

Whitchurch Primary School and Nursery



Whitchurch Core Values



'Learners today, leaders tomorrow'



Our Vision



Intent

- Happy, Curious Children – We want your child to enjoy learning and feel excited every day.
- Learning That Grows the Brain – We offer fun and challenging activities to help your child think, explore, and grow.
- Working With You – We support you to be part of your child's learning journey.

Implementation

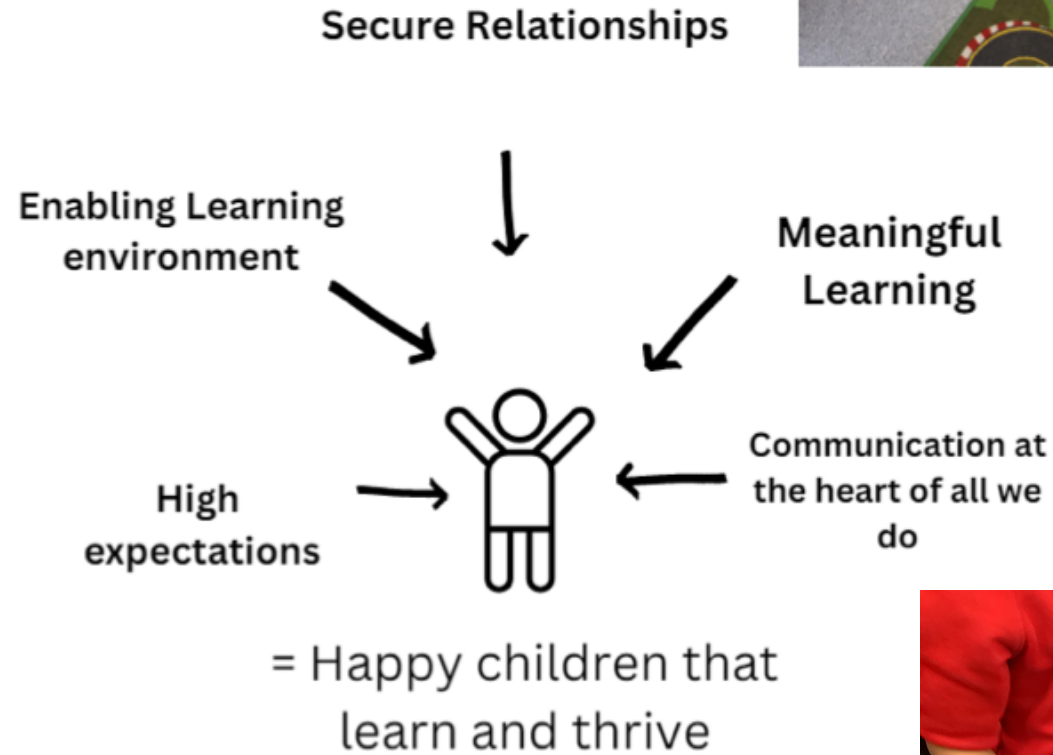
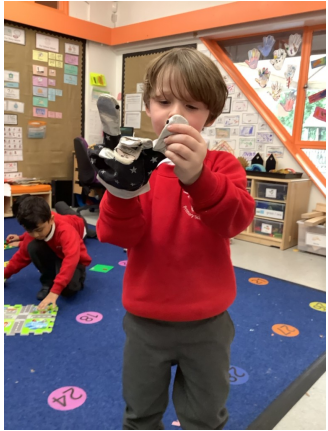
- Learning Through Play – Children lead their play, and we guide them gently in a fun and safe space.
- Talking and Listening – We build language every day with stories, rhymes, and conversation.
- Home and School Together – We stay connected with you through Tapestry, workshops, and support.

Impact

- Ready to Learn – Your child gains important skills and knowledge to move forward.
- Happy and Confident – They become strong, curious, and good with others.
- Ready for Life – They grow into independent learners ready for their next steps.



Our Early years Principles



Young brains...

Children learn best through play! At this young age, their brains are growing very fast, and play helps them learn and develop in many ways.

Here's why **play matters**:

Play builds the brain – When children play, they think, explore, and make sense of the world around them.

Play builds skills – Through play, children learn language, problem-solving, social skills, and how to move their bodies.

Play builds confidence – When children play, they try new things, make choices, and feel proud of what they can do.

So when your child is playing, they are not "just playing" – they are learning in the best way possible!



