



STARTING NURSERY AT GREENWAY SCHOOL



‘The child is at the centre’

Nursery Staff

Mrs Lemming will be your child's class teacher from Monday - Wednesday.

helena.lemming@greenway.herts.sch.uk

Mrs Owen will be your child's teacher on Thursday and Friday.

lucy.owen@greenway.herts.sch.uk

Mrs Taylor will be the Early Years Practitioner

Is your child Nursery ready?



Please help your child by allowing and encouraging them to practise changing their own clothes, including their shoes, socks and coat.



Tough fastenings can hinder independence.

Please choose shoes with Velcro fastenings, and trousers and skirts that have elasticated waists.

No shoes or boots with laces please.



Please ensure your child has completed their toilet training ready for September, when they begin Nursery. This will not only help develop your child's independence, it will boost their confidence and allow more time for staff to teach, learning and play. If your child requires extra support, please let us know.



Establish a healthy night-time routine which includes a regular bedtime, complete with a story read by yourselves - and no electronic devices – to aid restful sleep.



How to help your child

- Please encourage your child's independence - with dressing, toileting, washing and drying their hands and tidying-up their own toys, etc. The more time you take preparing them now, through modelling, encouraging, allowing them time to practice and praising them for their efforts, the more confident they will feel – and they will not have to wait for an adult to be available to support them in class. Similarly, the Nursery staff can then continue teaching, supporting and enabling children to learn, and have fun, rather than them being needed in the toilets, etc.
- Please read our school's Therapeutic Behaviour Policy. Children learn well when there are clear expectations and boundaries in place, at home and in school – it is alright to say “no” to your child.
- Explain to your child that it is alright to make mistakes, that everyone does and that this is how we learn. Model this to your child by making some mistakes yourself, therefore demonstrating nobody is perfect.

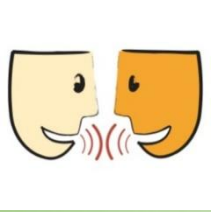
Nursery Class Routines



1. A typical day at the beginning of the year has short adult directed periods and longer periods of child initiated learning periods. Adults work alongside children supporting learning.
2. A typical day near the end of the year will have more adult directed teaching time and shorter child initiated learning.
3. Activities that develop children's speaking and listening skills in preparation for phonic learning and Maths adult directed teaching takes place every day. Phonics is taught each day in the summer term.



Communication & Practicalities



Staff are always happy to speak with parents. Unless it is a quick message, please ask to see them at the end of a session when there will be more time.



Please use the board near the Nursery class door to inform staff if your child will be going home with anyone other than you. Please email the office on admin@greenway.herts.sch.uk to let them know if a different adult will be collecting your child or if you are unavoidably running late.

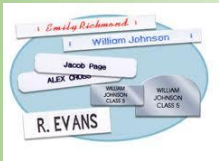


We visit the school library once a week. Your child will be able to borrow books for one week on these days. We provide a named Library bag for your child.



Letters will be emailed unless your family has opted out of this system. We use the Arbor App system, which informs you of events in school. This is a really useful tool that we recommend you download and use.





Clear name labels on uniforms are most helpful. If it can be taken off, please sew a label on it.



Outdoor and indoor shoes. Please clearly **name both pairs** and decorate indoor shoes for easy recognition.



Every day the children will be learning outside regardless of the weather, please send a named coat.



Spare clothing in a **named bag** is essential for water play or accidents.



Please provide a full and **named water bottle** each day – no juice, fizzy drinks or squash please.



Punctuality



- Please arrive and pick up on time
- School hours are 9.00 – 12.00, 3pm for 30HRS and 3-5pm for Nursery Wrap around.
- The first and last part of the day are crucial to young children.
- If you arrive late please take your child to be signed in late at the school office but still bring your child to the class door.
- Entry to Greenway School is through the main gate at the end of Crossways or the side gate leading to Gilbert V



What does 30HRS look like?

- Lunch
- Cleaning teeth
- Rest & stories
- Play and learning experiences
- Eligibility and places
- Outcomes from 30 HRS.



Flexible 30HRS at Greenway School

Since September 2017 our Nursery has been offering 30 hours of high quality Free Early Education, subject to eligibility. The 30 hours free childcare is designed to help working families by reducing the cost of childcare and to support parents into work or to work more hours, should they wish to do so. We believe that the additional time in our setting will also help to further develop your child's readiness for school.

Sessions run from 12.00pm – 3.00pm, 5 afternoons per week. There is some capacity for part-time attendance in the afternoon sessions. This option is reviewed on a termly basis as priority for places is given to those requesting full-time provision.

This provision will commence from Monday 14th September.

For those who are eligible for the free 30HRS provision, the deadline for applications is 31st August 2026.

You will need to provide your child with a clearly named, packed lunch.

