Weobley Early Years

Weobley Primary School

Early Years Preschool

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Welcome to Weobley Early Years Preschool

We hope that this booklet will help you to understand our vision for the Early Years at Weobley Primary School and also answer any questions you may have about your child's Early Years experiences.

We believe that every child is unique and at Weobley we are committed to providing a child centred education based on children's individual needs and interests. Children respond with passion and commitment when their interests and curiosities are used to plan their own path of learning. By providing an extensive environment, a wide range of high quality resources and carefully considered adult intervention we hope to establish firm foundations for each child's learning journey through school.

We are committed to putting children at the centre of their learning and recognise the importance of providing opportunities for active, hands on experiences for young children.



The Early Years comprises of an all day Nursery provision for Two to Four year olds.

The children have their own dedicated entrance to the classroom which has easy access to both their cloakroom and toilet area. We are fortunate to have an extensive outdoor environment. The children are cared for by our Early Years Teacher and Teaching Assistants.

Children can join our Nursery in the term after their second birthday on the following dates:
Two years by 31st August - can join Nursery from September
Two years by 31st December—can join Nursery from January
Two years by 31st March—can join Nursery from April

Non-funded hours are charged at £5 per hour for 3-year-olds and £6 per hour for 2-year-olds.

If your child is two and you are a low-income family then you may be entitled to 15 hours funding from Herefordshire council. If you require extra hours these are chargeable at £18 per half a day.
Or you may be entitled to 30 hours funding if you are a working family. To see if you are eligible for this then please visit https://www.gov.uk/free-childcare-if-working. You will then be given a code, which you will need to give to the school office in order to activate your free hours.

All three year old children are entitled to funding for fifteen hours. This can increase to a maximum of thirty hours subject to meeting the necessary criteria. Information about this can also be found at https://www.gov.uk/free-childcare-if-working. If you are only entitled to 15 hours free funding you can pay for extra sessions at a charge of £15 per half day.

For further details on entry into the Early Years please speak to the school office.





The School Day

Morning (9.00am– 12.00pm)

The school day starts at 9.00am. Children in the Early Years enter the school building via their own entrance accessed via the central lych-gate and around to the right of the school building. It is very important for the benefit of the children that they arrive on time to start their day.

Snack and Lunch time

As part of our Healthy Eating Policy children will be provided with a drink and a snack. They will be offered either milk or water and a choice of fresh fruit each morning and afternoon. In the colder weather we also offer toast as part of our morning snack.

Please note: All children under five are entitled to free milk.

It is not necessary to bring any extra food into school if your child is only with us for the morning session. If your child is staying for the whole day a lunch box should be provided from home. Alternatively, meals can be ordered through the caterer by contacting the school office. We would be grateful if you could inform us if your child has any special dietary needs or allergies.

Fresh water will be available to the children at all times throughout the day.

If your child is three and is attending Nursery all day, applications can be made for free school meals. Please contact the office for information regarding eligibility.

We actively promote healthy eating and are part of the Healthy Schools Campaign. We encourage children to choose healthy snacks wherever possible and highlight the importance of a balanced diet.



Afternoon Session 12.00pm– 3.00pm

Home time

The Nursery school day ends at 3.00pm and children may be collected from the Early Years Entrance at this time.

Collecting Children

Initially, we will ask you to provide information of people who are likely to collect your child from school other than yourself. If there is to be a change to this routine we would be grateful if you could let us know in writing as soon as possible.

Toilet Training

Each child is different so before your child joins our setting we will ask you whether your child is toilet trained, in nappies or pull ups. We want to work with families to support toilet training. If your child is in nappies or pull ups you will need to send them along with wipes in their bag. If your child is toilet training please send in plenty of knickers/pants and spare clothes.
We will encourage the children to sit on the potty or toilet as part of our nappy changing routine.

Naps

Please talk to a member of staff if your child will need a nap during their session. We follow the requirements of the EYFS Statutory Framework for sleeping children. 'Sleeping children must be frequently checked to ensure they are safe. Being safe includes ensuring that cots/bedding are in good condition and suited to the age of the child, and that infants are placed down to sleep safely in line with the latest government safety guidance.'

Tooth Brushing

Everyday after lunch we encourage the children to brush their teeth supervised by the staff. We encourage the children to learn how to care for their teeth by providing them with their own tooth brush and making brushing fun.

Clothing

Whilst there is no uniform in place for the Nursery aged children, we do sell sweatshirts from the school office, which you may wish your child to wear. Please send your child in clothes that you don't mind getting muddy or messy. Your child will also need to bring at least one set of spares clothes in a bag, with more changes if they are potty training.

