

The Watermead Way

I Did Nothing Today

When children come home at the end of the day,
The question they're asked as they run out to play

Is "Tell me what you did today?"

And the answer they give makes you sigh with dismay.

"Nothing, I did nothing today!"

Perhaps "Nothing" means that I read a book,

Or...with a teacher I got to cook.

Maybe I painted a picture of blue,

Or heard a story of a mouse that flew.

Maybe I wrote in my journal myself.

Or maybe I helped a friend today,

Or went to my favourite area alone,

Maybe today was the very first time,

That scissors followed a very straight line,

Maybe I sang a song right to the end,

Or worked with a special brand new friend,

When you're three, four or five your heart has wings

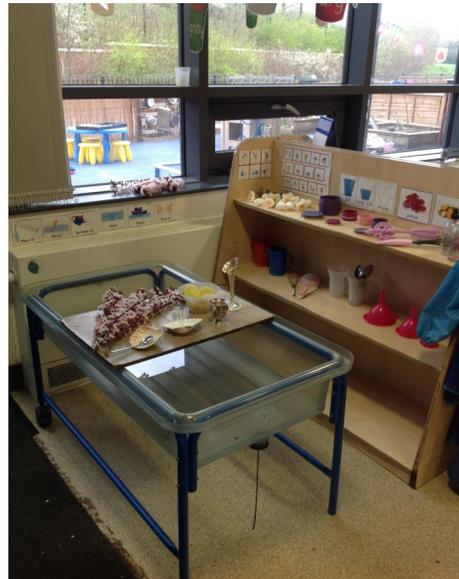
And "Nothing" can mean so many things!

Welcome to Nursery!



Come and see what you might find...

Our Indoor Provision



Our Outdoor Provision



Keyworkers

When your child has settled into Nursery a member of the team will be assigned as your child's key worker, we will let you know who this person is and you will be able to speak to them directly about your child. The Key worker is responsible for keeping up to date records on your child's development and achievements.

Learning Journey

Every child has a Learning Journey which are kept in the pigeon-holes above the pegs. You are welcome to look at your own child's folder. There will be opportunities throughout the year for you to discuss these in depth with your child's key worker.

Library

There is a selection of books in the entrance hall which you can take home to share with your child. Please make sure that you note down which book you have and bring it back when you have finished. You can change books as often as you like. Your child will receive a free book bag when they start nursery.

Say 'hello' to our team



Mrs Streets—Nursery Teacher
(Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday morning)



Mrs Taylor—Nursery Teacher
(Wednesday afternoon, Thursday, Friday)



Mrs Haywood —Nursery Teaching Assistant



Mrs Swann_ Nursery support
(morning sessions)

Our nursery session

What opportunities for learning will your child have?

- to develop listening and communicating skills
- to think for themselves
- to enjoy stories and music
- to express themselves in imaginative and creative activities
- to explore, observe, know about living things in the immediate and wider environment
- to develop mark-making/writing skills
- to recognise familiar print
- to develop their mathematical skills
- to develop confidence and control mastering fine and gross motor skills
- to develop strategies for problem-solving
- to share the companionship of other children
- to be aware of their culture and others
- to help establish and respect the rules of a group
- to reach their full potential
- daily snack and milk promoting healthy eating

Welcome — Children enter nursery with you and hang up their own coat and put on their indoor pumps. You and your child can find an activity to do in nursery. When the children hear the 'hello' song they come and sit on the carpet for our register.

Teaching & Learning — During the nursery session we have group times. Each day we focus on a specific area of learning; teaching the children basic skills. Every Wednesday all children will be involved in 'phonics' learning, focusing on early Literacy skills. Throughout the session we have planned activities in the environment to reinforce the skills taught during the group time sessions.

Goodbye - When you arrive to collect your child the children will be on the carpet with a member of staff. Please wait under the canopy and a member of staff will collect your child. Please be patient at busy times.

PLEASE NOTE when entering and exiting our nursery please make sure all doors are closed behind you in order to ensure the safety of all our children.

Session times

Morning nursery 8.30 a.m.—11.30 a.m.

Afternoon nursery 12.15 p.m.—3.15 p.m.

Monday / Tuesday 8.30a.m.—3.15 p.m. **Wednesday** 8.30 a.m.—11.30 a.m.

