



**BELGRAVE  
ST. PETER'S  
C of E PRIMARY  
SCHOOL**



# A Parents Guide For Nursery





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**And now we have these three: faith and hope and love,  
but the greatest of these is love.'**

**1 Corinthians 13:13**



# Welcome

We are delighted you have chosen our nursery here at Belgrave St Peters for your little one. Mrs Howkins and the team are excited to meet them.

This guide has been put together to help you navigate the first few weeks and give you guide as to how our nursery operates and other information on the day to day running.

Starting at a new setting can be exciting but sometimes it can be little unsettling as well. By working together, your little ones time at nursery and at home can make the most of the excitement and can help avoid any anxiety - not only now but during the rest of time your child is with us.

We'll start by taking a look at the curriculum that we work to, explain about the setting and how we communicate with you. We'll then take a look at a typical day in nursery, our uniform and then how you, the parents can help us, but also, more importantly, help your child get the most out of their time in nursery and these early stages of their education.

## Most Importantly...

# Play...Play...Play...Play!





# The Reception Curriculum

Nursery is part of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). Children in the EYFS learn by playing and exploring, being active, and through creative and critical thinking which takes place both indoors and outside. This is a statutory curriculum that lays the foundations of learning needed for more the more formal routines of school. By the time children leave the Reception year they will be ready to begin a transition into the 'National Curriculum', the curriculum that begins in Year One and continues until pupils leave secondary school. The EYFS curriculum is split into seven areas of learning which can be found below.

- **Personal, Social and Emotional Development: Self-Regulation:** includes showing an understanding of their own feelings and those of others.  
**Managing Self:** includes managing their own basic hygiene needs and showing independence.  
**Building Relationships:** includes working and playing with others, taking turns and making friends.
- **Communication and Language (CL):**  
**Listening, Attention and Understanding:** includes holding conversations, making comments and asking questions about what they've heard and showing good listening skills.  
**Speaking:** includes offering explanations and expressing their ideas and feelings in full sentences.
- **Physical Development: Gross Motor Skills:** includes showing balance and coordination in large movements, such as running, jumping and climbing. **Fine Motor Skills:** includes using a range of small tools, such as cutlery, paintbrushes and scissors, along with holding and controlling a pencil.
- **Literacy, Comprehension:** includes retelling stories and using new vocabulary.  
**Word Reading:** includes using their knowledge of phonics to read letters, words and simple sentences.  
**Writing:** includes writing letters, words and simple sentences.



- **Mathematics, Number:** includes understanding numbers to ten, subitising (the ability to recognise amounts in small groups without counting) and recalling pairs of numbers that make five or ten (number bonds). **Numerical Patterns:** includes counting to twenty and beyond and comparing quantities and number patterns, such as odd and even numbers.
- **Understanding the World, Past and Present:** includes knowing some similarities and differences between things in the past and the present day. **People, Culture and Communities:** includes knowing some similarities and differences between religious cultures and communities. **The Natural World:** includes exploring the natural world, making observations and knowing some similarities and differences between different environments
- **Expressive Arts and Design: Creating with Materials:** includes using different materials, tools and techniques to represent their ideas. **Being Imaginative and Expressive:** includes creating stories and singing rhymes, songs and poems.

At the end of the reception year your child will be assessed against seventeen 'early learning goals' which will be taken from the above areas.





# Our Nursery

Our Nursery forms part of our foundation area of the school. The area is divided into the nursery and a reception class with a shared outdoor learning area.

Our curriculum allows for children to develop across all of the seven areas of learning as laid out in our curriculum.

Alongside quality first teaching, our indoor and outdoor environments provide purposeful and engaging provision to encourage and support children in reaching their Early Learning Goals at the end of their reception year. This is done through daily whole class Phonics, Literacy and Maths lessons followed by small group sessions to ensure that new skills and knowledge are embedded successfully.



# Keeping in contact

Here at Belgrave St. Peter's, we want to communicate with you, as much as possible, so all our teachers are available at the door at the end of each day to answer any questions that you may have and talk with you about your child's progress as needed.

