



Welcome  
To

# Parkside Primary School

"Come as you are, Leave as a Champion"

Proud to be Parkside

Nursery Welcome Pack

2023-2024



# Welcome to Little Explorers Nursery

May we take this opportunity to thank you and welcome you as prospective parents and children to Little Explorers Nursery.

This booklet will provide you with key information about what our Nursery has to offer and aspires to achieve.

We have included information to help you to make an informed decision about your child's pre-school education. However we would urge you to come and visit our Nursery and experience our setting first hand. To make an appointment or if you have any further queries please feel free to contact Mrs Bell (Head Teacher). We look forward to meeting you and your child.

"Where big things have small beginnings".



# Contact Details

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Bradshaw Way  
Parkside  
Stafford  
ST16 1TH

Telephone: 01785 450145

Email: [admin@parkside.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:admin@parkside.staffs.sch.uk)

Web Address: <http://www.parkside-staffs.co.uk>

Headteacher  
Mrs R Bell

Deputy Headteacher  
Mrs L Salter

Assistant Headteacher  
Miss K Bills

Early Years Leader  
Mrs L Dennett

Nursery Team  
Mrs Insall  
Mrs Pearce  
Mrs Scott  
Mrs Gummer  
Miss Hobson  
Miss Downes  
Miss Keeling



# Headteacher's Welcome

On behalf of the Staff, Governors and The Creative Learning Partnership Trust, I would like to offer you a warm welcome to our Parkside Family. It is a privilege that you have chosen Parkside Primary School for your child to commence their journey into statutory education.

Parkside is a unique school that has the children at the centre of all we do. We are proud to offer a bespoke curriculum that is centered around our school motto of Proud to be Parkside. Our school values weave through all we do at Parkside. We have six values that we believe will create lifelong learners and citizens of the future. Determination, children and staff that are determined to do their best to reach the highest goals. Kindness, a school built on mutual respect and inclusive practice in which friendships blossom. Resilience, the capacity to withstand or overcome challenges. Respect, children, and staff that showing respect for each other, our belongings, and our wider community. Independence, a skill that lends itself to all aspects of life, finding ways of and overcoming barriers to reach our goals. Pride, a strong sense of pride for their belonging to Parkside and their unique place they hold within our school and the community.

At Parkside we have a dedicated team of staff and governors who go the extra mile to support our children, striving for excellence. We work hard to establish strong relationships with our parents, a working partnership that is valued and at the heart of providing the very best for your child. You are your child's first educators, you know your children best, and you are part of our journey. We want you to play an active role in your child's education and to shaping the future direction of our school. We look forward to starting our Parkside adventure together.

