



Whitehouse Nursery Class



Whitehouse Primary School
Vaynol Way
Whitehouse
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Telephone: 01908 533288

Meet the Team

Our Strategic Leadership Team



Linda Kelly
Headteacher



Caroline Prudence
Deputy Head



Rachel Ndede



Geri Anderson
Assistant Heads



Ceri Camwell



Laura Ward
SENDCo



Benjamin Gilbert
Inclusion Lead

Our Early Years Team



Naomi Price
Head of Early Years and Nursery Lead



Lisa Morris
Deputy Nursery Lead



Johanne Smith



Diane Wilson



Jess Marr



Jane Shiells

Early Years Teaching Assistants



Early Years Education is at the very heart of our growing school. We are passionate and dedicated to providing your children with the very best start to their education journey.

Our Early Years is made up of three Foundation classes and a Nursery Class. We are pleased to offer Nursery places for 3 and 4 year olds with sessions running during every morning and afternoon. We are committed to providing an exceptional quality early years' education delivered by experienced and highly qualified staff. Working closely with parents and carers, our aim is to provide the very best platform to enable children to fulfil their potential in a secure and caring environment, immersed in the core values, ethos and aims of Whitehouse Primary School.

Please visit our website – www.whitehouseprimary.co.uk to download the Whitehouse Nursery Admission Form or to register an interest.

Aims and Ethos

As Whitehouse Nursery is part of Whitehouse Primary School, we share the same ethos and aims as the main school.

Aspire, Believe, Achieve.....together

At Whitehouse Primary School, high expectations of learning, behaviour and respect for each other underpin everything we do. Our teachers strive to create independent, articulate thinkers and learners who have the confidence to achieve their ambitions. This drives us in our pursuit for excellence every day.

Our Vision

"Our vision is to create a school where everyone is welcomed, efforts are valued, ambition is nurtured and where the potential of every child is realised. We aim to create a school that offers an irresistible invitation to learning."

"We wish for every child to become a successful, resilient life-long learner; a responsible, active member of our community, who can achieve and grow in a nurturing and creative environment. We want them to aspire to high standards of achievement in all areas of their life and be equipped with the skills to make a positive impact in our ever changing world."



At Whitehouse Primary:

- We aspire to ignite a passion for life-long learning.
- We are committed in our pursuit for excellence.
- We are committed to give our children the best possible future life chances, without limits on learning, attainment and achievement. We have a genuine belief that, given the opportunities, every child can succeed.
- We aspire to develop great thinkers, who are independent, resilient and embrace challenges and new experiences.
- We encourage co-operation and collaboration, everyone taking responsibility for all that they say and do.
- We provide exciting but safe and secure spaces, indoors and outdoors, where children can explore, discover and experiment.
- We value everyone as an individual and encourage respect for others and their opinions.
- We aim to develop a strong community spirit in our children that helps them to become positive, active, responsible citizens in the future.
- We celebrate and respect the diverse community in which we live and appreciate our responsibilities as global citizens.



We aim to create an ethos where:

- A welcoming atmosphere is created in school, where children, staff, parents and visitors feel valued.
- Our children are happy, feel safe and supported and enjoy coming to school.
- Our children demonstrate good manners and show consideration to and for others.
- Our children are keen, enthusiastic and totally engaged in their learning.
- There is a growth mind-set. We stay positive, we value learning from mistakes and we keep going when things become tough.
- Our children are reflective and thoughtful about their experiences.
- Our children are motivated and have the confidence to challenge themselves as learners.
- Our school environment supports children's learning and values their achievements.
- Teaching is creative, exciting and stimulates and extends children's thinking.
- Our children have a genuine pride in themselves, their efforts and achievements. Talents and creativity are nurtured and encouraged.
- Our staff are committed professionals who demonstrate a love of teaching, a passion for their own, as well as children's learning and development, and genuine care for the children they teach.
- We have high expectations for all within our community to ensure that we demonstrate the very best standards of conduct, moral purpose and integrity.