You can expect to receive Interim reports and parents meeting in the both the Autumn and Spring Terms.

As the academic year comes to a close in July, you'll receive a final year report on your child.

We produce a weekly newsletter sent every Friday through Arbor. Which we encourage you to read regularly.

Throughout the year, we'll have 'stay and play' sessions as well as 'stay and read' sessions at various points.

We encourage you to attend these as much as possible as not only will they give you the opportunity to see how your child is progressing at school, you'll share with your child new learning experiences and meet other parents of your child cohort. More information on these session will be sent to parents in the Autumn term.

We also use the online learning Journal, Tapestry.

This is a secure system we use to record and share photos, observations and any comments.

This is done in line with the curriculum, to build up a record of your child's experiences during their time with us. This system allows us to work with you to share information and record the children's play and learning both in and outside of the classroom.



You'll be able to view, like and comment on any of our observations for your child. We also encourage you to add your own images, observations of what your child is experiencing outside of nursery, be that a day out with the family or a short trip.

Throughout the year, we will inform you of our topics, events and other information through letters, on Tapestry and on the school website.



# Day to Day Information

Be prepared for a little change as there are many new routines for parents and children to get used to when beginning nursery. You might find the following information useful during the first few months when everything is new! But please remember to ask if you have any questions. We'll show you a typical nursery day in the coming pages but to highlight some of those points.

## Our nursery start time:

Our nursery is part of the main school so our doors opens at 8:35am and will close shortly after, so please plan your mornings so that you arrive at school in time for this. If you are late, you must take your child to the schools main reception.

Our nursery entrance is by the door facing the junior playground.

On entry to the building, the children will need to hang their coat up on their pegs and self register.

## At home time:

Our school gates will be unlocked at 11.40am and promptly locked again at 11.50am.

Please arrive at the school for 11.40 ready to collect your child.

If someone else is collecting your child, please inform the class teacher or school office in advance of the collection time and ensure they are familiar with all security information hold for your child prior to their arrival.

If for any reason you are late collecting your child, please go to the schools main reception.

## What your child will need

- ⇒ Coat
- ⇒ Named water bottle
- ⇒ School book bag (Nursery children do not have to bring a book bag to school, however they can be useful for bringing home letters and pictures etc)
- ⇒ Gloves and scarf during winter



It is vital that all of your child's property is marked with his/her name, especially nursery uniform. Please check this regularly as marker pen does wash off.



## **Fruit and Milk**

Children in Nursery, Reception and KS1 are entitled to a piece of fruit provided by the school. Water is available throughout the day for all pupils. Milk is available to all children until their 5th birthday. Children entitled to Free School Meals can also request free milk for break time. Milk is subsidised after their 5th birthday which parents can pay for.

## **Cooking**

We like to cook in the Foundation Stage, please look out for notices on the windows. Please ensure that you inform the nursery of any food allergies that your child has.

## **Attendance and Absence**

We believe the whole school community takes responsibility for attendance.

Our aims are:

- ⇒ To raise attendance of our pupils
- ⇒ To improve punctuality
- ⇒ To raise level of achievement
- ⇒ To maximise opportunities undertaken by children in school

When your child is absent from nursery please inform us by telephone, email, in person or by letter explaining the reasons for the absence. All absences must be reported to the school office on the first day of absence. You will receive a message from the office if we do not hear from you. It is very important that all absences are explained. All unexplained absences have to be recorded as unauthorised.

## **Lateness**

Children should not be late for nursery except in emergencies and then we need to be informed of the reason. Children arriving after 8.50am will be marked as "late" in the register and must report to the office and confirm their lunchtime arrangements. Children arriving after registers close will be marked absent.





## Holidays in Term Time

As you may already be aware, government guidelines, which came into effect on 1st September 2013, prevent head teachers from granting any leave of absence during term time, unless there are exceptional circumstances. A family holiday during term-time does not fall under the category of 'exceptional circumstances' and so head teachers are unable to authorise this. With this in mind, the Directors of Rise Academy Trust have taken the decision in line with Government policy to request that Leicester City Council, issue a penalty fine to parents who take their children out of school during term time. Rise Academy Trust would like to make it clear that all monies paid in penalty fines, goes to Leicester City Council and does not benefit either our school or Rise Academy Trust.



