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Crookston Early Years Centre



Establishment Handbook 2024 -2025

Crookston Early Years Centre Crookston Castle Campus Glenside Avenue Crookston G53 5SD

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E-mail <u>Headteacher@crookston-nursery.glasgow.sch.uk</u>

Glasgow family information service: <u>www.gfis.org.uk</u>

Section Two General Information Introduction Statement on no-Smoking Policy Staff groups and Roles Hours of opening and general Information on the Nursery Day Holiday Care Service Starting Nursery Safety of the children /Protection Section Three Medical Information Medication If your child becomes ill Minor accidents and upsets Risk assessment Section Five Parental Partnership Section Six The wider community Section Six The wider community			
□ Introduction □ Insurance □ Statement on no-Smoking Policy □ Excursions and consent forms □ Staff groups and Roles □ Parking □ Hours of opening and general □ Emergency closure arrangements □ Information on the Nursery Day □ Lunches □ Starting Nursery □ Snack and the promotion of healthy eating habit □ Starting Nursery □ Accommodation for parents □ Safety of the children /Protection □ Medication □ The aims of our curriculum □ If your child becomes ill □ How we promote learning □ Minor accidents and upsets □ What we do □ Risk assessment □ Assessment/Key- Worker □ Supporting Children with difficulties □ Working together to support learning. □ Playroom Activities □ Outdoor Play			
□ Statement on no-Smoking Policy □ Excursions and consent forms □ Staff groups and Roles □ Parking □ Hours of opening and general □ Emergency closure arrangements □ Information on the Nursery Day □ Lunches □ Holiday Care Service □ Snack and the promotion of healthy eating habi □ Starting Nursery □ Accommodation for parents □ Safety of the children /Protection □ The aims of our curriculum □ If your child becomes ill □ How we promote learning □ Minor accidents and upsets □ What we do □ Risk assessment □ Assessment/Key- Worker □ Supporting Children with difficulties □ Working together to support learning. □ Playroom Activities □ Outdoor Play			
Medication If your child becomes ill Minor accidents and upsets Risk assessment Medication How we promote learning What we do Assessment/Key- Worker Supporting Children with difficulties Working together to support learning. Playroom Activities Outdoor Play	 □ Excursions and consent forms □ Parking □ Emergency closure arrangements □ Lunches □ Snack and the promotion of healthy eating habits 		
☐ If your child becomes ill ☐ Minor accidents and upsets ☐ Risk assessment ☐ Assessment/Key- Worker ☐ Supporting Children with difficulties ☐ Working together to support learning. ☐ Playroom Activities ☐ Outdoor Play			
Section Five Parental Partnership Section Six The wider community	 How we promote learning What we do Assessment/Key- Worker Supporting Children with difficulties Working together to support learning. Playroom Activities 		
,			
 □ Our aims for promoting of partnership □ Working together to promote positive behaviour □ Fund-raising □ Keeping you informed □ Inspections 			
Section Seven Other Information			
Appendix Appendix One Suggestions and complaints Useful addresses Statutory Holidays OFFICIAL			

☐ In – Services Day

Introduction by Head of Establishment

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to Crookston Early Years Centre, I hope you will find this handbook useful and informative.

Patricia Monaghan

Centre's Aims

A professional, inclusive and friendly environment, developing lifelong transferable skills.

Our Vision

Nurturing environment, participating and engagement for children's choice through high quality provision

Aims

Safe → Child Centred → Caring → Respected

Our Purpose, values and aims was reviewed with staff from our improvement plan 2022- 2023

Non-denominational policy of the nursery

The centre is non-denominational. We respect and welcome children and parents of all religions, faiths and beliefs.

Our Equal Opportunities policy

Crookston Early Years Centre reflects the council's policy on equal opportunities. All children are treated equally and fairly.

Our work with children will be anti-racist, anti-sexist, multi- cultural and recognise the rights of both men and women to work with and care for children.

Our own centre's policies and procedures

Within Crookston Nursery Centre we are working on a selection of our own centre's policies and procedures to ensure that we maintain a high standard of care within the centre. These documents are located within parents' room or alternatively ask your key-worker for more information.

Statement on No-Smoking Policy

Smoking is not permitted within Crookston Early Years Centre or our grounds.









Section Two

General Information

Introduction

We would like to welcome you to our centre and we hope that you will take five minutes to read this Handbook, as we are sure that it will be helpful to you.