Nursery Admissions

Whitehouse Nursery will accept applications for any child, aged three or older. In addition, Whitehouse Nursery can offer limited places to children who are 2 if they meet the criteria for free early education and childcare.



You can register interest in your child attending Whitehouse Nursery at any point by filling in an online application form which is available on our website.

Your Child's Date of Birth	Nursery Start Date <i>All start dates are subject to availability.</i>	Reception Class Start Date
1 st September 2014 – 31 st August 2015		September 2019
1 st September 2015 – 31 st August 2016	September 2019	September 2020
1 st September 2016 - 31 st December 2016	January 2020	September 2021
1 st January 2017 – 23 rd March 2017	April 2020	
24 th March 2017 – 31 st August 2017	September 2020	

NB*Free early education funding starts the term after the child turns 3

If there are more applications to the Nursery than places available, then the Whitehouse Nursery Admissions criteria will be applied. Please note that we can only hold a number of spaces as the year progresses. For this reason, we are unable to hold spaces for April admissions to our Nursery class. However, we do operate a waiting list system so should a space become available for April then we will offer this to the first person on our waiting list and so on.

****Please note, although Whitehouse Nursery is part of Whitehouse Primary School, attendance at the Nursery does not guarantee future admission to the Reception Year at Whitehouse Primary School.**

To gain admission to the main school, parents/carers must apply to the Local Authority through the Starting School Admissions Process.

Whitehouse Nursery Learning and Assessment Purpose and Aims of the EYFS

The Statutory Framework for Early Years Foundation Stage states:

‘Every child deserves the best possible start in life and the support that enables them to fulfil their potential. Children develop quickly in the early years and a child’s experiences between birth and age five have a major impact on their future life chances. A secure, safe and happy childhood is important in its own right. Good parenting and high quality early learning together provide the foundation children need to make the most of their abilities and talents as they grow up.

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) sets the standards that all early years providers must meet to ensure that children learn and develop well and are kept healthy and safe. It promotes teaching and learning to ensure children’s ‘school readiness’ and gives children the broad range of knowledge and skills that provide the right foundation for good future progress through school and life.’



At Whitehouse Nursery we follow the EYFS Framework. We use the document for essential advice and guidance to evaluate the practice and quality in our setting to ensure every child makes age appropriate progress. We will work with you to carefully document the progress of your child through their home and Nursery experiences. The EYFS Framework will also be used in your child’s Reception year at Whitehouse Primary School and this personalised learning journey then forms part of the smooth transition to Year One.

Overarching Principles

The EYFS principles guide the work of all practitioners and are grouped into four distinct but complementary themes;

These are:

- every child is a **unique child**, who is constantly learning and can be resilient, capable, confident and self-assured;
- children learn to be strong and independent through **positive relationships**;
- children learn and develop well in **enabling environments**;
- children **develop and learn in different ways and at different rates**.

In planning and guiding children’s activities, we reflect on the different ways the children learn and we ensure that our practice reflects the three **characteristics of effective learning**:

- **playing and exploring** – children investigate and experience things, and ‘have a go’
- **active learning** – children concentrate and keep on trying if they encounter difficulties, and enjoy achievements
- **creating and thinking critically** – children have and develop their own ideas, make links between ideas, and develop strategies for doing things.

The Early Learning Goals and Educational Programme

The EYFS promotes effective practice through each of the seven areas of learning to support children through various stages of maturity and development. All areas of learning and development are important and interconnected. Three areas are particularly crucial for igniting children's curiosity and enthusiasm for learning, and for building their capacity to learn, form relationships and thrive.

These three prime areas are:

Communication and Language Development involves giving children opportunities to experience a rich language environment; to develop their confidence and skills in expressing themselves; and to speak and listen in a range of situations.

