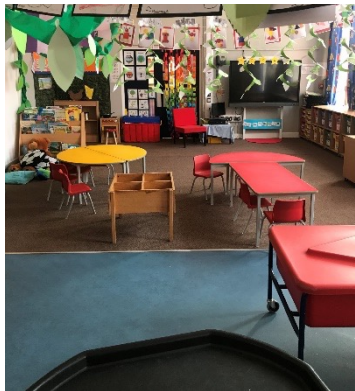




Welcome to Nursery Class





Principal's welcome

As Principal, I would like to warmly welcome you to our inner-city primary academy, situated in Leicester. We have an excellent team of adults who are committed to ensuring all children reach their potential. We strive for our children to have special and happy memories of their time with us and value highly the positive relationships we have built between children, parents, staff, governors and our neighbouring communities.

Children get one chance for an education and here at Knighton Mead we want this to be the very best. There is a driving determination to ensure that all pupils and adults reach their full potential. Through the development of positive learning behaviours (5Rs and Character Muscles), we aim for all of our children to leave with the skills necessary for successful, lifelong learning. Learning is celebrated and openly admired. We work and learn together, alongside parents and carers.

We have a lot to be proud of at Knighton Mead. We have well-resourced classrooms and specialist support bases to enhance learning. The school is a happy, stimulating and caring place and we expect high standards of behaviour and good manners throughout. We are committed to updating our Twitter page each day so you may also wish to follow this link to get an insight in to school life at Knighton! <https://twitter.com/knightontmet>

We feel privileged to be the school which begins your child's school journey, we can't wait to meet you all and welcome you to the team.

Miss Jenny Slinger



Welcome

We are delighted that your child is joining us at Knighton Mead Primary Academy. Starting Nursery is a big leap in your child's development, one which we at Knighton commit to making as smooth, exciting and enjoyable as possible, for both you and your child!

This booklet aims to give information about our academy, your child's education and ways that you can help prepare them for their first day. We have also included information about how the Foundation Stage helps your child to develop.

Our induction process is designed to make the transition from home and pre-school or nursery as happy as possible, ensuring your child feels secure in their new environment. We offer several opportunities for your child to visit our EYFS unit and hope by the time they begin nursery they are already familiar with many aspects of school life.

On arrival in to school, a great deal of learning has already taken place in your child's life, the majority of which has been through 'playing'. We aim to develop this learning by providing a creative curriculum based upon the children's interests and learning styles, providing opportunities to extend their skills, knowledge and understanding through active learning strategies, through 'structured play'.

In the EYFS children are taught in a variety of ways; in whole class groups, small group work, pairs and individually with all staff members of the EYFS team. We operate an 'All Weather Policy' and free flow of the indoor and outdoor areas operate throughout the day.

We follow the seven areas of learning which are:

3 Prime areas:

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



4 Specific areas:

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



All the activities that we plan for the children aim to develop these seven areas of learning, outlined in the Foundation Stage Profile 2021. Our curricular goals and long term plans can be found on our school website:

<https://www.knighton-tmet.uk/curriculum/eyfs/>

Learning Journeys

Staff assess the children by observing them as they interact with others and with various activities. These on-going observations are used to inform the Foundation Stage Profile. We will consider ways to support your child to strengthen and deepen their current learning and development. The more we know about each child, the better able we are to support and extend their ability.

During your child's time in EYFS they will have a learning journey. We use a system called 'Tapestry' which is an online learning journey. This allows you to log on and see your child's learning whenever you would like.

We feel it is important for parents to contribute too, as you know your children best. The 'Tapestry online learning journal' allows you to upload things that your child has done during their time away from school. This will help the children during speaking and listening sessions as they have something familiar to talk about. We also upload weekly 'Tapestry Challenges' for you to complete at home with your child, which helps us with our assessments.

By the end of the school year the Foundation Stage Profile is completed for your child; parents and carers are invited to parent's evenings throughout the year and a written report of your child's attainment will be shared with you at the end of the summer term.



Timings

8.40am – Doors open. Parents/Carers bring their child through the EYFS playground to the Nursery class door. We encourage independence by getting the children to come in, hang up coats, self-register and settle with a whole class carpet activity e.g. exploring and reading picture books / singing songs.

If you are late and the door is closed, please take your child to the office to be registered. Failure to do this will result in your child not being on record and in the event of a fire your child will not be accounted for.

8.40am – Morning session begins.

11.40am – Home time for morning children. *

12.00pm – Afternoon session begins for 30 hour funded children. Lunchtime in the classroom and a variety of afternoon activities

2.40pm – Home time for 30 hour funded children *

3.10pm – Home time for the extended paying children.

*Home time – Please wait outside the Nursery door and wait for the staff to call your child. It is important to inform us if you will not be collecting your child. A member of staff will not let your child go with someone they have not been informed about.

*During each morning and afternoon session the children will take part in a variety of activities including: guided activities led by an adult and independent activities led by the child.