Staff

We are registered with the Scottish Social Services Council – for more details please visit SSSC.uk.com

Head of Centre -Patricia

Monaghan

McFarlane

Lead Practitioner of Attainment
Erica Henderson

Acting Team Leader – Clare

Clerical Assistant – Vacancy

Clerical Assistant – Vacancy

Boathouse (3-5 room)
There are 5 Child Development officers known as CDO's the ratio is 1-8

<u>Lighthouse Room (2-3 room)</u>
There are 5 Child Development
Officers (CDO'S) the ratio is 1-5

Anchor Room (0-2 room)

There are 4 child development officers (CDO'S) the ratio is 1-3

We have 2 Support for Learning workers (SFLW) who work between the Boathouse and Lighthouse rooms

The staff team can change from time to time, due to staff development and other circumstances; we keep parents informed of changes through our centre's newsletter.

Opening Hours and Information on the Nursery Day

Crookston Early Years Centre provides a service for children between the ages of 0-5 years. At present we can accommodate 64 children term time / non term time within a daily session. This is broken down to the following:-

0-2-12 Children at any onetime 2-3-20 Children at any onetime 3-5-32 Children at any onetime

The nursery <u>may be open</u> from 8.00am – 5.15 pm. We are open 50 weeks of the year except public holidays and In-service days.

A core session is 8.00 am – 12.40am (pick up time 12.40am no later than 12.45 am)

1.00pm - 5.15 pm (pick up time 5.15pm no later than 5.15pm)

There are designated collegiate meeting times for staff on a Tuesday, (2-3 room also known as the Lighthouse) Thursday (3-5 room also known as the Boathouse.) this will affect children who attend on a part day basis the session will finish at 11:30.

Enrolment/ Charging Policy

Any sessions <u>purchased</u> over and above the government funded sessions will be charged at a rate of £4 .00 per hour and any thereafter (this includes school holidays). Concessions are available please speak to the Head of Centre for further information.

Admission to Crookston EYC is through Glasgow City Councils policy which can be located on the following link:

WWW.gfis.org.uk

Starting nursery



The first week at nursery can be scary and exciting; some children find this a difficult period. Therefore we have a staggered intake to help your child and yourself feel happy and secure about their new environment.

When your child first starts nursery he/she will be assigned to a group the staff member for your child's group is known as a key worker. She will be your liaison person during the settling in

period. (We advise that parents keep a week free for this period or have a close friend or relative to assist).

It is advisable that you bring a spare set of clothes and mark all clothing with your child's name for any little accidents that may occur. These can be kept in the cloakroom within the nursery bag which can be purchased at reception for £3:00.

Your child will be participating within various activities that may be messy, for that reason, it is **advisable to wear play clothes and not their best clothes.** We try to prevent the children's clothes from being marked but unfortunately accidents do happen.

Please also make sure that your child has suitable outdoor clothing as outdoor play is part of our daily curriculum.

Child Safety

When you are collecting your child from nursery, please inform a reception and Key Worker or another staff member when he/she is leaving. Especially for early appointments, if your child is involved within an activity please give them time to finish.

We are part of a busy Campus and there is no parking available to parent's exception is blue badge holders, within the Campus grounds So please park wisely and remember the other road users and residents around. All Children's safety is paramount to us so please use the entrance wisely these small requests will ensure your child's and other children's safety when entering and exiting the building.

It is *essential* that you inform us if someone different is collecting your child (this could just be a phone call). In the interest *of your child's safety* he/she will not be allowed to leave with someone different – even if your child knows them or her unless the nursery staff has been informed. This avoids a difficult situation when a child cannot be allowed to leave with an adult unknown to staff.

We ask that a responsible adult will always bring and collect your child. The nursery staff will not allow a child to leave with any person under the age of sixteen.

Child Welfare and Safety



All educational establishments and services must take positive steps to help children protect themselves by ensuring that programmes of health and personal safety are central to the curriculum and should have in place a curriculum that ensures that children have a clear understanding of the difference between appropriate and inappropriate behaviour on the part of another person, no matter who.

As with other areas of the curriculum, you will be kept informed of the health and personal safety programme for your child's establishment.