# Health and Safety

We aim to maintain a high standard of hygiene and children are encouraged to wash their hands after going to the toilet and before eating. The whole school is a non-smoking area. Please don't bring dogs onto the site (guide dogs are the exception). The school has a full Health and Safety Policy available on request from the office.

## Medicines in nursery

The nursery and school has a "Supporting Pupils with medical conditions" Policy. If a child needs medication for a long-term condition, parents are asked to complete a form giving details of the medication. Inhalers can be kept in nursery if needed.

If a child requires short-term medication (e.g. a course of antibiotics) parents are requested to complete a form in order that staff can administer the medication during the day.

## Accidents in Nursery

Nursery staff are First Aid trained, which is regularly updated. In addition, some staff have Paediatric First Aid and First Aid at Work qualifications.

## Illness during the Nursery Day

If your child becomes unwell during the day, we will contact you. Please inform us about any change of contact details so that we can contact you.

Any child that has minor ailments will be treated by our qualified first-aiders. If your child has a minor bump to the head during the nursery day, we will inform you via Arbor. If any injury is serious, we will contact you immediately.



# A Typical Day

**8.35am** – The gates open and children are welcomed in to the nursery by their teacher and teaching assistant.

We encourage your child to hang up their bags and coats in the cloakroom and go to the toilet.

Then we'll get busy with all the activities on offer for the day.

**8.50am** – We will all come together on the carpet, have a little educational sing song about things like the days of the week.

**9.15am** – We will begin to have lots of play and fun activities inside and outside,



**10:10am** We fill our bodies with goodness and have a milk break before working our fingers with dough disco.

**10.30am** It is break time where children play on the playground.



**11:10am** Time to get counting with a little maths.



**11:20am** We stop for a fruit snack & a bathroom break.

**11:30am** We will have story time and prayers to end our day.

**11:40am** we gather our things to go home



# Being Proud of Our Appearance

Like any good team, here at Belgrave St Peters, we are proud of who we are, and embrace our team spirit and want all children to foster a sense of community and belonging. For this, all children who attend out school from nursery all the way through the school, proudly wear our uniform as laid out below.

All our school embroidered uniform can be ordered from Uniform Direct (link below). All other items can be purchased from all major supermarkets.

## Nursery Uniform

The nursery colours are royal blue and grey.

Each day, children should wear a combination of the following;

- ⇒ A white polo shirt
- ⇒ Grey shorts, trousers, skirt or a pinafore dress
- ⇒ Black shoes (No open sandals or trainers)

In cooler weather, royal blue jumper or cardigan.

In warmer weather, girls may wear royal blue gingham summer dresses.

- ⇒ An outdoor coat

It is **vital** that all of your child's property is marked with his/her name, especially nursery uniform. Please check this regularly as marker pen does wash off.



Purchase Uniform Here



[www.uniform-direct.com](http://www.uniform-direct.com)

## EYFS Outdoor Learning Clothing

The EYFS curriculum promotes outdoor learning so we encourage children to have appropriate outdoor clothing for all weather. For example, a warm coat with a hood, hat, scarf, gloves and wellies for cold/wet weather. A sun hat and all-day sun cream for warmer weather is also advised.





# Collective Worship

As a Church of England Primary School, Collective Worship is an integral part of every day in school for all staff and children. It is a time when the whole school comes together to learn, listen, reflect and pray. The main focus of our worships are the three values which form the fundamental ethos of our school. The definitions of these values were written collectively by staff and children at Belgrave.

**Love:** At Belgrave we show love by looking out for one another and sharing out love! We can help and take care of one another and make sure everyone in our school family is loved and cared for. We value our friends and family at Belgrave and beyond, demonstrating kindness for all.

**Faith:** At Belgrave, we know that having faith is important- whether that be a Christian faith, Muslim Faith, Sikh faith, Hindu faith or no faith. We show our faith by being considerate of others' feelings, telling the truth and being true to yourself. We also have faith in ourselves and each other!