Please ensure that all of the children's clothing is clearly named to aid a speedy return of any misplaced items.

Absences

We would be grateful if you could inform us if you intend to take your child out of Nursery on a day when we would be expecting them to attend, or for an extended absence.

Reporting Illness

If your child is ill please inform the school office by telephone by 9:15am daily. If your child is taken ill during the day we will contact you on the emergency contact numbers you provide.

We would be grateful if you could ensure that all emergency numbers are up to date so that we can reach you in the shortest time possible.





School Closures

Occasionally, it is necessary to close the school due to unforeseen circumstances such as extreme weather. In this situation we will make every effort to inform you prior to the school day using our text messaging system. Alternatively, you can find up to date details of school closures via the Herefordshire Council and school's websites. Fees will not be charged on these days.

Car Parking

There is no on site parking for parents. You may park in the road outside the school. Please be mindful of the residents and the double yellow lines as the police do patrol the area. We ask that you do not park in the turning circle as this is a dropping off point only in order to allow for the free flow of traffic including the school buses which serve both the Primary and High School.

Wrap around care

Breakfast Club is available everyday from 8.00am onwards. The children are able to have breakfast and join supervised activities until school begins. The cost for the session including breakfast is £3.50 per child . For further details please speak to the school office. An after school club is offered by an outside provider using our school site. These sessions run until 5.15pm and further information is available from Chill Den.

School Website

The school has a website which includes information on the school as well as important diary dates and upcoming events. The site can be accessed at www.weobleyprimary.co.uk

School Newsletter

We regularly produce a school newsletter that is issued to all the children. This contains news and diary dates to keep you informed of what is happening in school. We will also try to keep you informed of specific events happening in the Early Years through letters that will be placed in the children's bags. Please ensure you check these as regularly as possible in order to keep up to date



The Outdoor Environment/Forest Schools

The outdoor environment plays a key role in the children's experiences in the Early Years. We believe in the importance and value of experiences encountered in the outdoors that help children to gain a broad knowledge and understanding of the world around them and encourages curiosity and interest. We are fortunate to have access to a large enclosed wooded area for our Forest Schools sessions and an outdoor space on site that includes our preschool garden, the Rookery garden and playing field. The children will be spending a lot of their time outdoors as part of their learning, so we ask if you could provide a pair of wellingtons and suitable waterproofs. These may be left at school.

PSA — Parent Staff Association

The PSA group plays an important role in the life of the school and their work is very much valued and appreciated by all. The school has benefited through their fund raising efforts from a variety of new equipment. The PSA would welcome any parent willing to participate in any of the events that take place during the school year such as the Christmas Fayre and the Summer Fete. We also welcome help in other areas such as assisting in classrooms, in the library or with sports, especially if you have a particular talent or skill that the children could benefit from. All help is very gratefully received and is a good way of contributing to the life of the school as well as meeting other parents. If you would like to help in any way please speak to a member of staff in the school office.

Preparing your child for the Early Years Reception

At the end of each Summer term we also hold taster sessions where your child can come and experience time in their Reception classroom before they start school. These sessions are a good way of familiarising the children with the setting and helping them to settle and make new friends. If your child is starting after the school year has begun then you are also very welcome to join us for a session (this can be arranged through the school office).

It would also be of benefit to your child if they can manage some of these tasks independently

- Dress and undress themselves—which includes being able to put coats on and take them off and manage shoes (ones with Velcro fastenings are particularly good). The children will be taking part in PE when they will need to change into their PE kits. It is of great help if the children are used to managing their own clothes.

- Use the toilet independently — clothing plays an important part in this as it should be easy for the child to pull up and down. It is important to include flushing the toilet and washing hands as part of the toileting routine . Also, it would helpful to explain to your child how to let their Teachers know if they need to go to the toilet.



Recognise their own possessions—

Naming your children's belongings will help your child to recognise and look after their own things. This also helps us to return lost items to their rightful owners. We encourage the children to be as independent as possible and being responsible for their own belongings is an important part of this.

We very much look forward to your child joining us at Weobley.
Our commitment is to make every child's first experiences in Weobley Early Years positive and happy ones. If you have any specific concerns about how your child may settle then please do not hesitate to speak to our Head of School Mr Warrell, or members of the Early Years Team and we will be happy to help.



The School Office

The team in the school office are happy to help with any queries you may have. They can be contacted either by:

Telephone: 01544 318273

E-mail: admin@weobleyprimary.co.uk

Or in the office by entering the building through the main entrance of the school.

We hope that this booklet answers many of the questions you may have about your child entering Weobley Early Years. If there is any other information that you require then please speak to any member of the Early Years Team or the School Office.

Thank you

The Early Years Team