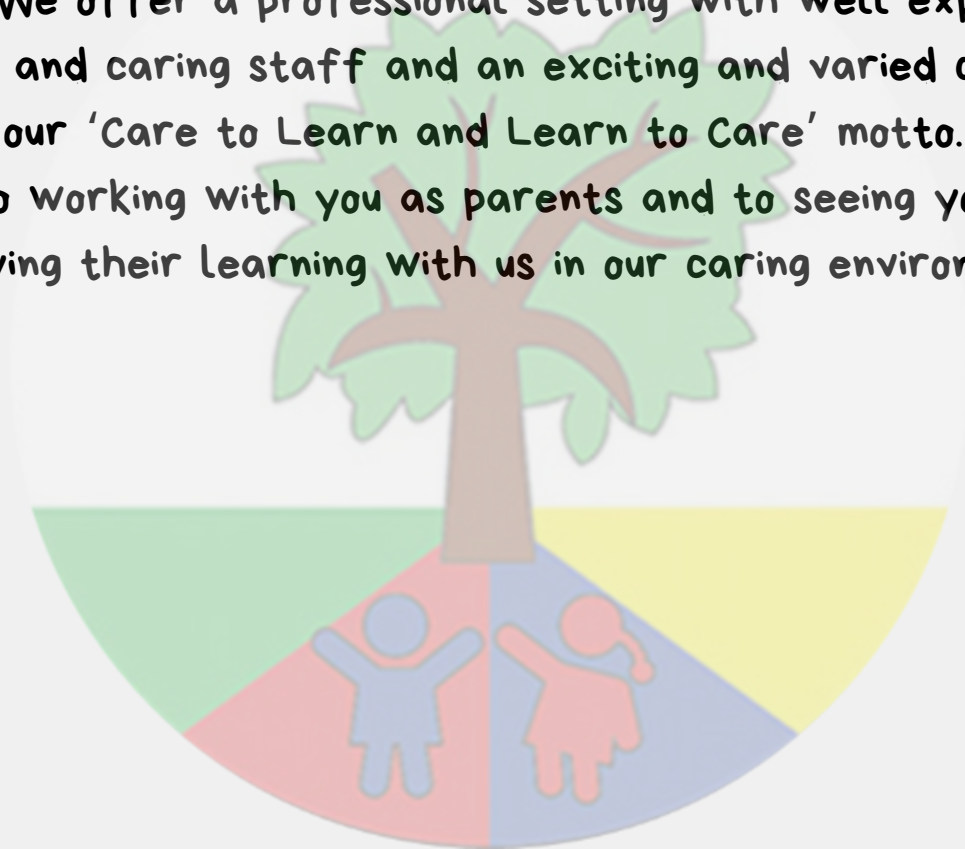
Welcome to our Parkside Family

Mrs Rebecca Bell



# Governors' Welcome

The governors of Parkside Primary School were excited to open their new nursery provision Little Explorers in September 2015. As part of our recent school expansion we were able to negotiate a purpose built area to house our nursery providing places for children from two years old. As an ever improving school this provides an opportunity to introduce our school ethos within our nursery setting and allow for seamless transition into Reception for those staying with us. We offer a professional setting with well experienced, qualified and caring staff and an exciting and varied curriculum true to our 'Care to Learn and Learn to Care' motto. We look forward to working with you as parents and to seeing your children enjoying their learning with us in our caring environment.





# What we offer

Little Explorers Nursery is a Governor run Nursery that operates within a purpose built Foundation Stage Village at Parkside Primary School. The Nursery is very much integral to the school and has the vision of providing outstanding education for children from the age of two to eleven years old. The Nursery is managed by Mrs Dennett and a dedicated team of staff with a wealth of experience and qualifications.

The Nursery was opened in September 2015 when the school was part of an expansion due to rapid growth in numbers. As part of the new build a Foundation Village was created which includes care for 2, 3, 4 and 5 year olds. The Nursery operates for 39 weeks a year, with after school and before school facilities available for children from the age of three.

JC Academy run a separate school holiday club for children of 4 years and over.

Nursery Sessions & Fees Sessions available for 2 Year olds – up to the term when child has their 3rd birthday.

Full Day - 7:30am-6:00pm including breakfast, snack and tea (£215.75 per full week)

Full Day - 7:30am-6:00pm including breakfast, snack and tea (£45.15 per day)

Extended Morning Session -7:30am-12:30pm including breakfast, and snack (£23.15 per session)

Extended Afternoon Session - 12:00pm-6:00pm including snack and tea (£30.15 per session)

School Day Session - 9:00am-3:30pm including snack (£35.90 per day)

School Morning Session - 9:00am-12:30pm including snack (£19.40 per session)

School Afternoon Session - 12:00pm-3:30pm including snack (£19.40per session)

# Nursery Session and Fees

Sessions available for 4 Year olds & 3 Year olds from the term after their 3rd Birthday

School Day - 9:00am-3:30pm including snack (£35.90per day)

School Morning Session - 9:00am-12:30pm including snack (£19.40per session)

School

Afternoon session - 12:00pm-3:30pm including snack (£19.40per session)

Extended Day Sessions available- From September 2020 the extended day offer will be part of our current Nursery provision and will operate from our Nursery setting with familiar staff.

Early Morning Session- 7:30am - Commencement of school day - £6.00

Extended Afternoon Provision until 5:00pm - £7.00

Extended Afternoon Provision until 6:00pm - £9.00

The government provides 15 hours of free childcare for all children from the term after their third birthday. Some families will also be eligible for an additional 15 hours of funding if certain criteria is met. You can find information on this on the [Staffordshire County Council website](#) or contact the school for details. Funded places are also available for two year olds in some cases.