Nursery Wrap-around provision 3-5pm

- This will commence week beginning Monday 14th September
- This operates from 3pm-5pm each day.
- This provision is an extension of your child's day and will include a high tea (this will not be a main evening meal).
- This provision is led by two qualified and experienced Early Years Practitioners.
- The ratio is 1:8 and therefore we only have 16 places available.



Allergies

When packing your child's packed lunch please be aware that we have some children in school with severe allergies.

Please do not send your child to school with any of the following-

Foods not allowed:

Eggs, nuts or sesame (including hummus or pesto).

Children will be assessed within the first half term for their emotional wellbeing and involvement using the EYFS Leuven Scales. Practitioners will assess children throughout the year from observations of adult led teaching sessions and child initiated play experiences. Assessments will culminate in the EYFS Profile which consists of 17 Early Learning Goals. This is completed near the end of your child's Reception year.

Characteristics of Effective learning – how children learn

Playing and Exploring - engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finding out and exploring • Playing with what they know • Being willing to 'have a go'
Active learning - motivation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Being involved and concentrating • Keeping trying • Enjoying achieving what they set out to do
Creating and thinking critically - thinking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Having their own ideas • Making links • Choosing ways to do things



The EYFS has seven areas of learning – 3 Prime areas, 4 Specific areas

PRIME AREAS	Communication & Language	Children are provided with 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	We encourage children to be active and interactive and to develop their coordination, control and movement. Children are supported to understand the importance of physical activity and to make healthy choices in relation to food. Children are encouraged to develop independence with regard to self- help skills, toileting and dressing.
	Personal, Social & Emotional Development	Children are encouraged to develop a positive sense of themselves, and others. Children will be encouraged to form social skills, to have positive relationships and to develop respect for others. Children are supported to manage feelings, especially when expressing their feelings. Children will be nurtured in their development of curiosity, resilience, risk taking and personal responsibility.
SPECIFIC AREAS	Literacy	Children are absorbed in a rich literacy environment to develop a love of reading. Children will begin to link sounds to letters to support reading and mark- making leading to writing. Children will be given access to a wide range of literacy resources and materials to ignite their interest.
	Mathematics	Children are provided with real life, practical opportunities to develop and build upon their skills and understanding when counting, calculating, creating patterns and working shape and measures.
	Understanding of the World	Children are guided as they make sense of the physical world and community around them. They are encouraged to be curious to fully explore how they interact with people, places, technology and all that the natural world has to offer. Children are taught to reflect on their understanding of mutual respect and tolerance of others as world citizens.
	Expressive Arts & Design	Children are given opportunities to explore a wide range of media and materials. Children are encouraged to consider their thoughts, ideas and feelings as they interact with art, music, movement, drama, dance, role-play, design and technology



SEND - Special Educational Needs/ Disabilities

- Our Assistant Head, Dani Roe, is our Inclusion and Pastoral Lead. She is also our Designated Safeguarding Lead.
- Our SEND policy is found on Greenway Website – www.greenway.herts.sch.uk
- Link on our website to the Hertfordshire County Council Local Offer.
- DSPL 8- Developing Special Needs Provision Locally has a Facebook page-this provides another place to look for courses, groups and supports for parents of children with SEND.
- If you are concerned about your child's development or your child has additional needs please do contact the school so that we can further support your child's transition.



Transition

- Transition to a new class/school is a big step for you and your child.
- Transition morning for your child/children to visit Nursery and meet their peers and teachers (with 1 parent/carer) will be on **Thursday 9th July.**
- This visit will be from **10.15am -11.15am** (while our current Nursery children visit their Reception class).
- This is an important visit for your child to build relationships with teachers and new children.
- Please let your setting know your child is joining us at Greenway so they can send us the Transition toolkit.
- We will contact your child's setting to ask for information to be passed on once we have your permission.



Whole School Information

- Walking to school
- Attendance/ absence/ unauthorised absence
- Signing children out of school – medical reasons



Medical

- Records – Please update us on any changes to your child's medical history
- Head Lice – please check your child's head regularly
- Sickness – 48 hours at home AFTER the last bout of sickness or diarrhoea.
- If your child needs Calpol/Nurofen before coming to school, they will not be able to cope in a noisy classroom



September 2026

The start of term is Thursday 3rd September.

Your child will have a chance to visit the Nursery & staff during this week, on Thursday 3rd or Friday 4th for 1 hour and then start a full morning the following school day.

All Nursery children will be in Nursery by Monday 7th September.

You will be sent an email to confirm your child's visit and start dates and timings.

30HRS (12-3pm) and Nursery Wrap Around (3-5pm) will begin on Monday 14th September.



GSA

Greenway School Association

You are all members because your child attends Greenway

Support on the committee

Support at an event

Support in the way you shop

Water bottles, uniform and much more !



Greenway Primary
& Nursery School

Next steps....

- Have you completed all your forms and given them to the school office? If not there are forms available for you to complete and return this evening.
- Have you completed the permission sheet, if your child attends a setting, so their Key Worker can share information with us – and have you let your child's current setting know your child is joining our Nursery class in September?

Thank you