Educational establishments and services must create and maintain a positive ethos and climate which actively promotes child welfare and a safe environment by:

- Ensuring that children are respected and listened to;
- Ensuring that programmes of health and personal safety are central to the curriculum;
- Ensuring that staff are aware of child protection issues and procedures;
- Establishing and maintaining close working relationships and arrangements with all other agencies to make sure that professionals collaborate effectively in protecting children.

Should any member of staff have concerns regarding the welfare or safety of any child they must report these concerns to the Head of Establishment or the person deputising for the Head of Establishment. He/she after judging that there may be grounds for concern regarding the welfare or safety of any child must then immediately advise the duty Senior Social Worker at the local Social Work Services area office of the circumstances.

Getting It Right For Every Child - (GIRFEC)

GIRFEC isn't an extra thing people have to do. It's a way for those who support children to work differently, making sure that they are all on the same page. Where needed, GIRFEC links day-to-day work in education, health, policing, social work and the voluntary sector — in fact any organisation whose staff come into direct contact with children. It makes it easier for those different organisations to communicate consistently with each other, and with parents, carers, children and young people.

GIRFEC provides a structure that helps people to work in the same way and use the same language. This allows discussions with the child and their family to focus on what is good in a child's life, and what might need attention or support.

It's the bedrock for all children's services and can also be used by practitioners in adult services who work with parents or carers.

The approach helps practitioners focus on what makes a positive difference for children and young people – and how they can act to deliver these improvements. Getting it right for every child is being threaded through all existing policy, practice, strategy and legislation affecting children, young people and their families.

Insurance

Glasgow City Council is concerned at the level of claims being received regarding the loss of childrens' and young peoples' clothing and / or personal belongings. Parents/Carers are asked to assist in this area by ensuring that valuable items and unnecessarily expensive items of clothing are not brought to establishment. Parents/ Carers should note that the authority does not carry insurance to cover the loss of such items and any claims submitted are likely to be met only where the authority can be shown to have been negligent.

Excursions and Consent Forms

When outings or excursions for children are planned outside the local community, the head of establishment or a member of staff will advise you in advance. You will be asked to complete consent forms which give your permission for your child's participation. Please note that children cannot take part in outings unless completed consent forms have been submitted by their parent /guardian.

Due to the various patterns of attendance of our children and families, it is not always possible for your child to participate within all outings. Especially within the Boathouse, we will endeavour for all children within the Boathouse to attend at least one outing within their pre-school year.

Information in Emergencies

We make every effort to maintain a full educational service, but on some occasions circumstances arise which lead to disruption. Establishments may be affected by, for example, severe weather, temporary interruption of transport, power failures or difficulties of fuel supply. In such cases we shall do all we can to let you know about the details of closure or re-opening. We shall keep you informed by using letters and email.

Lunches

For Children are not eligible for funded hours the cost of lunches is £1.52 per day Children who are accessing statutory hours and in this case lunches and snack are free.

Snack and the promotion of healthy eating habits

A small healthy snack is provided during a session within the nursery. If you have any special dietary requirements please speak to your child's keyworker or a member of the management team who will assist you in this matter. The children also have milk or water at snack time, (juice will be provided for special occasions.)

Accommodation for parents

Within Crookston Early Years Centre, our parent's/general purpose room is situated within the "mess" area of the nursery.

The Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002

The freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 enables any person to obtain information from Scottish public authorities. The Act applies to all Scottish public authorities including: The Scottish Government and its agencies; Scottish Parliament; local authorities; NHS Scotland; Universities and further education colleges and the Police.

Public Authorities have to allow access to the following information:

- The provision, cost and standard of its service;
- Factual information or decision making;
- The reasons for decisions made by it.

The legal right of access includes all types of "recorded" information of any data held by the Scottish public authorities. From 1st January 2005, any person who makes a request for information must be provided with it, subject to certain conditions.

Further information is provided on the Glasgow City Council web-site: www.glasgow.gov.uk

Internet facilities are provided at all Glasgow City Council Public Libraries and real Learning Centres.

Dealing with Racial Harassment

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The Race Relations Act of 1976 makes it unlawful to discriminate against someone because of his/her colour, race, nationality ethnic or national background. The Act makes it the duty of Glasgow City Council to eliminate unlawful racial discrimination.

In 1999 the guidelines, "Dealing with Racial Harassment" were issued to assist all teaching staff in dealing with such incidents.

The adoption of an anti-racist approach should be seen as one part of the continuing attempt to improve the quality of education.

