



Watton Westfield Infant and Nursery School

A Guide to our 3 to 4 year old Nursery



Squirrel Class

Message from our Head of School

Thank you for choosing Watton Westfield Infant & Nursery School, where your child will be taught by a qualified teacher and will receive plenty of adult support and encouragement to begin their learning journey. We have worked hard to provide an interesting, stimulating and safe environment both inside and out, to offer continuous provision for the children.

We are very proud of our Nursery and the children who attend transfer smoothly into our main school.

We look forward to working in partnership with you to develop your child's education.

Rachel Mather (Head of School)

The Curriculum

In Nursery we follow the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum. There are seven areas of learning within the EYFS:

- Personal, Social and Emotional Development
- Communication and Language
- Physical Development
- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the World
- Expressive Arts and Design

All areas of the curriculum are covered through practical, play-based learning experiences. High quality interactions with staff and purposeful resources are a priority to create effective and meaningful learning opportunities. The environment, both inside and outside, is set up to enable children to become independent learners.



Session Times

Our sessions are either five mornings or five afternoons per week. Some parents may be eligible for 30-hours funding, please speak to the office for further information about this.

The session times are:

Mornings: 8.30am to 11.30am

Afternoons: 12.30pm to 3.30pm

30 hours funding: 9.00am to 3.00pm (if eligible).

A Typical Day in Squirrel Class

Once the children have arrived and self-registered, they have time to lead their own learning through engaging with different activities and resources around the classroom. This child-led play makes up a large part of the children's day and is an essential learning opportunity.

During the session we will have two whole-class carpet sessions based on one of the seven areas of learning. Each day we have story time, and the children take part in 'snack and chat' where they develop their speech and communication skills while having their snack.

What to bring to Nursery

- A change of clothes in a named bag
- A water bottle with fresh water in each day. For health reasons, we ask that it is only plain water in these bottles, not squash, juice or flavoured water.
- Appropriate outdoor wear (e.g. warm hats in the winter and sun hats in the summer)
- You are welcome to leave named wellies in a named carrier bag on your child's peg
- Ideally, we would like children to be reasonably independent when using the toilet so please make sure they wear clothes they can manage easily (easy to undo/ easy to pull up and down). However, if you are having any issues with toileting, please discuss these with a member of staff and we will support you.

Uniform is optional in our Nursery classes. School jumpers are available to order from Birds of Dereham.

Bringing your child to Nursery

In Squirrel Class the children enter the school through the main front entrance of the school. Staff will open the main door at the beginning of each session to welcome the children into school. Parents are politely asked to remain outside.

We understand that some children settle more easily than others, but the staff will offer the children support and reassurance to help build their confidence. Although it can be distressing to leave a child who is upset, staff will encourage parents to leave as soon as possible as this usually helps the children calm down more quickly. Parents are welcome to phone the school or send a message on Class Dojo to find out how a child has settled. We can also trial shorter sessions for a longer period for some children if needed.

Collecting your child from Nursery

At the end of each session the teacher will open the main outside door, and children will be 'matched' to their parents, carers and childminders.

Please let the school know if someone different will be collecting your child. We cannot let your child go with anyone we have not received permission for from you as their parent.

We appreciate that you may occasionally be delayed, however, if you are going to be late, please telephone school to let us know. After school childcare is only available if pre-booked and this will incur a charge.

Being Part of the Wider School Community

The children in Squirrel Class are an important part of the school and we are lucky to use the school facilities.

-Once a week we visit the woods (on school site) and have lots of opportunity to make use of the playgrounds and play equipment to support our learning.

-Every Friday the children go to the school library and choose a book to share at home and return it again the following Thursday.

-We have a PE session each week in the main school hall. The children do not have to change into a PE kit, but they will be asked to take off shoes and socks so please make sure your child wears shoes they can easily manage themselves. Please remove your child's earrings on PE days.

Assessment

We assess the children in each of the seven areas of the EYFS curriculum throughout the year. We will keep evidence of your child's learning, including their next steps, and these will be shared with you regularly on Tapestry. We encourage contributions from home and would love to see photographs and examples of their achievements outside of school.

You will be informed of your child's achievements at Parent/Teacher interviews and as part of the end of year report. We also invite parents in each half term to share with you some of our learning or to attend a Stay and Play session.

Class Dojo

When your child starts with us, we encourage you to join our Class Dojo page, this is a platform to let you know what we are doing in Squirrel Class each week. There is also an option to message the teachers and ask any questions you might have.

My Child at School app via Bromcom

The My Child at School app via Bromcom is used to pay for any school lunches the children attending for 30 hours order and to pay for snack. We ask for a weekly voluntary contribution to cover the cost of our daily snack, this can be paid half termly.

Squirrel Class Nursery Staff



Mrs Hughes
(Teacher Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday)



Mrs Sagrott (Nursery Nurse)
(Room lead every Wednesday)



Mrs Ciesla (Nursery Assistant)



Mrs Paterson (Nursery Assistant)



Mr Fleming (Nursery Assistant)

Everyone at Westfield wants to make your child's time at school an enjoyable learning experience and we are really looking forward to you joining our school soon.

If you have any concerns or questions at any time, please do not hesitate to speak to us. We are always happy to discuss any concerns you might have.