

Willow Nursery

Parent Information Booklet



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www.drybrookschoo.co.uk
Welcome to Willow Nursery

Drybrook School
Head Teacher:
Thomas Henesey

Ofsted no 147895

Our School



Drybrook Primary school became part of The Forest Of Dean Trust in April 2020, enabling educational provisions from the age of 2-18 years old. At Drybrook we believe that it is important to value each individual within the school community and to celebrate all of their achievements. We value the gift of learning and recognise that we all have the right to succeed. We have high expectations of ourselves and others and recognise the importance of working in partnership with our community and parents/carers to make sure that children have the absolute best start in life and that they are well-prepared for their next stage of education.

Our aim is to
"dream big and achieve together".

This aim is at the heart of all we strive to do at Drybrook and we believe it makes the school a special place to study in, work at and be a part of.

Willow Nursery

About us...

At Willow Nursery we start the journey for your little ones between the ages of 2-4 years old. Willow Classroom is set in a new block of classrooms, which was built in 2019. Willow Nursery provides a stimulating environment allowing your child to access The Early Years Foundation Stage and develop opportunities and experiences. Willow Nursery has 5 areas of learning: the indoor classroom; the large covered decking; the playground; the garden and the large school field adjoining the Forest School area. Here at Willow Nursery, we have excellent home links with parents, communicating through our online journals Tapestry and our communications app ClassDojo.





Early Help



When a child and/or family would benefit from support but do not meet the threshold for Local Authority Social Care Team, a discussion will take place with the family around early help services.

Early help provides support as soon as a concern/area of need emerges, helping to improve outcomes and prevent escalation onto local authority services. Sometimes concerns about a child may not be of a safeguarding nature and relate more to their individual family circumstances. The nursery will work in partnership with parents/carers to identify any early help services that would benefit your child or your individual circumstances, with your consent, this may include family support, foodbank support, counselling or parenting services.



Sessions

Monday: 8.40am – 3.15pm
Tuesday: 8.40am – 3.15pm
Wednesday: 8.40am – 3.15pm
Thursday: 8.40am – 3.15pm
Friday: 8.40am – 3.15pm

We operate a soft start so children can arrive at Willow from 8.40am ready to start the session for 9.00am.

Morning sessions, afternoon sessions or whole days are available. If your child attends an afternoon session or an all-day session please provide them with a healthy packed lunch.

Fees: £5.50 per hour

Please be respectful and adhere to session times. Willow Nursery staff cannot take responsibility for children before sessions start or after they have finished.

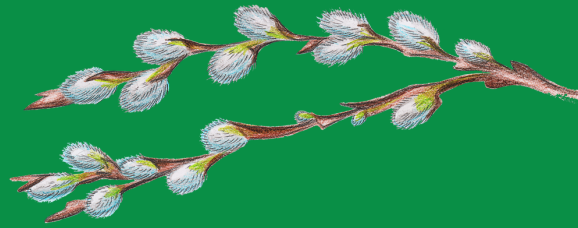
Things to remember...

Please ensure that you provide suitable clothing for both indoor and outdoor use.

- Suitable footwear
- Warm/waterproof coat
- Daps/indoor shoes
- Old clothes for messy play
- Changes of clothes in case of toileting accidents
- Hat and gloves for cold weather
- Sun cream and sun hat for hot weather
- Wellies if your child attends Tuesday's
- Please make sure all items are named



Settling in Programme...



Before children first attend Willow Nursery we recommend parents attend a stay and play session with their child. This is essential as it allows staff, parents and children the opportunity to get to know each other and thus, begin the process of building a trusting and positive relationship. Every child settles differently, if there are any concerns please let a member of staff know so that we can adapt a suitable settling in plan.



We recognise that children develop at their own rate and thus understand that children will be at different stages of their toilet training. If your child is still in nappies please ensure that you provide a labelled bag which contains nappies and wet wipes and provide spare clothes in case of any accidents. Please make sure that all members of staff are aware of any medical or dietary needs your child may have.

