

Early Years Centre

Caring for children aged three - five years of age



Pupils are welcoming at Avishayes Primary School. There are strong relationships between staff and pupils. Throughout the school, pupils are well cared for. Ofsted 2024

AIM HIGH, ACHIEVE TOGETHER

Thank you for considering Avishayes Primary School and Early Years Centre. We understand how important this decision is for you as a parent/carer, so we have an expert team of knowledgeable and friendly staff to help you every step of the way.

What makes us so special?

Your child's safety will always be our number one priority. We know you are entrusting the most precious part of your life to our care and we won't let you down. Our dedicated Nursery team is totally committed to each and every child, and is trained to provide the optimum day care experience.

Our Nursery is supported by enthusiastic and objective childcare specialists, whose

brief is solely to ensure that we constantly provide excellent service and best practice.

We aim to create a unique 'home from home' environment where your children's individual personalities are nurtured and where they are encouraged to develop. It is our mission to see that every child in our care leaves with a stimulated, enquiring mind and equally importantly, with bags of confidence. Every child will then be ready for a seamless transition to 'big school'.

You can feel assured that with us your child will be happy and secure, but please do not just take our word for it. Do come along and see for yourself how we can provide your child with stimulating and fulfilling days of fun and discovery!



'Children must have access to a rich learning environment which provides them with the opportunities and conditions in which to flourish in all aspects of their development.'
(EYFS Handbook 2015)

Learning Through Play



Playing and Exploring



Active Learning



Creating and Thinking Critically



THE EARLY YEARS FOUNDATION STAGE – Rabbits (Nursery) and Owls (Reception).

At Avishayes Early Years Centre, we provide a wonderfully stimulating, supportive and happy learning environment for our children. They learn through play and engage in adult-led and child-initiated activities.

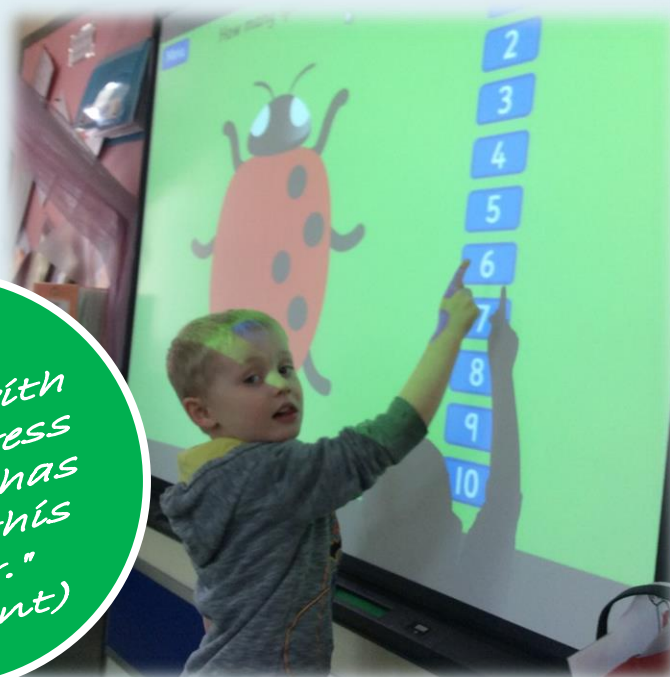
All children have opportunities to explore and investigate, developing their social, communicative, problem solving and creative skills both indoors and outside.

Every child is valued. We take pride in knowing our children well, taking time to observe how they play and planning activities with a secure understanding of each individual child's needs and interests.

We care about children's Early Years education and know that getting it right is crucial in providing the building blocks for their future. We believe it is important that children obtain the key essentials that will support them throughout their time in education. We are committed to maximizing this stage by providing a skilled team and a child-centered curriculum that puts structured play at the heart of all we do.

We invite parents/carers to meet with teachers daily as they drop their children off in the morning and pick them up at the end of the day. We believe that this partnership provides the best start for children and parents!

*"We are pleased with the progress our son has made this year."
(parent)*



Times and Fees



*"I'm always telling people what an excellent place it is and that they should be sending their children to Avishayes!"
(parent)*

Children can attend Rabbits from their third birthday. Our Rabbit setting offers a supportive combination of care and early education. It provides a seamless transition to starting school. The term after they are three, all children are entitled to 15 hours free each week during term time, which can be any combination to suit you and your family, providing there are spaces in the sessions.

Session:	Times:	Fees:
AM	9:00-12:00	£15.75
PM	12:00-3:00 (lunch 12:00 – 12:30)	£15.75



Headteacher

Clare Rinaldi

Head of Early Years

Carly Gay

Nursery Manager

Nakita Harris

Early Years Governor

Laura Constable



Water Play



Building



Painting



Mark Making

Starting School

The Early Years staff, work closely together to ensure everybody's entry into school is as smooth as possible. The children in our Rabbit class already benefit from being in the same setting as Owl class. The environment promotes the children's learning through independent and supported activities both inside and outdoors. Our learning environment enhances the children's prior experiences and their individual interests, ensuring that learning is purposeful and relevant to them.

