone the school before 9.00 am on each day of absence if your child is unwell and cannot attend. Select 1 to leave a message on the dedicated absence line. Please give the child's name, class and reason for absence. If your child vomits or has diarrhoea, please do not send them to school within 48 hours of the last episode.

Attendance in Nursery is recorded in line with the rest of the school and follows the same policies and procedures. Although we hope that holidays and other absences (other than illness) will be avoided, please ensure that a 'Leave of Absence' form is completed if your child will not be attending. Forms are available from the school office.

What happens if my child has an accident?

If your child has an accident, it will be dealt with by Nursery staff or another qualified first aider and you will be informed when collecting your child. If it is a more serious accident, parents will be contacted. If your contact details change during the year, please remember to inform the school.

What clothes should my child wear?

Children are much happier if they can manage their own clothes independently, although help is on hand wherever necessary. They need to feel comfortable and to know that it is not a disaster if paint or glue is accidentally spilled on their clothing! As an alternative to your child's clothes, children may wear a 'school uniform' of a plain royal blue sweatshirt or one with the school logo on which can be purchased from our school clothing website link, grey/black trousers or leggings, grey/black skirt/pinafore dress.

In hot weather, please make sure your child has a sun hat. You may also wish to apply sun cream before they leave home. Unfortunately we are not able to apply sun cream in school.

The school actively encourages outdoor learning, so we would ask that children have named wellies and full waterproofs (either all in one or jacket and trousers) that can remain in Nursery.

How will I be involved in my child's education?

Your child's education is a partnership between home and school. As parents, you are your child's first teachers and we would like you to share in their continuing education with us. Staff are always willing to listen and talk over ways in which you can be involved.

There may be times when it is necessary to make an appointment to see a member of staff, but we try to deal with any queries as quickly as possible.

We also have stay and play sessions where you can come and work with your child

What will my child do at Nursery?

Everything in the nursery is carefully planned and structured to help your child's development. Your child will follow a curriculum planned using the development stages of the Early Years Foundation Curriculum. The curriculum in Nursery explores a variety of different topics alongside following the children's individual interest to support the seven areas of learning and development: -

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Successful personal, social and emotional development is critical for very young children in all aspects of their lives and gives them the best opportunity for success in all other areas of learning. In Nursery, we help to do this by providing a safe, stable, caring environment where each child is valued for their individuality.

We encourage children to be confident, have respect for each other and establish effective relationships with their friends and adults. They have opportunities to work on their own and in groups and to persevere in their activities, as well as solve simple, practical problems. They learn to be independent in selecting activities and resources. Rewards are given in the form of verbal praise, stickers and certificates. Children are shown how to be sensitive to the needs and feelings of others and show respect for people of other cultures, beliefs and abilities.



Communication and Language

The development and use of communication and language is at the centre of a child's learning. They do this in every part of school life and especially play. Your child will be encouraged to listen, talk and respond to other children and adults. They will sing songs, learn rhymes and share their ideas and feelings.

Physical Development

Young children develop in this area in two main ways. The first is the use of their whole bodies to move in different ways, e.g. running, jumping, sliding, etc. To help their development, we have a variety of suitable outdoor equipment/activities and the use of the school hall so they can explore the space around them.

The second way is to develop the control of essential fine motor and hand-eye co-ordination skills. Specific examples of this are the use of tools such as scissors, pencils, paintbrushes and cooking utensils, as well as activities of dressing, undressing, threading and using construction toys. Most of these are freely available to use at any time and also as specific group activities.

Mathematics

Mathematical development depends on becoming confident and competent in learning and using key skills. This takes place in many ways – through stories, songs, games, cookery and play. It will involve the children learning about shape and space in their environment, numbers, measures, counting, sorting, matching, pattern making e.g. we may lay a picnic table for four people so each child has 1 cup, spoon, fork, knife and plate of the same colour.

Literacy

Prior to starting Little Wandle phonics in Reception, Nursery focus on building listening, attention and understanding skills through activities such as body percussion, singing, sound walks and using musical instruments. Children will also be introduced to the written word in their environment through books, signs, labels, etc. They will share stories through books, role-play and puppets. Many opportunities will also be provided for them to experiment at mark making themselves, e.g. in the writing area, artwork and malleable table. Your child will bring lending library books for you to share with them every week.

Expressive Arts and Design

Being creative enables children to make connections between one area of learning and another and extend their understanding of the world. Children will learn to express themselves and communicate thoughts and ideas through art, music, dance, role-play and imaginative play. Children will gain experience of colour, shape and texture.

Much of the pleasure for a young child is from the process of doing activities rather than the end result. Your child will therefore value your interest and encouragement – please take pride in displaying any work they bring home.

We have a range of large and small musical instruments which we use regularly as well as singing songs, rhymes and clapping rhythms. We respond to music of different cultures and for different purposes through dance and movement, e.g. toys, animals, festivals.

The role-play area is a wonderful place for make-believe, dressing up and trying out different roles. It provides scope for developing imagination, language, sharing, co-operation and mathematics. Imaginative play is encouraged in many aspects of nursery life, including miniature worlds such as the farm, railway, dolls' house, etc. Through play, children work through their own experiences, widen their vocabulary and share ideas with each other.

Understanding the world

We provide a rich and wider range of activities and experiences to support the children's learning and curiosity. In Nursery we recognise that each child is an individual who is unique and part of a family and community, we celebrate a range of cultural and celebratory events including celebrating diversity. We support the children through exciting opportunities with visitors in provision and walks around our school environment. We recognise nature is a powerful place for learning so we are outdoors in all weather supporting children through bird watching, bug hunting and having fun.