Physical Development involves providing opportunities for young children to be active and interactive; and to develop their co-ordination, control, and movement. Children must also be helped to understand the importance of physical activity, and to make healthy choices in relation to food.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development involves helping children to develop a positive sense of themselves, and others; to form positive relationships and develop respect for others; to develop social skills and learn how to manage their feelings; to understand appropriate behaviour in groups; and to have confidence in their own abilities.

The four specific areas are:

Literacy development involves encouraging children to link sounds and letters and to begin to read and write. Children must be given access to a wide range of reading materials (books, poems, and other written materials) to ignite their interest.

Mathematics involves providing children with opportunities to develop and improve their skills in counting, understanding and using numbers, calculating simple addition and subtraction problems; and to describe shapes, spaces, and measures.

Understanding the World involves guiding children to make sense of their physical world and their community through opportunities to explore, observe and find out about people, places, technology and the environment.

Expressive Arts and Design involves enabling children to explore and play with a wide range of media and materials, as well as providing opportunities and encouragement for sharing their thoughts, ideas and feelings through a variety of activities in art, music, movement, dance, role-play, and design and technology.



Each of the seven areas of learning are seen by our practitioners as being equally important with each area being connected to each other and underpinned by all of the principles in the EYFS.



Planning

Staff plan activities which enable your child to progress and experience all aspects of the EYFS curriculum. Children learn best when they are actively involved in something they enjoy. We plan using a child led and 'in the moment' approach. This means that topics are not pre-planned and learning is driven by your child's interests and needs. If you spend any time in our setting it will become obvious that the children spend a great deal of time "playing". Play has a serious purpose for each child: it is his or her main learning tool. Play offers a child a means of exploring and understanding the world and his or her place in it. Our play activities are carefully structured and tailored to meet each child's individual needs.

Assessment and Observations

During their time with us, observations are made on your child using an online system called Early Excellence Assessment Tracker. Our observations help us to understand your child's level of achievement, interests and learning styles, and to shape learning experiences that reflect our observations. These are collated by your child's Key Person and your child's progress will be discussed regularly with you.

As a parent/carer you are entitled to see this information at any time, by making an appointment with the staff. From October we plan to go live online with your child's Early Excellence tracker. This means that as a parent you will be able to use an app to access your child's online learning journal and snapshot observations. All assessments made will be passed to your child's Reception Class on entering school to ensure prior achievements are built upon.



Whitehouse Nursery

Placing your child in any Nursery environment will of course raise lots of questions for you. We hope some of these may be answered below. For any other questions, please do not hesitate to contact us!

Frequently Asked Questions

What sessions can my child do?

We strongly recommend that your child attends five morning or afternoon sessions with the option of including lunch. However, you are able to book morning and afternoon sessions, including lunch, where your child stays at the Nursery all day.

Can I choose the day my child comes?

For the best educational experience for your child we would recommend your child attends their full five allocated sessions each week. In order to fulfil requirements for the funded education of your child it is statutory that your child attends at least 63% of their allocated sessions. If you would like to add additional sessions for your child then please speak to their key person at any point throughout the year to see if we can accommodate this.

Can I pick my child up earlier/later than the session times?

No, the session times are set to ensure the best educational experience for your child.

Do I pay fees?

Children are entitled to government funding for up to 15 hours of childcare from the term after they turn 3. Additionally, we will be offering 30 hour funded places to eligible families. If you require further sessions in addition to the funded hours each week for your child, additional charges will apply and you will be invoiced for these sessions in advance. Sessions will be invoiced half termly at the beginning of each half term, and there are no reductions for absence or holidays.



Session Costs

Non funded Sessions

£7 per hour

Do you accept childcare vouchers?

Yes, we will accept childcare voucher payments for all non- funded sessions.

If I don't want my child to come in the morning, can I use my funded sessions another time?

Funded sessions can be taken as morning sessions or afternoon sessions, subject to availability.

How do I register a place for the Nursery?