Wednesday 12.15p.m.- 3.15 p.m. **Thursday / Friday** 8.30a.m.—3.15 p.m.

30 hours 8.30a.m. 3.15p.m. **Monday—Friday** (for families eligible for 30 hours Free Early Learning (FEL) or at a cost of £45 per week including lunch money)

We charge £2.50 per day for a school lunch and additional lunchtime session (the lunch time is in addition to the 15 FEL hours all children receive from the government). All nursery children have a school lunch, we feel that this is a really special social time for our little ones. All Nursery and lunch hour fees are to be paid at the School Office every week. Please note that if any fees are not kept up to date then we have the right to revoke your child's place. If you have any questions about 30 hours FEL please contact the School Office.

School Uniform

When your child arrives at school they will change from their outdoor shoes into their indoor pumps. They will have pigeon holes to put their outdoor shoes in.

We have a wellie rack in nursery, please feel free to leave a pair of wellies. Outdoor learning is hugely important to us and we aim to spend time outdoors in all weathers.



Please ensure that your child's uniform, pumps, wellies and shoes are labelled with their name.

Please provide a set of spare clothes on your child's peg (including a top, trousers and underwear).

Water Bottles are readily available for your child throughout the session. These are provided for free. They will also be washed and filled daily. We only allow water during our nursery session.



Snack Time

Fresh fruit is provided daily, as part of the national scheme to promote healthy eating. Milk is also provided for free until your child's 5th birthday. We also enjoy growing our own fruit and vegetables which we eat at snack time. We have our snack in our keyworker group and share a story together.

At Watermead we pride ourselves in our wonderful uniform and celebrate wearing it to show where we are from.



We hope you feel just as excited putting your new uniform on!

Your child will receive a free jumper when starting Nursery.

We have an indoor shoe policy so all children are required to wear black plimsolls in the Academy.

Helping your child to learn at home

Helping Your Child with Reading

Point out print that is all around you: on signs, posters in shop windows, football shirts, bus tickets, food packaging etc... When out and about look at different signs, labels and posters. Show your child how you find out things by reading e.g. reading a shopping list. Sing nursery rhymes as often as you can with your child.

Reading every night makes a difference

Before you begin to read, get a feel for the book, by looking at the cover and talking about it. Look at the pictures and talk about them. As you are reading, discuss how the character is feeling, what might happen next in the story. Read the same book again and again, this helps with remembering the story, enabling your child to join in.

Magic Moments from Home

In nursery we love to hear about your child's learning and achievements at home so we can celebrate them with you. In our entrance hall you will find some stars, you can either write your child's achievement on them or tell a member of staff. This may include spotting numbers when out and about, sleeping in their own bed all night, developing a tripod grip...the list is endless!

Helping Your Child with Writing

Activities such as threading and using play dough help to develop your child's fine motor skills. Your child can mark make or write in lots of different ways e.g. sticks in mud, using their finger in sprinkled flour, painting outside with water and a paintbrush, chalking in the garden. Your child maybe mark making, this is an important part of the writing process, encourage and support your child with drawing circles, lines, dots and zig zags. Help your child to develop a comfortable pencil grip, using a pinchy parrot grip, near to the point of the pencil. Make writing a part of everyday e.g. can you help me write the shopping list? Help your child to practise writing their name, starting with the first letter in their name. When your child is drawing talk about details of their drawing e.g. eyes, fingers. Support your child by talking about what shapes we need to draw e.g. what shape are the wheels?



Helping Your Child with Math's

Make counting part of your everyday life, e.g. counting when going up / down the stairs, sharing out food e.g. fruit / biscuits, how many do you have, how can we find out? When out and about, have number and shape hunt's e.g. house numbers, registration plates, what number bus are we going on today? What shape is that sign? Talk to your child about numbers that are special to them e.g. if your child is 3 years old, point out number 3, practise counting to 3, holding up 3 fingers. When out and about, use and encourage your child to use language to talk about direction e.g. which way do we need to go to get to Nursery? We are going around the corner. Talk about time in everyday life e.g. your tea will be ready in 5 minutes or in 1 hour it will be time to set off for Nursery. Encourage your child to talk about time; even if they are not accurate, this is an important part of learning. Look at coins with your child, discussing the numbers, shape, size and colour.