Glasgow City Council recognises that support from the home is essential if these aims are to be achieved. Every child in Glasgow has the right to be happy and secure at establishment.

Bullying

Bullying behaviour will not be tolerated within Glasgow City Council's educational establishments. All children in Glasgow's educational establishments have an entitlement to "work (and Play) in a learning environment in which they feel valued, respected and safe and are free from all forms of abuse bullying or discrimination". (A Standard for Pastoral Care in Glasgow establishments).

In 2009 Glasgow City Council published its revised anti bullying policy, incorporating the requirement to record and report all discriminatory behaviours within educational establishments. All establishments are required to review their policy in light of this. Parents and carers have a significant role to play in helping to address this problem. For this reason any anti bullying strategy must stress the importance of partnership with the parents and carers of their children.

Comments and Complaints

If you have a comment or complaint please approach the Head of Establishment in the first instance.

If the Head of establishment does not resolve the issue to your satisfaction, you should contact our Customer Liaison Unit who will:

- ❖ Take a totally neutral stance in fully investigating your complaint;
- Acknowledge receipt of your complaint within five working days;
- Give a full written response within a further 10 working days, unless another timescale has been agreed.

The Customer Liaison Unit can be contacted by phone or e mail.

Phone 0141 287 2000

Use the online form on GCC website at www.glasgow.gov.uk Or by post:

Freepost RLYU-GKGE-JGLJ
Customer Care Team
Chief Executive's Office
Glasgow City Council
G2 9RZ. (You do not need a stamp.)

Section Three: Medical Information

Medication

If your child needs medication during his/her time at nursery you should discuss his/her requirements with the Head of Centre/ Depute. Prescribed medication will be given at the discretion of the Head of Centre and you will need to fill in a form, which authorises nursery staff to administer the medication to your child. The nursery staff / Head of Centre will give you the necessary form to complete.

If your child suffers from a condition which requires specialist medical assistance for example a severe allergic reaction to nuts etc or asthma you must inform the Head of Centre in order for the appropriate steps can be taken to assist your child's time at the nursery.

If your child becomes ill

Please contact the nursery prior to your child start of session, if you have not contacted the nursery by the second day we may contact you.

Please be assured we follow national guidance to protect the health of all our children in our care

If your child attends any other day care setting, please tell us.

- If your child is ill, they must not attend the nursery.
- If your child becomes unwell whilst in our care, we will phone you to come and collect them from nursery.
 - If your child has had symptoms of vomiting or diarrhoea (or both), it is essential that they do not attend nursery until 48 hours after the symptoms have stopped
 - If you are not sure, please phone us before you bring your child to nursery.
 - If your child has an infection such as measles, chicken pox, mumps, thread worms please inform the nursery and consult your doctor.

Minor accidents and upsets

The staff will make every effort to ensure that your child is working and playing in safe surroundings. However, accidents do happen and children do become upset from time to time for many reasons. If your child is very distressed we will contact you.

In the unfortunate event that your child may have an accident, a member of staff will inform you of what happened and of any action taken. You will also be asked to sign an accident form.

Risk Assessments

Within Crookston Early Years Centre risk assessments are carried out to ascertain possible hazards. These risks are rectified to retain a safe environment for children to learn and play safely. The risk assessments are available within the heads office if you require a copy please speak to the Head of Centre.

Section Four The Nursery Curriculum

The aims of our curriculum



Environments that offer differential play and challenge, staff who are well informed and able to challenge learning, child-centred and building on previous experiences, fun absolutely essential, children planning and evaluating their learning.' a curriculum for excellence building the curriculum 3–18 (2) Scottish Executive, (2007:5)

How we promote learning

We promote the children's learning by observing, planning and discussing the next steps to take to extend on the children's experiences. We do this through:

- © Listening and interacting with the children during their play.
- By showing an interest and pleasure in their achievements.
- © Establishing partnerships with our parents.

What we do

		pokston Early Years Centre the staff and managers meet regular cottish Office – "Realising the Ambition: Being Me" "Curriculum					
	Rel	elationships \Box F	lights of the Child				
☐ Responsive care							
	Respect						
Wi	thin	n the Boathouse we evaluate the children's progress within the Numeracy and Mathematics	specific aspects of:-				
		Religious and Moral Education					
		Sciences					
		Social Studies					
		Technologies					
		Expressive Arts					
		Health and Wellbeing					

We plan for the children's next steps using our observations and assessments based upon the children's own interest and past experiences.