Safeguarding

Willow nursery is committed to the safeguarding of all students in the nursery/school. Our aim is to ensure that all students are safe in our nursery/school and that measures are in place to support any child who is at risk of harm. We understand that the welfare of children is everyone's responsibility. We also understand the importance in listening to the wishes and feelings of the child when determining what action to take if/when a concern is raised.

We adopt a contextual approach to safeguarding, recognising that as young people grow and develop they are influenced by a whole range of environments and people outside of their family and online. Our aim is to use a contextual safeguarding approach to keep young people safe by understanding their environment and liaising with other agencies to ensure the right guidance and support is offered at the right time.



This Child Protection and Safeguarding policy outlines the systems and regulations we have in place to protect, support and respond to risks for all the children in the care of the school.

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children means:

- Protecting children from maltreatment.
- Preventing impairment of children's mental and physical health or development.
- Ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care.
- Taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes.

If you have any safeguarding concerns please speak to a member of staff or our Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) Claire Tuffley or our Deputy DSL's Thomas Henesey, Andrea Hampson and Donna Smith.



Nursery Funding Entitlement

Funded Free Early Years Places for 3 and 4 year olds-
Universal entitlement

All 3 and 4 year-old children are entitled to 15 hours of free nursery education for 38 weeks of the year. This funding is available at the start of the term following a child's 3rd birthday and lasts until he/she reaches school age. 3 & 4 year old children of working parents may be eligible for the extended entitlement of an additional 15 hours childcare per week (30 hours in total). For more information please go to www.childcarechoices.gov.uk

Funded Free Early Years Places for 2 year olds

Do you receive benefits or working tax credits and have an annual household income of less than £16,190.

If so, your child may be entitled to a funded place for up to 15 hours a week (term time). You can now check if you are entitled by visiting the Citizen Portal (www.gcca2yofunding.com) after your child's second birthday. Once you have registered on the portal, you will be able to input all the relevant information and the system will advise if you are eligible. Please ensure that you have your National Insurance number to hand. Children may also be entitled to statutory funding if they meet one of the following:

They have an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) or a current statement of Special Educational Needs.
The child is in receipt of Disability Living Allowance.





Nursery Funding Entitlement

Children whose birthday falls between 1st September and 31st December are entitled to funding from the January following their birthday.

Children whose birthday falls between 1st January and 31st March are entitled to funding from the April following their birthday.

Children whose birthday falls between 1st April and 31st August are entitled to funding from the September following their birthday.

If your child is not eligible for Nursery funding, a fee is payable per session on a termly basis, paid in advance via Parent Pay. Fees for missed sessions cannot be reimbursed. In order to ensure your child's place please ensure payment is made by the due date. Non-payment may result in your child losing their place. Please notify us as soon as possible if you wish to change your child's hours. Prolonged absence may result in removal from the register. Four weeks notice is required if you would like to remove them from the setting.

They are in the care of the Local Authority or they have left care through special guardianship, adoption order or child arrangements order. You can submit an application for statutory funding by using the same citizen portal.



Snack Time!



Snack time is an important part of our Early Years curriculum. Children help to prepare and share a snack each day. All children in Willow Nursery receive government funded fresh fruit and milk each day. Children who cannot drink milk are offered water or parents can provide their own dairy alternative.

In addition, for a fee of 30p per session, a weekly snack menu is offered which meets the requirements of the 'Healthy Schools' initiative and includes favourites such as toast, cheese and crackers and cereal. This menu gives the children the opportunity to try new food items, encourages sharing, the use of cutlery and many more learning opportunities for your child.

You will need to opt into this and pay termly in advance.



**Thank you for
reading...**

If you have any queries or questions to do with Willow Nursery, please do not hesitate to contact

us:



01594 542448



willowadmin@drybrookschoool.co.uk