**Hope:** When things are not going well, we know that at Belgrave we can have hope: hope for ourselves, each other and the wider world. We pray for others and support each other. We support charities through our value of hope- helping others and being kind.

Many significant and important events and celebrations, including those from other religions are also included in the schedule. These are decided by our Headteacher.

Every worship includes music and song both as a time for reflection and listening, and through raising voices in praise. We have close links with Trinity Church: Alex and Anne come to lead worship with us and run Messy Church in our school.



We have our collective worship at 9:00am each day.

<b>Monday</b>	<p><b>Whole School worship (Nursery - Year 6)</b> Looking at our conduct focus and value. Here we set our intentions for the week ahead, breathe together and wish each other well.</p>	<b>Teacher</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<p><b>Whole School worship (Reception - Year 6)</b> Send the Light. This focuses on current issues/news, sending prayers to those in need around the world. A different class lead this session each week alongside their teacher.</p>	<b>Class/ teacher</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<p><b>Wild Worship Wednesday/Song Practice</b> We timetable two classes per week to use this time for 'Wild Worship'. The rest of the school comes together for song practice.</p>	<b>Class teacher</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<p><b>Whole School worship (Reception - Year 6)</b> Focusing on our school value for the half term, a related Bible story or a significant festival or event.</p>	<b>Teacher</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<p><b>Celebration worship (Nursery - Year 6)</b> Here we reflect on our intentions for the week, the prayers we made and the successes we have had. Awards are given and celebrated and we all sing together.</p>	<b>SLT</b>



# Preparing Your Child

Preparing for your little one to go to nursery can be a daunting idea, but it is important to remember this is the start of their education, and like you, we want them to have the best possible start. So here are some ideas and skills you could support your child with over the summer holidays which will benefit your child's start in nursery.

## Communication & Language

Have conversations with them about things that they are interested in. Encourage them to help talking by nodding, smiling and making comments.

Introduce new words when we are playing, eating or when we are out and about.

Explain what new words mean to them.

Talk to them about things that have already happened and what might happen soon.

Play listening games with them such as 'Simon says'

## Personal, Social & Emotional Development

Give them tasks to carry out, for example; Washing their plate after snack, or clearing away my toys.

Model how you manage your feelings, for example "I am feeling a bit sad, so I am going to take a big, deep breath." To help me understand my feelings and why I might be feeling a little sad.

Make a calm down jar.

## Physical Development

Help them with dressing, but let them do the last few steps, for example, pulling the zip after you have started it off, or pulling down their jumper.

Give them lots of opportunities to be active and practice running, jumping, balancing, climbing and swinging.

Encourage me to walk, scoot or bike to nursery.



## Understanding The World

Help make collections of interesting natural materials, for example pebbles, shells etc.

Explore ice, once it has melted  
(So the child doesn't get frost bite).

Plant seeds and bulbs.

Go to different places such as a walk through fields, a trip to a library.

## Mathematics

Point out the number of things rather than just the names, for example "we have 2 apples!"

Give lots of opportunities to count for a real reason and always give emphasis to the last number, for example, "There are **3** cookies".

Cut out a large shape from a cereal box (i.e. Circle / Triangle) and then cut the shape into 3/4 smaller pieces to make a simple puzzle.

When you're at the park, use words like 'Up' , 'Under' and 'Between' to talk about what we see.

## Expressive Art and Design

Make home made paint brushes using clothes pegs and items from around the house and outdoors.

Join in pretend play with them.

Give your child a cardboard box and some fabric to build a den with.

## Literacy

Talk about stories with me, what's happening in the pictures?

Give time to articulate and share ideas

Play around with words, make up fun and rhyming sentences

Help to write Birthday cards and shopping lists.





**A Space for Notes:**







**Head Teacher:** Mrs Ouriach

Belgrave St Peter's CE Primary School  
Thurcaston Road  
Leicester  
LE4 5PG

Email : [admin@belgrave.risemat.co.uk](mailto:admin@belgrave.risemat.co.uk)  
Telephone: 0116 2665790