Please complete our online registration form

<http://www.whitehouseprimary.co.uk/Nursery/registration/>

we will then contact you to confirm if we have availability and confirm your place.



How can I be sure my child will settle and get used to the routines?

Before your child starts at Nursery we will arrange one or two settling in sessions. This is usually done in school so that your child can become familiar with the environment, however due to the current pandemic this may initially be via an online meeting. This allows you and your child to meet your child's key person. These sessions give you an opportunity to share with us any useful information which will help us support your child as they start their educational journey with us. In September we operate a phased entry for all new children starting with us. During the first few days of your child's time in Nursery we spend a lot of time supporting them with learning the routines, helping them to know where to find things (such as the toilets) and just simply by getting to know them.

Do you have a curriculum? What kind of activities do you provide?

We use the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework as the foundation for our play and learning. We incorporate this with our children's interests to form the basis of our activities. We provide a range of activities to support every area of development and the children have access to the outdoor area daily. We have open ended and exploratory play invitations set up every day and opportunities for large and small group work to enhance social skills.

Will my child integrate with the children at Whitehouse Primary School?

Yes, Whitehouse Primary school is a family and many activities include all children.

If my child is unwell are they allowed to attend? Can you give medication?

A cough and cold and regular childhood illnesses can be managed. If any medicine is to be administered, prior consent must be given. All policies, including a policy for administering medicines can be viewed on our website. In accordance with our attendance policy and safeguarding policy, we request that you contact the school office to notify the Nursery every day of your child's absence. The absence line is 01908 533288.

We want the children attending Nursery to be fit and healthy; please do not send your child if they are showing signs of illness. Children may not attend nursery within 48hrs after the last bout of sickness or diarrhea.

What happens if my child becomes ill whilst at Nursery?

If your child becomes ill, we will contact you immediately and ask you to collect your child, if required. To support us with this we ask that you ensure that the contact numbers you provide are up to date and accurate.

What if my child has antibiotics?

As stated in our administering medicines policy, we are happy to administer antibiotics which have been prescribed by a doctor, where it is requested 4 times a day. We will require you to complete a medication form giving us consent to administer the medicine.

My child has asthma, is that a problem?

No, we are able to administer inhalers with your consent. We ask that you have an extra prescribed inhaler, in a named container, to leave at Nursery at all times.

What if my child has an accident?

We have an accident policy in place and all staff are aware of the procedures to follow. The majority of our staff have pediatric first aid qualifications, which are updated every three years. We inform you of any accident involving your child and, if necessary, ask you to sign the accident form at the end of the day. In the unlikely event of a serious injury you would be advised immediately if medical attention is/was required, and if necessary an ambulance will be called.

What if I can't get to the Nursery in time for the session closing? Can I send someone else?

If you can't get to the Nursery in time to collect your child at the end of a session you may send someone else but they must be over 16 years old. This person must have consent to collect your child and must know your four digit pin number for collection (you will have submitted this to the office during the registration process). You must inform the school office who will be coming and give us a full description of the person and what time they will be arriving. Unauthorised persons will not be allowed to collect your child without confirmation from yourself.

What are your opening hours?

Morning Sessions

8.30am – 11.30am

Lunchtime Sessions

11.30am – 12.30pm

Afternoon Sessions

12.30pm – 3.30pm

Full day Session (30 hours funded places)

9.30am – 3.30pm

Additional start of Day Session for full day children

8.30am-9.30am

We ask that you send your child to Nursery with a healthy packed lunch every day. We are committed to encouraging and helping children to make healthy nutritional choices and are willing to support families with this where necessary.

Do you offer wrap around care, so my child can stay longer hours?

Yes, we now offer a number of spaces in our breakfast and afterschool club to children who attend Nursery. For more information, please speak to a member of staff in reception.

Do you cater for dietary requirements?

On application for a place we ask you to provide information of dietary requirements and/or known allergies to ensure individual needs are catered for.

