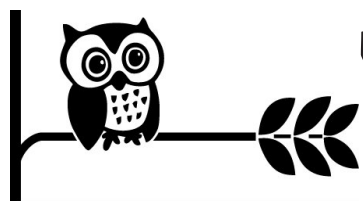


Nursery





Welcome to Oswald Road Primary School

Welcome to Oswald Road Primary School, located in the heart of Chorlton, Manchester, inspiring children aged 3-11. At Oswald Road we aim to provide the highest quality care and education for all our children, thereby giving them a strong foundation for their future learning. We create a safe and happy environment with motivating and enjoyable learning experiences that enable children to become confident and independent. We value the individual child and work alongside parents, carers and others to meet their needs and help every child to reach their full potential. All of your child's achievements will be recorded in their personal 'Learning Journey' which you and your child will have access to throughout the year.

As part of our practice we:

- Deliver an exciting and varied, play-centred curriculum, based on the revised Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) framework, which was made statutory from September 2021.
- Promote equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practice.
- Provide early intervention for those children who require additional support.
- Work in partnership with parents/carers to develop links in the local community.
- Plan challenging and stimulating learning experiences, based on the individual child, informed by observation and assessment.
- Provide learning experiences developed from child-led ideas.
- Build strong relationships with the children in our care.
- Provide nurturing and inspiring indoor and outdoor learning environments.
- Inspire a love of learning and independence that will remain with them throughout school.



“Leaders provide children in the early years with a stimulating curriculum. The children are excited and engaged in their learning and develop understanding and skills well.” (Ofsted, 2018)

EYFS Framework

At Oswald Road we follow the revised EYFS Framework, which has been statutory since September 2021. Within this framework there are four guiding principles which shape our practice.

These are:

1. Every child is a unique child, who is constantly learning and can be resilient, capable, confident, and self-assured.
2. Children learn to be strong and independent through positive relationships.
3. Children learn and develop well in enabling environments with teaching and support from adults, who respond to their individual interests and needs and help them to build their learning over time. Children benefit from a strong partnership between practitioners and parents and/or carers.
4. Children develop and learn at different rates. The framework covers the education and care of all children in early years provision, including children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND).

EYFS Learning and Development Requirements

Our curriculum encompasses seven areas of learning and development. All areas of learning and development are important and inter-connected. Three areas are particularly important for building a foundation for igniting children's curiosity and enthusiasm for learning, forming relationships, and thriving. These are called the prime areas:

- communication and language
- physical development
- personal, social, and emotional development.
- literacy

Four areas help children to strengthen and apply the prime areas. These are called the specific areas:

- literacy
- mathematics
- understanding the world
- expressive arts and design

Throughout their time in EYFS our children partake in a well-balanced and varied curriculum which is designed in a sequential way to ensure progress towards the end of reception goals. These goals are defined as Early Learning Goals (ELGs).

As previously outlined, our curriculum incorporates learning through play, learning by adults modelling, by observing each other and through guided learning and direct teaching. It is also important to highlight that our plans are flexible to allow us to respond quickly to children's new interests and/or needs.

Weaving throughout the EYFS curriculum at Oswald Road Primary are three **Characteristics of Effective Learning**.

- **playing and exploring** - children investigate and experience things, and 'have a go'.
- **active learning** - children concentrate and keep on trying if they encounter difficulties and enjoy achievements.
- **creating and thinking critically** - children have and develop their own ideas, make links between ideas, and develop strategies for doing things.

These elements underpin how we reflect on each child's development and adjust our practice accordingly. Supporting children in their individual learning behaviour and observing the context of children's play is essential.

Staffing in Nursery

At present the staffing structure in Nursery is two teachers and two teaching assistants. You will be given information as to who your child's teacher and teaching assistant is, plus an opportunity to meet them, before your child starts with us in September. Should more places be allocated to children (over 52 places), another teaching assistant would be added into staffing to be in line with ratios.

Settling into the Nursery

To ensure a smooth transition from home we stagger the intake of children into the Nursery. Your child will have a designated teacher and teaching assistant who will be responsible for liaising with you and helping your child settle into our Nursery.