Children start school in the September of the academic year when they are five years old. It is a County Council requirement that parents provide a copy of their child's birth certificate when they complete an admissions form.

Children in Owl Class (Reception) start school on a part-time basis for the first few days of the term. This enables the staff to get to know the children and their parents/carers, establishing those all-important relationships. It also helps the children to adjust to a new environment, feel secure and settle quickly. All of our Early Years staff strive to ensure that every child's needs are met using a personalized learning approach.

Children from other settings are also given the opportunity to visit Owl Class prior to starting in September.



"Our son has thrived in Nursery and we are confident he will continue to do so in Reception"
(parent)

During the term prior to your child starting in Owl Class, all parents are invited to a 'Starting in School' meeting and Play-to-Learn sessions, where you and your child will have the opportunity to meet the Foundation Stage staff, play in the classroom and ask any questions.

The 'Play-to-Learn' sessions offer your child the chance to spend time in their learning environment with their new classmates and the staff.

Home Visit

Before your child starts in our setting, we offer a Home Visit. This gives you and your child the opportunity to start building those key relationships with members of our staff and ask those questions you forgot to ask when having a tour! It gives us the opportunity to tell you about Avishayes Early Years Centre and learn more about your child in a relaxed way.

Key Person

Each child in the Early Years Centre is assigned a Key Person. In Reception, the Key Person will always be the class teacher.

Progress Meetings

Progress meetings are offered twice a year. You are encouraged to attend these to discuss your child's progress. However, if you require additional meetings, or just an informal chat, please do not hesitate to talk to a member of staff.

Contacting School

Regular attendance is expected or your child's place may be at risk. If for any reason your child is unwell, please contact the school office (01460 63050) to let us know as soon as possible.

Payment and Charges

* Payment in advance is required for any "one-off" additional hours

* Invoices will be raised at the beginning of each term. Payment is due within two weeks of the date of the invoice or by terms agreed between the School and parents/carers.

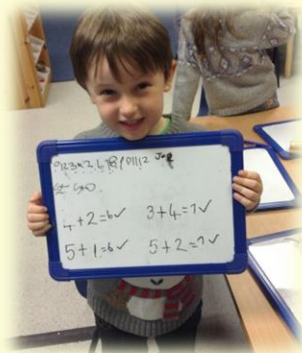
* Non-payment of invoices may result in your child's hours that are not funded being withdrawn.

* Charges will apply if a child is collected late i.e. late collection of a child at the end of a session will result in a £5.00 charge for every 15 minutes.

* One month's notice is required for any changes to the sessions, or if your child is leaving.

*"You
always seem to
be very active with all
the children and they
in turn seem to love
and
respect you guys
very much"
(parents)*





Special Educational Needs

Our Special Educational Needs coordinator works with parents, staff and pupils as well as other agencies such as the Educational Psychologist service to ensure the best possible opportunities are provided for every child with special needs. We have an excellent and proven record with our pupils who encounter some form of difficulty with their learning. We believe that the key to this is building a strong and trusting relationship with parents and professionals.

Managing Behaviour

When managing behaviour in our setting, we aim to work closely with you to support your child. All our policies are available on request and these are regularly reviewed and tailored to the children's needs. If you require further support at home with your child's behaviour then there is plenty of help available! Many of our families find the Parent and Family Support Adviser (PSFA) extremely useful as well and we are here to support you however we can.

Food and Drink

During the day snacks are available for Owl and Rabbit classes. This usually consists of fruit and occasionally toast with a range of spreads, sometimes muffins, crumpets or even pancakes! For the rest of the day the children have access to water. Your child will never go hungry or thirsty! There is no charge for snacks.

At lunchtimes, Owls have the choice of a free hot dinner from the school canteen or you can provide your child with a lunch box from home. If your child stays for a lunchtime session in Nursery then a lunchbox from home must be provided for them.

We encourage healthy eating as much as we can and you can support us by providing your child with a healthy lunchbox:

- A sandwich, wrap, pasta, rice, salad or crackers.
- Snacks such as cheese, yoghurt, crisps, biscuit bars, or jelly – NO chocolate bars or sweets please.
- At least one piece of fruit or vegetable.
- A drink – water – NO fizzy pop please.

Please note that we are unable to heat children's food or keep lunch boxes in the refrigerator so it is advised to include an ice pack inside your child's lunch box.

What should your child bring to Nursery?

Nappies

Your child will have a basket in the changing room where nappies, wet wipes and spare clothes can be stored. You must provide your own nappies and wet wipes and staff will let you know when your supplies are running low. Alternatively, you can bring in a separate 'changing bag' on a daily basis which should contain the above items and several sets of spare clothes.

Clothing

Wherever possible, please dress your child in clothes which encourage his/her independent use of the toilets. It is very difficult for young children to deal with dungaree straps in a hurry!

Remember your child will be using paint, glue and exploring all sorts of messy play. These are likely to come home with them - on their clothes! The children also have free access to the outdoors, in all weathers, at all times of the day!

