

Ashmore Park Nursery School

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING ENVIRONMENT



Welcome To Our School





Welcome to Our School

WE HOPE THAT THIS BOOK will provide you with all the information that you may need to enable you and your child to be happy, welcomed and feel part of the family of Ashmore Park Nursery School.

Our school is a place where adults and children learn together. We firmly believe that we are partners together with you in your child's learning and that by working together we can achieve our shared hopes and aspirations for all our children.

We look forward to meeting you all and discovering new things together.

THE NURSERY TEAM



Our Mission Statement



It is our belief that all children have an innate desire to learn and that it is our responsibility as educators to nurture this desire for learning in an environment that provides rich opportunities for adults and children to learn together.



Our Ethos, Values and Aims



OUR VISION OF SCHOOL is one that is rich in possibility and curiosity, an engaging environment that invites children and adults to learn together. We believe it helps us to change, to become better educators, a better school, a better city, a better world.

“Asking questions is what brains were born to do, at least when we were young children. For young children, quite literally, seeking explanations is as deeply rooted a drive as seeking food or water.”

Alison Gopnik (2009) *The Philosophical Baby*



As educators we try to interpret the experiences and ‘sparks’ of the children. We ask of ourselves what do we think the children are trying to understand? We do this so that we can find the right strategies and situations for deepening learning. We strive for a way of being with children that enables the borrowing of skills, competencies and knowledge from all, that is capable of recognising and encouraging different points of view. Collaboration is an important value of our work alongside children and families.

Our ethos sees children as makers of meaning with a powerful drive to ask questions and seek understanding and to share what they find with others. We believe learning is contagious when the conditions are fertile for its growth and spread.

We aim for all learning to be joyous and have at its heart a value of listening to children and their ideas and theories about the world.



Our Approach to Learning

AS EDUCATORS we see ourselves as part of the learning process of children. We listen to their ideas and thinking that they express in many different ways. We observe the children so as to notice what they see, to become engaged with their enquiries and to find out their questions. We ponder continuously trying to find the right ways and methods for listening to and responding to the children’s thinking.



We believe that all children are active and powerful learners. Therefore we ensure that the learning environment is active and meaningful, enabling children to become deeply engaged in a breadth of experiences both indoors and outdoors. We understand that children learn at home, when out and about as well as at school and we work hard to be partners in learning together with all families.

We believe that children learn in a playful environment with other adults, and other children where they can share their ideas and thinking that are valued, supported and developed by adults who listen and respond.

Therefore we create an environment rich in possibility for creativity, expression and enquiry.

This approach to learning is consistent with the requirements of The Early Years Foundation Stage.





Beginning Our Journey Together at Nursery

INDUCTION PROCEDURES

Parents are invited into Nursery, usually on an evening, to complete the necessary paperwork needed for your child to start nursery. We will arrange a programme of visits so that you and your child can visit us, meet the team and your child's key worker so that we can become familiar faces to your child.

We also have a programme of Home/School visiting for parents whereby two members of staff visit you and your child at home, on a pre-arranged day and time. This is an ideal opportunity for you to meet the staff on an informal basis and to chat about your child and life in nursery.

You can also help them with their growing independence and confidence by teaching them to take off and put on clothes, by hanging up their outdoor clothing on a peg and by encouraging them to use the toilet properly, washing and drying their hands afterwards.



Young children are naturally curious and eager to learn. This is an excellent time for you to do things together such as:

- Talking with and listening to your child about the things they enjoy doing
- Reading to your child, everyday if possible
- Singing songs and nursery rhymes together
- Letting your child help you around the house, for example, sorting washing and tidying away toys.



Attending and Learning at Nursery

REGULAR ATTENDANCE at nursery is essential for your child to progress in their learning and development. Children build upon their day to day experiences, their learning becoming more complex over time. Therefore regular attendance is very important for both you and your child. Your child's absence is monitored carefully by the staff.



We all aim for full attendance but we know there are times when your child will not be in school for various reasons. However, if your child is not in school, we have to know the reason why. If your child is not coming to school, then please ring **01902 558116** and let us know why. If you have not contacted the school by half an hour after the start of the session, then we will text you asking you to let us know why your child is absent from school. If you are going on holiday, then please complete a leave of absence form in advance of your holiday and this will account for your child's absence. Please be aware that any prolonged or unexplained absences may result in the loss of your child's place in nursery.



Keeping Your Child Safe



SCHOOL SECURITY/NURSERY PROCEDURES

Either yourself or another responsible adult must bring and collect your child. If another adult is to collect them, please let the staff and your child know beforehand. It is our policy not to hand over your child to anyone under the age of 16.

You should accompany your child into nursery at the beginning of the session for the self-registering process. At this point you can hand over the responsibility of your child to the member of staff. Children must not be left in nursery without this handover of responsibility. At the end of the session, the staff call the children one-by-one and hand over the responsibility back to you or their carer.

The care and responsibility for your child during school hours rests with the Headteacher and staff. However, in case of emergencies, illness or accidents we need to know where you may be contacted during school hours.

Please notify the school of any changes of address, work place or telephone numbers and ensure that the Nursery number is accepted by any 'blocked' phones. Contact numbers are checked at the beginning of each term, but remember to ensure that you inform the nursery as soon as possible of any changes. The school operates a 'texting to parents' system so it is important that we have your current mobile telephone numbers.

If you are going to be late collecting your child for any reason, please let us know. We can then reassure your child that you are on your way. If your child has not been collected by 15 minutes after the end of the session, and we do not know why, then we will try to contact someone from the emergency contact list for your child. Please note, there is a charge for childcare of children who are not collected by this time.

All doors should be closed on arrival and departure from the premises.



Any items of personal property are brought to school at the owners own risk. Please note that the school cannot be held responsible for any damage or loss to such property.