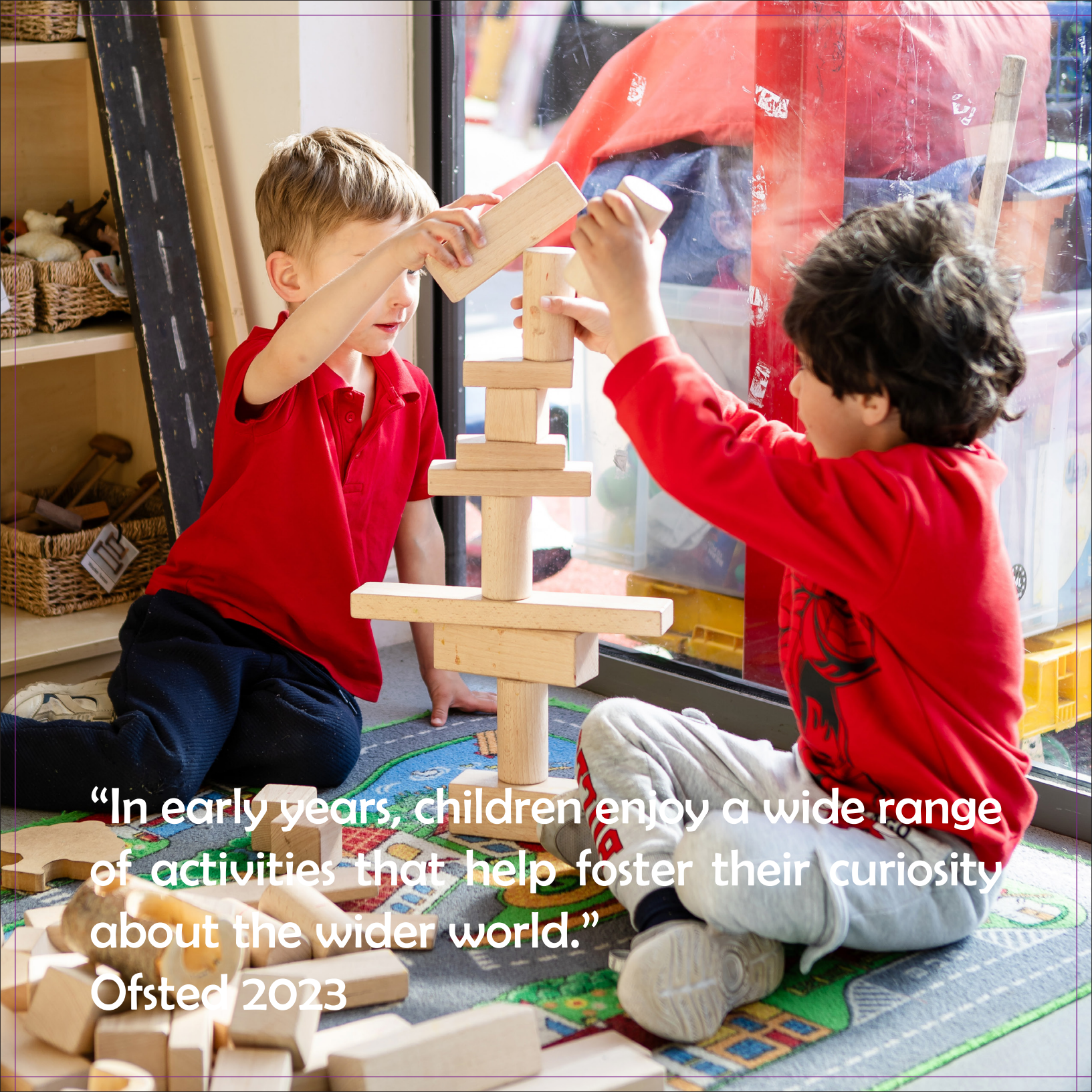
One way of doing this could be:

- On the first day your child will stay for an hour with a parent/carer.
- On the second day your child will stay for an hour on their own.
- On the third day your child will stay alone for the morning up to lunch.
- On the fourth day your child will stay alone for the morning and lunch.
- On the fifth day your child will stay for the whole day.

Please see information inside your information pack detailing your child's start date and transition timetable.

“I’ve been really impressed with the nursery and happy we made the decision to go there.”

- Nursery Parent



“In early years, children enjoy a wide range of activities that help foster their curiosity about the wider world.”
Ofsted 2023

Preparing Your Child

During the months before your child actually starts Nursery, you can prepare him/her in the following ways:-

- Work towards your child being independent when using the toilet, i.e. can manage his/her own clothing and is happy to go into the toilet alone.
- Encourage your child to learn to put on/take off his/her own coat – child friendly fasteners help. Children will have their own coat pegs in Nursery and we encourage them to hang up their own coats.
- Read stories, sing songs and nursery rhymes, count, talk about numbers, talk about your child's teacher and teaching assistant and read their information sheet.
- Take part in lots of physical activity and spend time socialising with other children.



Clothing

It is best to dress your child in comfortable clothes, which they can manage on their own, such as the school's standard set of clothes. Please think carefully about the types of buttons or zips that your child can cope with- some are easy, others are very difficult- and we encourage them to dress independently.

As they become involved in their play, children may get their clothes dirty (for example, with paint), although they will wear aprons for messy activities. Please bring in a clearly labelled bag with a change of clothes on your child's first transition day, which will be kept on their peg in case of accidents. The children will have access to the outside area whatever the weather, so it would be useful for a raincoat and wellies to be kept in Nursery on your child's coat peg.

Please ensure all items of clothing are clearly marked. A red school jumper is required to be worn by all children going on a school trip.