Payment may be made by Arbor or childcare vouchers only, a log in will be set up for you. Parkside Primary School is a cashless school.

## Missed Sessions

Unfortunately we are unable to offer refunds for any missed sessions due to illness or holidays. However, if your child becomes hospitalised we will refund you for any missed session during their hospital stay.

If our Nursery were to close due to reasons beyond our control, there will be a 50% retainer charge to hold your child's place.

# Our Sessions

## Sessions for Two Year Olds

Responding to the needs of our two year olds the sessions will be very fluid. The setting will provide open ended resources which allow the children to follow their interests and schemas.

Two year olds will have a key adult with whom they can build a strong relationship. Learning will be play-based and child initiated; children need opportunities to move and be active, as well as small spaces where they can feel secure.

Staff will model high quality use of language, manners and play when guiding purposeful play, talking to and sharing interests with your child.

Outdoor provision will be provided for our two year olds to allow them to exploit their need for space and movement.

Children that require a sleep during the session will have their own mat to lie on in a designated sleeping zone. Children may bring any comforters that they require when sleeping. These will be stored in their own tray.

Nappies and wipes will need to be provided from home – please ensure that these are regularly topped up and kept in your child's individual box. We will support both you and your child in toilet training but please bring in lots of spares for those inevitable accidents during this time.

## Two Year Old Check

When your child is aged between two and three, we will review your child's progress. We will provide parents with a short written summary of your child's development in the prime areas. The progress check will identify your child's strengths, and any areas where their progress is less than expected. If there are any concerns we will share these with you, with your permission we will consult other professionals for advice in supporting your child.



# Our Sessions

## Morning Session for Three - Four Year Olds

9:00am - Nursery doors open

Independent learning activities – parents invited in to support your child's next steps in learning on a weekly basis.

9:00am – Carpet time – circle time activities and speaking and listening

9:30am - 11:40am – Foundation Stage adult led and child initiated activities with a short phonics session.