Keeping Your Child Safe

USE OF MOBILE PHONES

Safeguarding the welfare of the children in our school is of paramount importance to us as it is to you as parents. There is a risk when mobile phones are used in school that the camera facility could be used and images taken of children without the permission of parents and also we have no control over what these images could be used for in the future.

Therefore, in order to safeguard your children and reduce the risk, the use of mobile phones is not allowed whilst you are on the school site.



CHILD PROTECTION/SAFEGUARDING PROCEDURES

It is a statutory duty on all educational establishments to protect pupils from harm and act on concerns; indications of any form of abuse or non-accidental injury will be treated seriously and official authority guidelines will be followed.

There is a policy document in school which can be inspected by anyone who wishes to do so. It can also be found on the schools website.

SCHOOL DOCUMENTATION

All other policies are available in school and on the website for parents to read should they wish to do so.





Parent Partnership



Parents are invited to share their child's nursery experience by:-

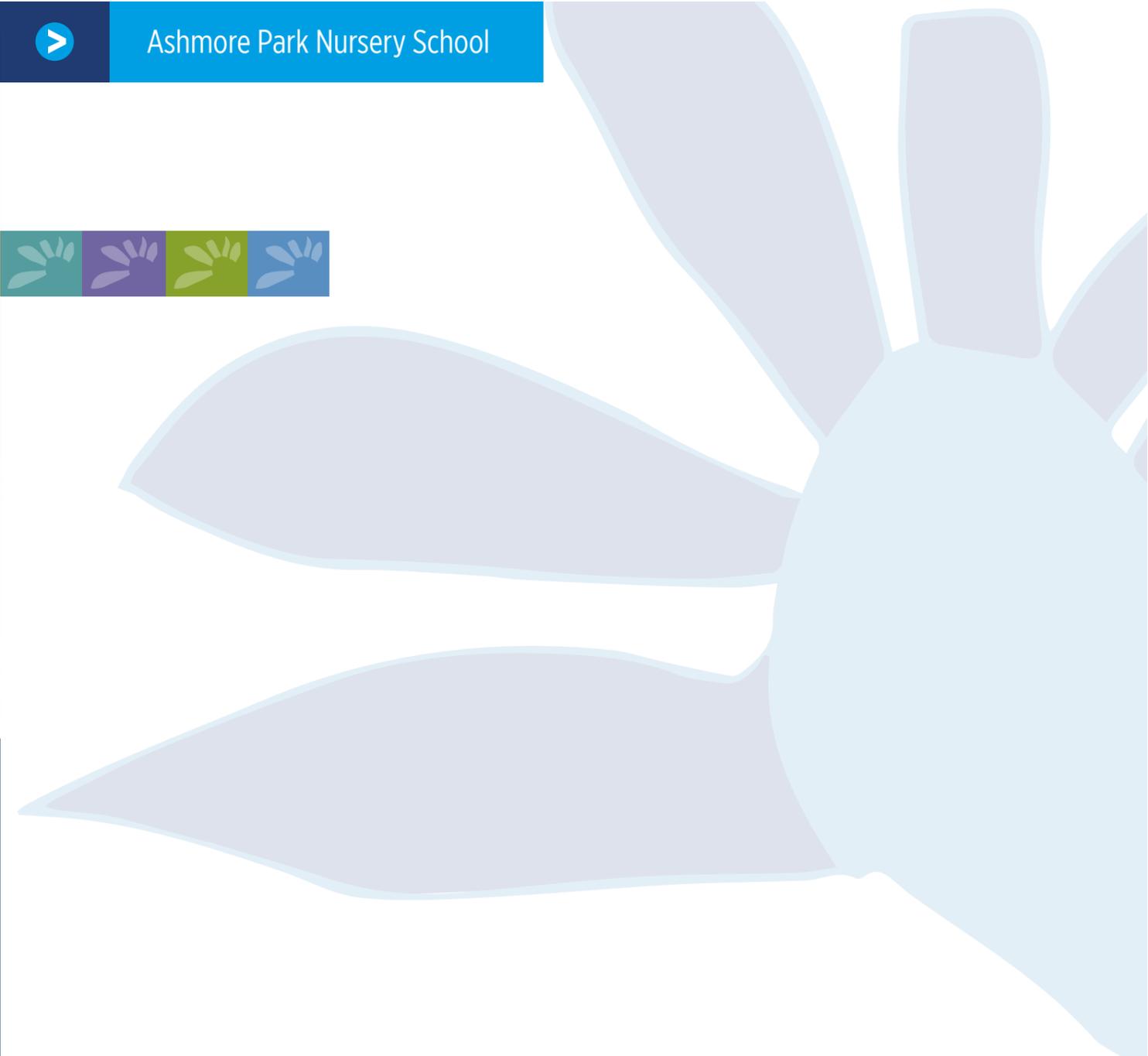
- Talking informally with staff at the beginning and end of the session
- Attending Parent Partnership meetings each term to celebrate the achievements of your child and to discuss with staff how we might work together to take the learning of the child forward
- Actively contributing to your child's learning through their Learning Together books
- Supporting fund raising events
- Attending parent/child events each term
- Informing staff of any significant changes in home circumstances which may affect your child in nursery
- Sharing your skills and experience with us
- Keeping yourselves informed of nursery activities through reading the regular newsletters, the white board and looking at the website



If we are unable to resolve your concerns at nursery, then you may contact the Chair of Governors. A copy of the Complaints Procedure is available in nursery.

COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE

We are proud of our relationships with families and carers of the children attending Ashmore Park Nursery School. We encourage you to discuss openly any dissatisfaction that may arise with any aspect of the nursery. If there is a problem we always aim to settle it as quickly as possible.





Ashmore Park
Nursery School

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