Our Curriculum

The Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum is split into seven 'Areas of Learning':

Personal, Social and Emotional development

Physical development

Communication and Language

Literacy

Mathematics

Understanding the World

Expressive Arts and Design

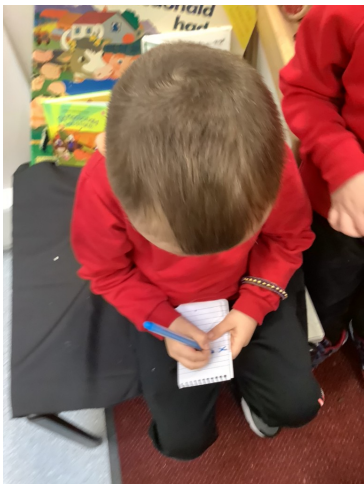


Literacy and Numeracy

Both are taught everyday

There will be parent workshops offered throughout the year so you can support your child at home using the same methods we use at school.

The weekly Tapestry posts will be added so you can support your child's learning in the home environment



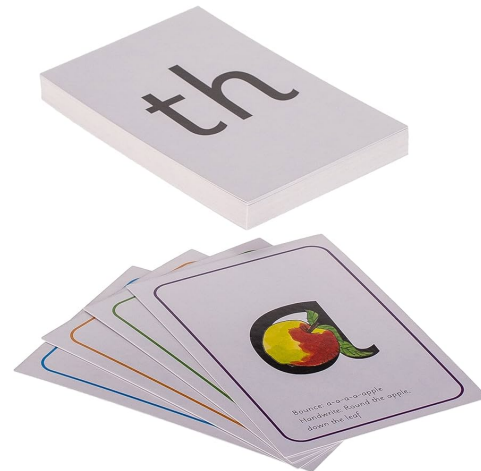
Phonics

RWI school

Starts once children are in fulltime

Builds on all the pre-phonics skills children have been learning at Nursery (speaking & listening, songs & Rhymes)

More workshops to come!



Typical Day in Reception

- Children start the day together on the carpet
- Teaching input on the carpet followed by adult guided groups and time to learn and explore in the planned provision (inside/outside)
- Fruit
- Mini whole class learning time
- Phonics
- Lunch is at 11:30/40am.
- Teaching input on the carpet followed by adult guided groups and time to learn and explore in the planned provision (inside/outside).
- We end our day by having a story and rhyme session.
- Over the week children do guided writing, reading and maths as well as developing skills and understanding in art, physical development, understanding the world, RE and emotional development.



Lunchtimes

- Our chef prepares a healthy lunch for all children
- We encourage all children to try but do not force children to eat
- We will let you know if we notice your child is regularly not eating well
- It is typical for children to come out of school hungry even if they have eaten well at lunchtime! Be prepared with a healthy snack!



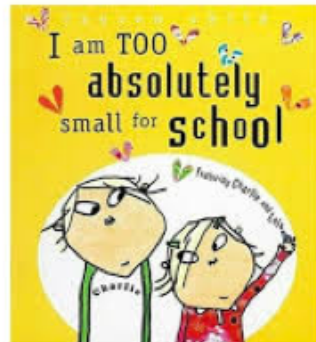
Uniform

- Uniform list is in the Handbook and on our Website
- Please make sure all items are labelled with your child's name
- Please make sure children can do the fastenings by themselves
- A water bottle clearly labelled with your child's name. (Water only no juice)



What you can do now to help

- Talk, talk and more talk! Talk about all the exciting things they will be doing at school such as making friends and learning new things.
- Help your child develop their independent skills such as dressing, washing hands and being able to self care when using the toilet.
- Read books about starting school.
- Help them to recognise and begin to write their own name. This is so they can find their peg and label their work.



Dates and phasing in

Home Visits - We are offering home visits to children who have not attended the "Getting to Know You" sessions, or to families who feel that a visit would help their child settle more easily. If you would like to arrange a home visit, please let us know. These will take place in July.

July 2nd – Stay and play 9.30-10.30am

15th July – Family picnic 1.30-2.45pm

September Start Dates

Tuesday 2nd & Wednesday 3rd September: Most children will attend for half-day sessions (either morning or afternoon). Full details will be sent out shortly.

Thursday 4th & Friday 5th September: All children will come in at 8:40am, stay for lunch, and go home at 1:15pm.

Monday 8th September: Most children will begin attending full-time.

Some children may need a tailored transition plan to support a smooth settling-in process.



Thank you

Thank you for joining us today. We're really looking forward to welcoming you and your child to our school family. Together, we'll make this a happy and confident start to their learning journey.