Arrival and Collection of Children

Nursery doors open at 8:35am and the day starts at 8:45am. The day ends at 3:15pm

The staff of the Nursery are part of Oswald Road Primary School and have duties and responsibilities as part of the school. It is therefore important that children are collected on time at 3:15pm so that Nursery staff can fulfil their duties. Early Birds and Owl Club are available for before and after school care from 7:30am in the morning and up to 5:45pm after school, for which there is a fee. Please enquire at the school office.

Bags

It is important that your child brings a bag to school every day. Reading books, letters and pieces of the children's work will all be sent home in their bags, so please check them at the end of every school day.

Food & Drink

Children are provided with a carton of milk and a fruit snack daily. If your child requires a lunch, you will need to either purchase a school dinner (this can be arranged with the school office) or provide them with a packed lunch. School dinners are cooked on the premises in our kitchen and meet the government's nutritional standards. They comply with dietary and religious requirements. Menus are sent out regularly and can be found on our school website. All children in school will eat their lunch in the main dining hall, however Nursery children eat their lunch earlier so that they are not in at the same time as the older children.

Fresh drinking water is available to children at all times. A record is kept of any special dietary requirements or food allergies, taken from the child's admission form. If you think your child is entitled to free school meals based on your household income, please see the office manager to fill in an application form.

Security & Child Collection

Steps are taken to ensure the premises and surrounding site is secure. Main entry and exit doors are security coded. Please drop your child off at and collect them from the door into the Nursery. The perimeter gates are locked at 8:45am and are not reopened again until just after 3.00pm. If you are late to drop-off or collect outside session hours within the school day, please report to the school office. Please let the office staff know if your child is going to be late or absent.

If your child is going to be collected by someone that we have not seen before, Nursery staff will ask for a pickup password (a secret word of your choice) which we will request on your admission form. There is a slip for you to select the word of your choice inside your information pack. All staff are DBS checked before being employed by us, as are students and volunteers. For more information please see our Safeguarding Policy.

Phonics

In school we follow the Letters and Sounds programme. Letters and Sounds is a phonics resource published by the Department for Education and Skills which consists of six phases. Phonics is taught daily in a systematic way through short 20 minute sessions.

Sharing Books at Home

Sharing books and stories with your child at home is very important in helping to develop the necessary skills for learning to read.

Here are some guidelines to follow when reading with your child:

- Talk about where the front cover is, pointing out the title and name of the author.
- Read the story, allowing your child to make comments and predict what might happen next.
- Re-read the story as often as your child wishes.
- Run your finger under the words as you read.
- Having read the story, encourage your child to talk about it and possibly re-tell it in her/his own words and complete fun activities such as drawing pictures or acting out parts.



Fire Procedures

Fire drills are carried out termly. When the fire alarm sounds, the children will be evacuated out of the building to their safe point. The toilets will be checked by a staff member for any remaining children. A headcount/register will then be taken to ensure all children and adults are accounted for. Emergency contact numbers will be available from your registration forms for us to contact you should it be necessary. It is therefore your responsibility to inform us if this information should change.

Health & Safety

If you would like to see a copy of the school's Health and Safety Policy please contact the school office. Smoking is not permitted in any area of the school. The Nursery is insured under the school's public and employer's liability insurance. A classroom risk assessment is carried out biannually and/or whenever any significant change takes place. An outside risk assessment of the Early Years playground is carried out daily. The toys and equipment on offer provide opportunities for children, with adult help where necessary, to develop new skills and concepts in the course of their play and exploration.

Complaints

If there is anything you are unhappy about, please do not hesitate to speak to your child's teacher. If you are still unhappy with the outcome, please follow our Complaints Policy, which is the same as that of the school and can be found on the school website.

Policies

Our school policies can be found at www.oswaldroad.co.uk

Seesaw Online Learning Journals

Seesaw is a secure online learning journal used to record photos, observations and comments in line with the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) curriculum. It is used to build up a record of your child's experiences during their time in Nursery and Reception.

The new curriculum specifies that adult interaction has to take priority over any form of recording or assessment, so we will be moving to recording only key 'wow' moments in each child's development. We will continue to promote parental engagement by celebrating any observations added by parents and carers from home.

Accidents, Sickness & Medication

There is always a member of staff with a relevant Paediatric First Aid Qualification in each of the EYFS classrooms and an up to date first aid box is kept on the premises at all times. Minor accidents are recorded online and you will receive an email containing the accident report from MedicalTracker. Please inform us if your child contracts an infectious illness/disease or if they have any other medical problems that we should be aware of as soon as possible.

We are unable to accept children who are ill. Please do not send them for 48 hours after sickness and/or diarrhoea. Any child suffering from an infectious disease should be kept home from Nursery for the appropriate period of time advised by the doctor.

The Nursery staff will keep up-to-date records on children's health (eg. allergies). If your child needs medication, you will need to complete the relevant consent forms and hand in medication via the school office- please speak to your child's teacher.

Additional Information

We run various workshops and training sessions for parents and carers to attend throughout the year, including phonics and maths workshops. We will always ensure resources to help support your child at home are given out during these workshops.



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