



Getting ready for Nursery

The Annunciation Catholic Infant School

Nursery session times

Full time children (30h funding): 8:45-15:15 (Doors open at 14:55)

Morning session (15h funding): 8:45-11:45

Afternoon session (15h funding): 12:15-15:15 (Doors open at 14:55)

We expect all children to attend nursery every day and arrive on time, unless they are unwell. Nursery is an important year in which your child will learn routines, communication and socialisation strategies that will help them in their future, and they will not benefit from this if they do not attend school consistently.

If your child is going to be absent from nursery, we request that you contact the school office (020 8959232) and leave a message, letting us know their name, school year and reason for absence. This ensures that their absence can be authorised and recorded accurately on our systems.

Please remember that, while in nursery, your child will have a funded place that they can lose if they have several unexplained absences, or they miss school for a prolonged period.

Staff and key worker system

Miss Lynch will be your child's Class Teacher and first point of contact with the school. Miss Lynch or another member of the nursery team will be allocated to be your child's **key worker**. This means they will help with their settling, bond with them, work with them in their next steps and record their progress. We will inform you of your child's key worker in September.



Preparing your child for nursery

The nursery children are expected to be fully toilet trained and be able to go to the toilet independently, including wiping themselves, pulling clothes back up and washing their hands.

You do not need to teach your child letters and numbers before they start in nursery. These are a few important experiences that will help your child to do great in school:

- Reading books together: Looking at the pictures, commenting on the stories and enjoying time together by sharing books daily.
- Talking a lot: Talk about their day, about the things you see on the street, about their interests and what they learn about the world... Conversation is key! Either in English or your home language, what is important is to spend time talking.
- Spending time outside and moving: Going to playgrounds and parks, walking, playing, and talking to other children.
- Encouraging your child to be independent and curious: Wonder about the world, praise attempts to do things by themselves and be patient.

Uniform and book bags

At the Annunciation School, all the children must wear the correct uniform to attend school. The children will be expected to arrive with their winter uniform when they start in September. The nursery winter uniform consists of:

- Nursery tracksuit (red/navy blue jogging bottoms and jumper) to purchase from the school office
- White polo shirt
- Black school shoes (Trainers are not allowed)
- Navy blue socks for girls and dark grey socks for boys
- Navy blue plain coat or jacket (No denim, patterns, drawing or other colours)
- Hair accessories must be navy blue or white
- For safety reasons, we do not allow jewellery, long hair extensions or hair beads. Girls can wear small studs in their ears.

Please write your child's name on all their clothes. Remember that all the children wear the same uniform, and it is quite easy to mix them up.

Once your child starts in September, we ask you to purchase a **book bag** from the office that they will bring every day. Every Friday, the nursery children can borrow a book from our nursery to read with you during the week. They will also put inside their book bags their work, special drawings and important letters and newsletters.

When you have your book bag, please put a pair of pants and socks inside. It is not rare that nursery children have some toileting accidents! We have some spare uniforms in case this happens, but for health reasons we ask you to bring underwear. We will change your child and you can wash and return the spare uniform after one or two days.

You can purchase all the items and make payments related to school, such as the lunch fee or our different funds through a website called **ParentPay**. We will give you a unique code to sign up to it so you can order what your child needs.

Settling and Home Visits

In the next few weeks, we will contact you to arrange a home visit that will take place during the first week of September. The home visit is a lovely opportunity to meet you and your child in a familiar environment and for you to ask any questions you may have. During this visit we will inform you of your child's key worker and start date, and we will discuss the best settling approach for your child.

During their first days at school, it is normal that some children are a bit upset or distressed. We understand the importance of making them feel safe and happy, and we will adapt to each situation differently.

The nursery children will start on different dates so we can cater to all of them and give them enough time with their key workers to settle into their new environment and feel comfortable. We will inform you soon of your child's start date.

How do I know what my child is doing at school?

At the Annunciation School, we know parent-teacher communication and cooperation is essential, even more during the first steps of the children's education. Therefore, we have several lines of communication:

- You are welcome to talk to Miss Martin or your child's key worker at any time during drop-off or pick-up times
- You will have weekly information about all the school's events and highlights in our newsletter.
- Check our Twitter (@AnnunciationHA8) for instant updates of the children's learning.
- We use ClassDojo, an app where you connect to the nursery class. This will give you access to class activities, your child's progress, and direct messages to Miss Martin. We are currently considering implementing a new online platform that would be more focused on Early Years and will update you when this has been finalised.
- We will have a lot of in-person events, meetings, workshops, fayres, collective worships and stay-and-play sessions during the year. Stay tuned to ClassDojo and our website to hear about all the engagement opportunities.

Food in the Nursery

If your child will be attending the full-time session (30 hours a week), they will have to bring their own packed lunch. Please be aware that we are a nut-free school as well as a healthy eating school. This means that all food must be nut free and we will appreciate healthy choices in your children's packed lunches.

All children will have access to fruit, milk, and water for snack in the mornings and afternoons. Please do not bring food or drinks unless your child stays for lunch.

We do celebrate children's birthdays in nursery and ask that in line with our healthy school policy, if you would like to, you can bring some unusual types of fruit that we can share, we will not accept or give out sweets or cake at school.

We look forward to welcoming you into our wonderful school community and working together as your child starts their journey with us. Please check our website for further information and contact us if you have any more questions or enquiries.

The Annunciation Infant and Nursery School



www.theannunciationschools.co.uk



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