CLAYTON ST JOHN

C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL

Nursery Prospectus

"Growing together in God's love"

A Warm welcome to Clayton St John CofE Primary School

The day

- The doors open at 8.20am and close at 8.30am
- Nursery (AM) – Monday to Friday 8:20am to 11:20am
- Nursery (PM) – Monday to Friday 12.15pm to 3.15pm
- (You are able to collect from 3pm if you wish)
- Nursery (All Day) – Monday to Friday 8.20am to 3.00pm (30 hours)

Nursery (All Day) children will need to bring a packed lunch and a drink as they are in Nursery all day. We encourage healthy lunches and request that the children do not bring chocolate bars as part of their lunch.

At home time a member of staff will call your child to the door; we ask parents to wait outside at this time of day. We ask that children are collected promptly at the end of their session to avoid unnecessary upset.

All parents and carers are asked to set up a confidential password with the Nursery team. This is to ensure the safety of all our children. If you need a friend or family member to collect your child, please inform the staff and ensure you give the person collecting the password. Staff will check the identity of the person by asking their name and the password. We cannot let children go without this information.

Snack

The children have access to snacks throughout the day. There is always fruit and milk. We also provide additional snacks such as bread sticks, toast, cheese, and croissants.

NO CHILDREN need to bring snacks. (All Day) class ONLY need to bring packed lunch.

There is a voluntary contribution of £4 per half term for snack and baking. NO CASH. Please pay via Parent Pay. You will receive a login when your child has started. Children need to bring named water bottles but no snacks please!

Library/Home Reading

Once the children are settled into Nursery we will start visiting the library. We use this session to share stories in small groups and enjoy books together. We encourage you to visit the local Library with your child and to share stories daily.

They will take a library book home each week which will be changed on Monday.

Spare clothes

Please bring spare clothes for your child to Nursery. Please ensure they are in a **named bag and that all items of clothing are named.** You can keep the bag on your child's peg in our cloakroom.

Outdoor Learning

Outdoor learning is part of our daily routine. We have some waterproof suits & wellies, but if you would like to send in your own we would appreciate this.

The way we work

In Nursery we have a theme each half term. The children will take part in our busy morning routine of Dough Disco, days of the week and either a Literacy or Maths based activity. Then they will take part in an exciting adult focused activity of their

choice. They then have the opportunity to choose what learning they would like to do next.
The children will all take part in phonics activities each day to support early reading skills.

Types of play

Children need experiences of different types of play:

- exploratory play, e.g., sand and water
- creative, e.g., constructions, painting
- imaginative, e.g., riding a bike, creative situations, pretending to sail on a pirate ship
- imitative, e.g., action rhymes, setting the table

Children gradually develop skills and knowledge from these types of activities.
The best playthings are those which give the children experience of colours, materials, textures, shapes, noises, and movement. They should also encourage children to develop their co-ordination. Expensive toys are not necessarily the best - many household objects (make sure they're safe) make good playthings, e.g., empty boxes, plastic bottles, etc.

How can I help my child before s/he starts Nursery?

You can help your child before s/he starts Nursery by talking, listening and discussing with him/her on every possible occasion. Give your child as many experiences outside and inside the home as possible. Use these to stimulate his/her interest and activity.

Children under the age of seven learn faster than at any other time in their life. Therefore, what they experience and learn during those early years is the foundation for the rest of their lives. For very young children, play is the best kind of learning.

What should my child be able to do when he/she starts Nursery?

It would be helpful if your child has had experience of:

1. Exploring mark making, drawing pictures, and representing writing in their own way. This may be marks on paper similar to circles or lines. Always value the marking your child has done.
2. Beginning to understand numbers by using them in play and helping with tasks such as cooking/tidying-up.
3. Using words associated with mathematics - ideas of comparisons, ie bigger than/smaller than, taller/shorter, heavier/lighter, etc.
4. Developing listening skills by listening to stories and responding to instructions.
5. Sharing toys and being prepared to take turns.
6. Recognising his/her belongings.
7. Dressing and undressing him/herself.
8. Going to the toilet independently.
9. Washing and drying hands.
10. Using a tissue to blow their own nose.
11. Developing concentration by doing jigsaws and other puzzles.
12. Using construction toys, etc.
13. Tidying and clearing away toys.

How can I help my child with writing?

Young children usually enjoy writing. Encourage your child to draw and write by providing crayons, pencils, pens, chalks, and lots of things to write on. Your child will learn to write by experimenting and this should be encouraged. Early writing may be in the form of 'scribble', symbols or random letters. Don't worry if your child cannot attempt to read what s/he has written. Try to read it with him/her. This is the way to conventional writing and accurate reading. Let your child see you writing.

Reading

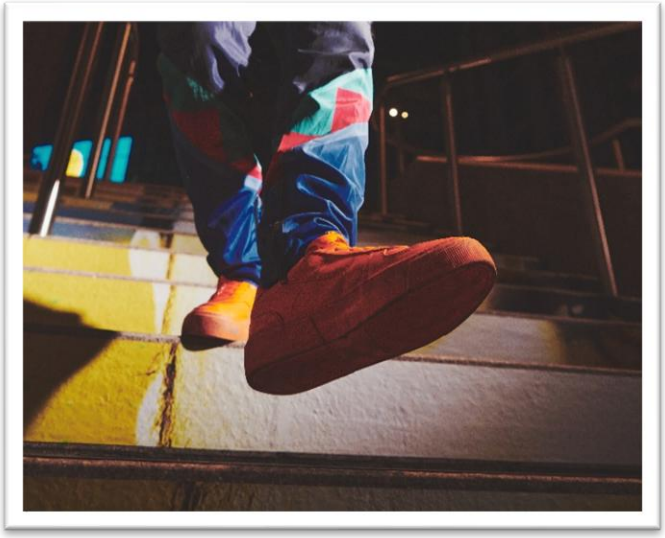
Encourage your child to recite nursery rhymes and repetitive stories.

There may be times when you get tired of hearing 'read it again'. Be patient, there is probably a very good reason why your child loves to hear you read the same words over and over again. Such repetition is, in fact, laying firm foundations for your child to learn to read.

How can I help my child with Mathematics?

Undoubtedly you are already involved in teaching your child mathematical skills in everyday situations, e.g. laying the table. Help your child to enjoy and see the value of Mathematics by involving him/her in some of the following activities:

- Counting steps
- Recognising familiar numbers – such as their age or door number
- Counting out a quantity of objects – can you get three apples.



Model making

Encourage your child to make models, using his/her own ideas with old shoe boxes, cereal packets, kitchen foil, margarine tubs, lolly sticks and all other recyclable materials.

Please remember to value all your child's attempts and put them on display.

Assessment

During your child's time in Nursery, your child's key worker and other members of the team will be observing his/her progress and achievement. We also encourage parents to contribute to their child's learning journey. At the end of the school year, these assessments and observations will support the end of year report and the transition to Foundation Stage 2. You will also receive a report of your child's achievement at the end of the school year.

What happens if my child is upset?

As you are aware, it is not uncommon for a child to be anxious and upset when starting Nursery. Please don't worry if your child does cry. The majority of children will calm down when the parent has left.

Your child's teacher or key worker will settle and comfort your child and focus his/her attention on something else.

Starting Nursery can be very exhausting. Don't be surprised if your child comes home very tired. Try not to ask him/her what he/she did at Nursery today as soon as you see him/her. Children need time to relax and unwind after Nursery and given time, will undoubtedly share their news and stories with you.

Please feel free to contact the Nursery team if you have any questions regarding the above.

We look forward to meeting you and your child soon!

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