Key-worker / Assessment

☐ Literacy and English

During your child's time at Crookston Early Years Centre your child will be linked to a particular Group.

The Key-worker is responsible for coordinating the informal assessment and portfolio that will be carried out on the child within their group and they will relay the progression of your child within the nursery at our progress meetings which are held approximately twice a year.



There are opportunities to chat to your key-worker however, at times the staff may be busy welcoming the children, if so, please speak to the Head or Depute and we will arrange a more appropriate time for you.

During your child's time at nursery there may be times when their key- worker may have to change due to long term sickness or other special circumstances. Although every effort is made to maintain continuity between the changes there may be short periods when your child will "Visit" other groups. All staff has a shared responsibility for all children therefore in these circumstances we try to ensure these changes will be made as smoothly as possible.

Additional Support Needs/Accessibility Strategy

If your child is experiencing any difficulties which could impair their development, such as learning or speech, there are other agencies we may contact for help and advice. This would be discussed with you and your permission sought before seeking specialist help.

If you have any concerns about your child's development of any kind please speak to your child's key-worker or a manager as soon as possible and we will try as far as possible to assist you.

Parents can, of course, refer their child themselves via their Health Visitor or G.P.

Home and Establishment Links

We feel that it is important to complement the learning process that goes on within the home, so we look forward to parents sharing their hidden talents such as sewing, music and joinery etc.

All adults who engage with the children for extended periods of time are required to have an enhanced disclosure completed. If you would like to assist within the nursery, please speak to the Head of Centre or Depute Head of Centre.

Playroom / Outdoor Activities

Within the playroom and outdoors the children can choose from a number of activities which enhance and extend the children's learning.

These activities can be messy, creative and sometimes, demand the children to be aware of themselves and other people around them.

Outdoor Play



Children have timetabled access to outdoor play in all weathers and throughout the year. This kind of play involves painting, playing in mud and sometimes washing equipment such as play equipment, bikes.

We recommend to all parents to dress your child in play clothes which they are comfortable in and <u>YOU</u> have no concerns about for example if they become marked with paint or get dirty. A spare set is always handy to <u>keep</u> on your child's peg. **Please note** that

these should be easy fitting for example jogging trousers or pull on skirts, etc so that your child can change themselves within a short time scale as they just can't wait to get back to play, learn and experience the mess.

Section Five Parental Partnership

Our aims for the promotion of partnership

To make parents feel welcome and comfortable in the centre To offer a quality flexible service to children and their parents

© To keep parents informed of the events within the centre and of their children's progress

© To encourage parents to participate within the life of the centre

Working together to promote positive behaviour

We are asked regularly on how we discipline the children within the centre, we feel that if we complement the good behaviour that this counteracts the negative.

We do this by celebrating the children's achievements and encourage them to set good examples to each other. The staff are friendly, firm and fair to all children, they will guide your child towards acceptable social behaviour.

We feel that it is important to involve parent/s within our discipline procedure so their maybe an occasion where you have to hear "a sad story" at the end of your child's session. If we are experiencing difficulty with your child's behaviour we would, of course, discuss this with you so that we could go forward with an agreed consistent method of working in order to develop more positive behaviour.

Hurting others

Toddlers sometimes hurt others without thinking. They may bite, scratch, pull hair, push or hit. This can be done out of frustration or because they don't have the words to say what they want or sometimes it maybe they have found they get what they want when they use this kind of behaviour.

The staff team use a variety of methods to prevent support and stop children using this kind of behaviour examples of this are teething rings, distraction techniques and promoting positive behaviour as described above. We also work closely with our parents to support them during this period of behaviour.

Fundraising

To assist in the purchase of resources which we cannot buy from our budget e.g. baking ingredients, printing photographs, to name but a few. We have a voluntary donation of £2.00 per week to the toy fund.

During a year we will have approximately two fundraising events to help with the end of year activities and Christmas events. If you would like to participate or have any suggestions on how to fund raise please speak to the Head of Centre and then see how it goes from there-GOOD LUCK.



Section Six The Wider Community

The Establishment and the wider community

Since our opening in 2008 we have established a variety of links within the community. These include the shelter housing, campus links with the library and the primary schools.