My child has Special Educational Needs, is that a problem?

No. We operate a comprehensive SEND and Inclusion policy. We will work collaboratively with parents and other professionals to ensure the needs of your child are met.

Is there a Nursery Uniform?

Whitehouse Nursery has a uniform which your child is expected to wear to all sessions. We encourage all children in Foundation to wear our Active Uniform. We promote active learning and encourage our children to explore, be creative, climb, jump, run. Our active uniform is also easy for the children to use the toilet independently and very comfortable. Our school website has further information about your child's school uniform and how to make an order.

- **Navy blue sweatshirt or cardigan with school logo**
- **Navy blue or white polo shirt with or without school logo**
- **Blue joggers (with or without logo)/navy leggings or grey school trousers/skirt**



We provide aprons for use during 'messy' play; however, we cannot accept liability for damaged or stained clothing. Nursery will also provide waterproof trousers for the children to wear if conditions / activities require this. When choosing clothing please consider articles which the child can manage. This develops their self-esteem and helps them to become independent. Belts, braces, dungarees, trainers and high laced boots are difficult to master. Open-toed sandals are not permitted for Health & Safety reasons. Each child must have a named change of clothes every day. We appreciate any clothes loaned by Nursery being returned as soon as possible, freshly laundered and ironed.

Children also have the opportunity to play and learn outside throughout the whole year. Please ensure they have a waterproof coat, hat and gloves as appropriate. During the summer it is essential that suitable footwear is worn; no flip flops, open-toed sandals or bare feet. Please supply a named sun hat and apply sun cream prior to the session.



Early Years Pupil Premium

The Early Years Pupil Premium is additional funding given to Nurseries to improve the quality of education provided for 3 and 4 year olds who are considered as disadvantaged.

At Whitehouse Nursery we will be guided by Whitehouse Primary School to ensure the funds are used in the most beneficial way.

What are the qualifying benefits to apply for Early Years Pupil Premium funding?

The qualifying benefits to receive Early Years Pupil Premium are:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part IV of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 the Guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you are not also entitled to Working Tax Credit, and your annual gross income does not exceed £16,190 as assessed by Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs)
- Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)
- Universal Credit (during the initial roll-out of this benefit)
- They are currently being looked after by a local authority in England or Wales
- They have left care in England or Wales through an adoption, a special guardianship order or a child arrangement order.

If you are getting a qualifying benefit, please do tell us as we will receive extra funding from the Government to support your child's education. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

School Readiness

As children in Whitehouse Nursery look to begin their first school year, whether it be Whitehouse Primary School or otherwise, ensuring your child is ready for this exciting next stage is a priority for us. We want to ensure your child has the very best foundations on which to build and below is a comprehensive list of the skills and attributes we will work with you on to ensure your child achieves.



- ✓ Do I recognise and respond to my own name?
- ✓ Can I speak to an adult politely?
- ✓ Can I talk in full sentences?
- ✓ Am I developing a rich and detailed vocabulary?
- ✓ Do I know when to ask for help?
- ✓ Am I aware and respectful of my friends around me?
- ✓ Can I sit still and listen when asked?
- ✓ Can I take turns and share nicely with my friends?
- ✓ Do I understand words like 'no' and 'stop' and understand that this may be to keep me safe?
- ✓ Can I visit the toilet without the help of a grown-up?
- ✓ Can I take my coat off and get dressed and undressed on my own?
- ✓ Can I open and enjoy a book independently and with a grown-up?

For advice and support on any of the considerations above, please do not hesitate to speak to any member of staff at Whitehouse Nursery.

We are really looking forward to meeting you and your child and to support them through their Early Years learning journey. We pride ourselves on our close relationships with our parents and would like to remind you that our school operates an open door policy and your feedback is greatly valued. We understand that starting nursery can be a huge milestone for both children and parents and we will strive to provide the best possible experience for all.



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