11:45am - 12:00pm – Story and Songs

## Afternoon Session for Three - Four Year Olds

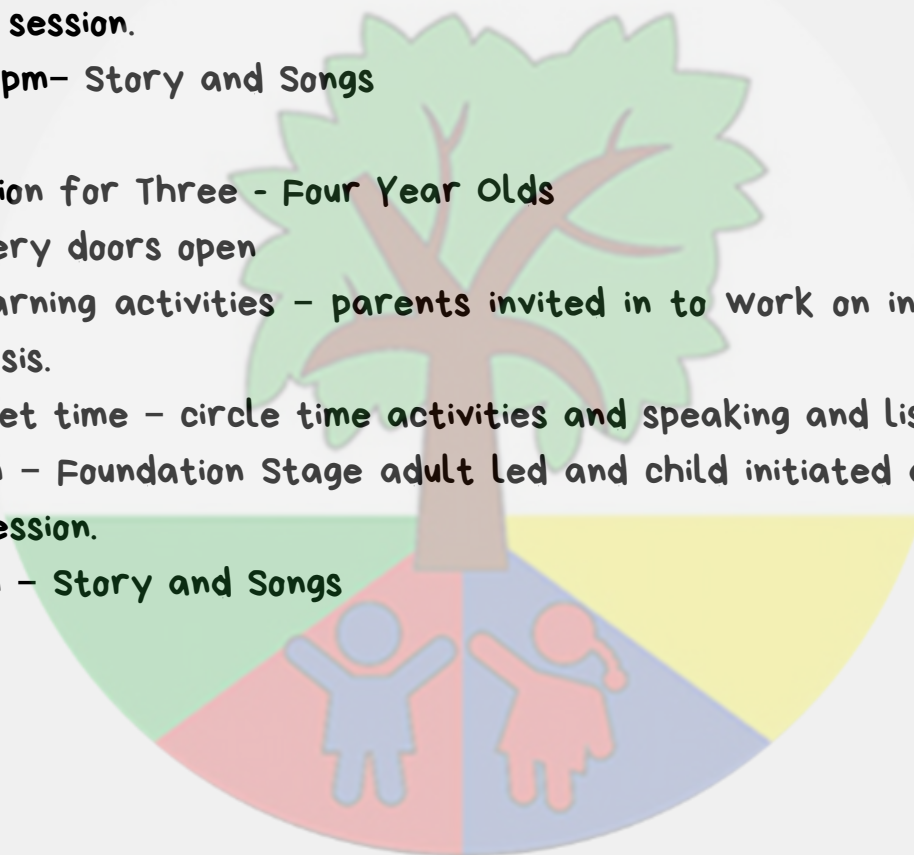
12:30pm - Nursery doors open

Independent learning activities – parents invited in to work on individual targets on a weekly basis.

12:45pm – Carpet time – circle time activities and speaking and listening

1:00pm - 3:15pm – Foundation Stage adult led and child initiated activities with a short phonics session.

3:15pm - 3:30pm – Story and Songs



# What is the Early Years Foundation Stage?

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS), this describes the time between birth and five years old. Children in the EYFS learn by playing and exploring, being active, and through creative and critical thinking which takes place both indoors and outside.

## How will my child be learning?

There are seven areas of learning within the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum. All areas of learning and development are important and inter-connected. Three areas are particularly crucial for igniting children's curiosity and enthusiasm for learning, and for building their capacity to learn, form relationships and thrive.

The prime areas are:

- Communication and Language
- Physical Development
- Personal, Social and Emotional Development.

As children grow, the prime areas will help them to develop skills in the four specific areas.

These are:

- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the World
- Expressive Arts and Design.

Phonics

We follow the Little Wandle: Letters and Sounds Revised scheme to teach and deliver phonics.

# Parents as Partners

We recognise that parents and carers play a vital role in their child's learning and development, we believe that working together builds strong relationships that facilitate the best outcomes for your child.

Parents and carers are their children's first teachers. When they are with you learning can happen at anytime and anywhere, for example through:

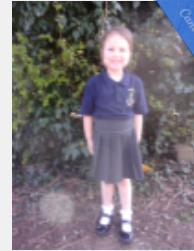
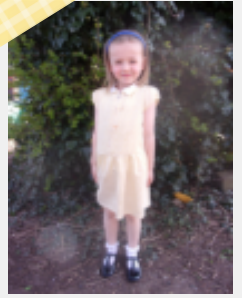
- Playing games, singing nursery rhymes.
- Talking about what you can see in the park or on the street.
- Counting the stairs as you go up and down.
- Laying the table, talking about how many plates, knives, & forks etc. you need.
- Encouraging your child to get dressed independently.
- Showing your son how to use a urinal.
- Develop independence when using the toilet, especially managing personal hygiene.
- Encouraging your child to write their name, e.g. in birthday cards, on the floor in chalk.
- Looking at books together and talking about the story and the pictures.
- Playing initial sound games like eye spy.



# School Uniform

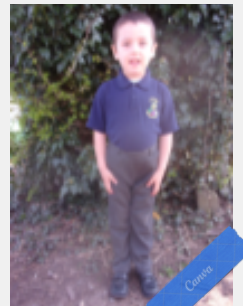
## Girls

- Navy polo shirt with Parkside Logo
- Blue sweatshirt or cardigan with Parkside Logo
- Grey skirt, pinafore, culottes or trousers
- Yellow gingham summer dress (optional)
- Grey or white plain tights/socks
- Black sensible shoes
- Coat preferably with hood
- Sunhat
- Pair of wellington boots
- Blue/Yellow hair clips/bobbles (hair longer than a 'bob' should be tied up)



## Boys

- Navy polo shirt with Parkside Logo
- Blue sweatshirt or cardigan with Parkside Logo
- Grey trousers/shorts
- Grey socks
- Black sensible shoes
- Coat preferably with hood
- Sunhat
- Pair of wellington boots



Uniform can be purchased from:  
<https://crestedschoolwear.co.uk>  
<http://www.myclothing.com>



# School Dinners & Snack

Children can stay for a hot meal (which comes with a choice of vegetables) or a sandwich (which comes with fruit and a cake/yoghurt) either on specific days or all week, as you wish.