We offer training opportunities to colleges and work experience pupils. We have a monthly newsletter and notice boards to keep parents informed about what is happening

within the centre.

We like to encourage the children to develop and share their knowledge of the local community. Crookston Early Years Centre is part of Rosshall Learning Community, the learning community consists of Rosshall Academy, Cardonald Primary, Craigton Primary, Crookston Castle Primary, Sandwood Primary, Hillington Primary, Penilee Nursery, Rosshall Nursery.

Links with primary schools

We have established links with primaries within our immediate campus and making links with the primaries within the local area. As some of our children can travel a variety of distances to nursery we cannot always establish links with all of the children's primary schools.

Children transferring onto primary school we complete a "Transition document". This is a profile of your child's progress for his/her primary one teacher; (this applies to children who are in their pre-school year only). This document will be shared with yourself before being handed over to the primary school of your choice.

Keeping You Informed

We will have a bi-monthly newsletter, which will keep you informed of In-Service days and holidays, and what's going on within the Centre. If you miss an issue just ask at the office and we will give you an extra copy.



improvement scotland

Inspections

Social Care and Social Work Improvement Scotland (SCSWIS) will inspect, regulate and support improvement of care and social work and Child protection services across Scotland

We are also inspected by the HM Inspectorate of Education.

Section Seven Other Information

Local Councillors: - <u>Councillor Saqib Ahmed (Greater Pollok)</u>, <u>Councillor Rashid</u>
<u>Hussain (Greater Pollok)</u> <u>Councillor Roza Salih (Greater Pollok)</u> <u>Councillor William Graham (Greater Pollok)</u>

The above can be contacted at the following address:



Education Services City Chambers East 40 John Street Glasgow G1 1JL



Social Care and Social Work Improvement Scotland Care Inspectorate Compass House 11 Riverside Drive Dundee, DD1 4NY

Please note

Appendix one

Although this information is correct at the time of printing, there could be changes affecting any of the matters dealt with in the document.

(a) before the commencement or during the course of the establishment year in question;

(b) In relation to subsequent establishment years.

Public Holidays/School & Nursery Holidays - August 2024 – June 2025

 Nursery Closed to all children - Friday, 27th September & Monday, 30th September 2024 (September weekend holiday)

August 2024

- In Service Days Monday 12th & 13th August 2024 – Nursery Closed to all children
- Nursery re opens Wednesday 14th August to all children.

September 2024

October 2024

- Nursery Closed to <u>all</u> children Friday, 11th October 2024 - In-Service Day
- Nursery closed to Term Time attenders from Monday 14th October – Friday 18th October 24 – October Week - (nursery open to 52-week attenders as normal)
- Nursery re opens to Term Timers on 21st October 24.

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December 2024 - Christmas & New Year

- Last day of Term Friday, 20th December 2024
- Nursery opens for 52-week attenders Monday 23rd &24th December 2024
- Nursery closes to all children from Wednesday 25th December 2024- Thursday 3rd January 2025

February 2025 Mid Term Break

- Nursery closed to Term Timers Monday 17th & Tuesday 18th February 25
- Nursery closed to all children Wednesday 14^{9h}
 February 2025 In Service Day

April 2025 - Spring Holiday (Easter)

- Nursery Closed to all children Friday 18th April & Monday 21st April 25 (Good Friday & Easter Monday).
- Nursery closed to Term Time children Monday 7th April 2025 21st April 2025 (Spring Break)
- Nursery re opens Tuesday 22nd April 2025 to all children.

May 2025

 Nursery closed to all children- In Service Day – 22nd May 2025.

- Nursery closed to all children Monday, 5th May 2025 (May Day Holiday)
- Nursery Closed to all children Friday, 23rd
 May 2025 and Monday, 26th May 2025 (May Weekend)

June 2025

 Nursery Closed to Term Timers only from Wednesday 25th June 2025 26th June 2025 (Summer Holidays)

In - Service Days closed to all children

- Monday 12th August 2024 In Service Day
- Tuesday 13th August 2024 In Service Day
- Friday 11th October 2024 In Service Day
- Wednesday, 19th February 2025 (In-service day)
- Thursday 22nd May 2025 In Service Day

Term Time Attender: Those children who attend nursery same hours as school (39 weeks and take summer break, Easter & October week break).

52 Week Attender: Children who attend all year including summer.

Reviewed June 2024 Next review June 2025