A child should always bring a coat that is waterproof and wear suitable clothing for the appropriate season. Clothes must be marked with your child's name.

A set of spare clothes should be provided (some may need more than one set!). Often the joys of water play are only discovered when the water is dripping down their arms and legs! Any soiled clothing is changed and left for collection on your child's peg, with an explanation note. Please wash and return any clothes on loan from the nursery.



*"She asks
to go to
Rabbits
everyday!"
(parent)*

Sun Protection

Please provide your child with a sunhat and appropriate clothes during hot weather. If your child is in Nursery and you wish for staff to apply sun cream then you must fill out a medical form in the office. The sun cream must be provided in a named container. Please inform a member of staff on arrival, if you wish sun cream to be applied.

Personal Belongings

Personal belongings such as toys, books, jewellery, hair accessories, are often important to young children but the Nursery cannot be held responsible if they are lost or broken.

Useful Resources

The Nursery uses a wide variety of resources and would welcome any items you no longer need e.g. hats, fancy dress, indoor and outdoor toys, materials for 'junk modelling' such as cereal boxes, yoghurt pots etc.

Start of the Day

The school day (for reception) starts at 8:40 am. Children and parents wait in the enclosed Early Years outside area until the bell goes.

The Nursery opens at 9:00 and parents and children should wait in the playground until the member of staff on the gate allows entry. This staggered entry prevents overcrowding inside, supports a calmer start to the day and allows more time for staff to talk to you in the morning.

For children in Nursery, enter via the main red doors and turn to your right where you will be greeted by a member of staff who has the register. Lunch boxes are placed on the trolley and belongings can be stored on your child's peg. Take your time to talk to staff and pass on any messages to enable us to fully support your child and settle them in. You will be able to stay with your child for a short while to help them to settle as we know it can be stressful for both your child and you.



Your child will have a personal 'pigeon hole' above the pegs in Nursery. Please take responsibility for checking this in the mornings. Newsletters, paperwork, children's work etc. will be posted in here. At the end of the day contents of the pigeon hole will be sent home with your child.

On the way into the setting you must sign your child in with the member of staff on the entrance gate. This is also another chance to pass on any messages to staff.

If your child's Nursery session starts at or ends at 12 noon then you just arrive at the gate and a member of staff will then meet and greet you and your child and take them inside to put their belongings in the correct places

End of the Day

When picking your child up from Nursery please just come to the gate where a member of staff will be waiting with the sign-out sheet. This is the same sheet your child was signed in on. Reception children will be sent out to you as you arrive.

Feedback about your child's day may be given but if there is something more sensitive to mention you may be invited in to talk to a member of staff more privately.



Promoting British Values at Avishayes

The DfE has recently reinforced the need “to create and enforce a clear and rigorous expectation on all schools to promote the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.”

The government set out its definition of British values in the Prevent Strategy, and these values have been reiterated by the Prime Minister, this year. At Avishayes these values are reinforced regularly and in the following ways:

Democracy:

Democracy is rife within the school. Pupils have the opportunity to have their voices heard through our School Council and Pupil questionnaires. The elections of House Captains and School Council Representatives are based solely on pupil votes. Our school behaviour policy involves rewards which the pupils vote on as a class group.

The Rule of Law:

The importance of Laws, whether they be those that govern the class, the school, or the country, are consistently reinforced throughout regular school days, as well as when dealing with behaviour and through school assemblies. Pupils are taught the value and reasons behind laws, that they govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when laws are broken. Visits from authorities such as the Police; Fire Service etc. are regular parts of our calendar and help reinforce this message.

Individual Liberty:

Within school, pupils are actively encouraged to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. As a school we educate and provide boundaries for young pupils to make choices safely, through the provision of a safe environment and empowering education. Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and advised how to exercise these safely, for example through our E-Safety and PSHE lessons. Whether it be through choice of challenge, of how they record, of participation in our numerous extra-curricular clubs and opportunities, pupils are given the freedom to make choices.

Mutual Respect:

Part of our school ethos and behaviour policy has revolved around Core Values such as ‘Respect and Responsibility’ – the Spirit of Avishayes and pupils have been part of discussions and assemblies related to what this means and how it is shown. Posters around the school promote respect for others and this is reiterated through our classroom and learning rules, as well as our behaviour policy.

Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs:

This is achieved through enhancing pupils’ understanding of their place in a culturally diverse society and by giving them opportunities to experience such diversity. Assemblies and discussions involving prejudices and prejudice-based bullying have been followed and supported by learning in RE and PSHE. Members of different faiths or religions are encouraged to share their knowledge to enhance learning within classes and the school. Pupil Discussions in particular show that this has been successful.



The carefully designed curriculum in early years supports children to make a strong start. The early years curriculum is ambitious and well sequenced to ensure that children's knowledge builds from Nursery into Reception. Knowledgeable staff ensure that learning is engaging and purposeful. Children enjoy learning and playing together. The high expectations of staff ensure routines are well established. Ofsted 2024

Visits to the school are always very welcome!

Contacts:

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Our Privacy Notice is available on our website or from the school office.