Alternatively, your child can bring sandwiches from home, please ensure that their lunch is nut free as we are a nut free school.

Menus are available on the school website for you to see the meals on offer.

Water and milk are also available.

## Snack

Fruit and milk is provided free of charge each day for every child in Nursery. We ask that you provide your child with a water bottle to keep in school to have during the day. Please ensure that this is labelled and filled on a Monday Morning. We will re-fill bottles on a daily basis and send them home on a Friday for them to be cleaned.

## Dietary Requirements

Where children are provided with meals, snacks and drinks, they must be healthy, balanced and nutritious. Prior to your child starting Nursery you will be asked to inform us about any special dietary requirements, preferences and food allergies that the child has, and any special health requirements.

# Health Care Information

## Illness

Please ring the school on the first day your child is ill before the start of the school day. We request that, as part of our safeguarding responsibility, you contact the school on each day that your child is absent. If your child becomes ill in school we will contact you, therefore it is important to keep us up to date with any changes to your contact details.

## Contact Details

Should these details change at any time, please let the school know as soon as possible. It is very important that we have up to date details for at least two contacts. The school will also request an email address from you so we can contact you in this way, thus allowing us to become even more eco-friendly!

## Care Plans

A care plan is a confidential document that is only accessible to members of school staff, but it does make staff aware of any considerations that need to be given to your child on health grounds. All Early Years staff have the relevant first aid qualifications. Information about the first aid trained staff can be seen in the front entrance area of the school.

All staff have regular updates and attend courses to ensure that your child receives the best care in school should they become unwell. Our first aiders will give medication to children who require it in the school day, however medicine must be in the original box with the child's name on and the dose to be given. Parents must hand any medication into the school office where they will be asked to sign a form to consent to school administering the medication. Please see the Administration of Medication Policy located under the Policies tab on the school website.

## Asthma

If your child suffers from asthma they will need a spare, in date, Ventolin inhaler to be kept in school at all times. A Care Plan will be required and you will need to complete an Asthma form giving permission to use the school emergency Ventolin inhaler in cases of emergency.

# Safeguarding

In order to ensure the safety and wellbeing of the children in the setting, and to prevent images being recorded and inappropriately used, Parkside Primary School prohibits the use of personal mobile phones by staff when working with children both on and off site, and prohibits the use by parent helpers or visitors when on the school premises or on school trips.

Visitors are required to hand in mobile phones to the office before entering our school. Cameras are used for assessment purposes only and permission will be gained prior to staff taking any photographs of your child. We do not prevent parents taking photographs at school events but ask that they are for personal use only and not shared on any social media sites.

## Smoking

As outlined in the EYFS framework and in the school policy we operate a strict no smoking policy on our school grounds this includes e-cigarettes.

## Policies and Important Information

Please refer to our website <http://www.parkside-staffs.co.uk> to find more information on our Behaviour policy our Special Educational Needs offer, Pupil Premium offer and Curriculum information.

## Designated Safeguarding Leads

Mrs Bell, Mrs Salter, Mr Bennett and Mrs Barton

# Parent Teacher Meetings

Please do not hesitate to come and talk to us at the start or end of the day about anything, however small it may seem.

These are the official Parent/Teacher meetings below.

## Autumn Term - Open Evening and Teacher Appointments

There will be an opportunity this term for you to come and look at your child's work and then meet with your child's teacher on an individual basis. Your child's teacher will share your child's Autumn Term Assessment letter with you.

## Spring Term - Open Evening and Teacher Appointments

There will be an opportunity this term for you to come and look at your child's work and then meet with your child's teacher on an individual basis. Your child's teacher will share your child's Spring Term Assessment letter with you.

## Summer Term - Optional Evening and Reports

A written report will be sent to you, via your child, towards the end of term and an optional parents consultation evening will be available.