My school routines

- Your child will have their own 'box'. This is where they will keep their learning outcomes and letters.
- The children will have P.E once a week from January – This day will be confirmed nearer to the time. Please remove all jewellery on P.E days and ensure all school uniform and P.E. kit are named.
- Your child will have free fruit and milk every day. No other snacks are required in Nursery class.
- Water is available in the classroom throughout the day. The children will need to bring in a named water bottle with water in it. Please do not send juice / flavoured water is fine.
- Children's toys and jewellery should be left at home. This reduces the risk of it getting lost or broken.



Afternoon Nursery

Afternoon nursery extends the morning nursery with more learning opportunities and activities, supporting your child in getting ready for school. We offer this to parents that are entitled to the 30 hours a week funded childcare.

If you believe you are entitled to 30 hours per week (depending on eligibility) please fill out the relevant part of the placement letter and return to the office as soon as possible. For more information to see if you can gain the entitlement. See <https://www.gov.uk/30-hours-free-childcare>

If you are interested in your child attending afternoon nursery in addition to the morning session but are not entitled. We offer the option to pay for the afternoon session (**11.40am – 2.40pm**) at the cost of **£10 per afternoon with a minimum of two afternoons per week required**. The option to extend the time of pick up further to be in line with school pick up time from **2.40pm to 3.10pm** is **£2 per day / £10 a week**.

Afternoon Nursery children will need to provide their own lunch which will be eaten in the classroom with a member of staff. Please make sure that your child's lunchbox is clearly marked with their full name and class, and that you do not send any chocolate bars that do not have a biscuit base, glass bottles, fizzy drinks or foods containing nuts in to our school.



School Uniform

Children at Knighton Mead Primary Academy are required to wear the following uniform:

- Red jumper, fleece or cardigan
- White polo shirts or blouses
- Dark grey trousers/shorts/skirt
- Red and white gingham dresses/grey school dresses
- Grey, white or black tights
- Plain black footwear



P.E Uniform consists of:

- Any shorts/ joggers / leggings and t-shirt.

Please ensure all uniform, P.E. kit and shoes are named. Please remember we are learning to be independent in EYFS so our clothes may get messy with pen, mud, paint or water.

Parents as partners

You are your child's first educator, and we look forward to building a partnership with you, whilst your child is in our care. Please keep us informed of anything that happens at home which may affect your child as soon as possible. There is always members of the EYFS team on the doors at the beginning and end of the day for you to talk to. However, if you ever have the need to talk to your child's teacher, please mention it to them before or after school and they will arrange a suitable time to talk to you.

There are two parent's evenings during the year, one in the Autumn term and one in the Spring term, where you will be able to discuss your child's progress with his/her teacher. You will also receive a written report at the end of the Summer term.

We also use 'Tapestry' as a means of communicating our topics and events within EYFS through our class information pages. You can also communicate to teachers through adding a note observation attached to your child's profile. Our school website, newsletters and twitter are also other ways we communicate with our parents/carers.

We also have open mornings across the year to celebrate learning, topics and celebrations.

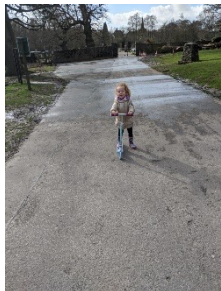
It is important that your child establishes a good attendance pattern in order not to miss out on essential learning. If your child is unable to attend school, please always let us know by telephone the school office in the morning. If we do not hear from you, we will contact you. Please always ensure your contact details are up to date in case of emergencies.

Parents as partners continued...

If your child injures themselves at school, they will receive treatment from our trained first aiders. Depending on the severity of the incident, the teacher will speak to you, and you will be sent home an incident note. We may telephone you if your child bumps their head or face.

As previously mentioned, we have an online learning journey system called 'Tapestry'. Every parent will be signed up to Tapestry at the beginning of the year via their email. This will enable you to see activities that your child complete throughout the year. We will invite you to a Tapestry meeting for parents in the new term to support you in accessing this but also using it to support your child's learning.

We encourage parents to upload pictures, videos and comments to tapestry for us to use in our assessments of the children. It also gives them something familiar to talk about with their teachers and excites them to let us know what they have been up to. We will also send a weekly 'TAPESTRY CHALLENGE' on the system which helps our assessment of the things we don't see in school.



How you can help at home during the summer

- Talk with your child about who they can talk to if they are anxious or upset. Reassure them that all the adults in EYFS want to help them feel happy and safe.
- Encourage your child to be independent as possible by boosting their confidence when getting changed and putting on coats.
- Make sure your child can recognise their belongings.
- Play board games to encourage listening and turn taking skills.
- Reinforce independent toileting as well as, washing and drying hands.
- Share the next few pages of this booklet with your child to share their new setting with them.

My classroom



Nursery entrance



Nursery cloakroom

My classroom



Nursery toilets



Our outdoor area

My teachers



Miss Moore-Haines
EYFS Phase Leader



Mrs Fasham
Class Teacher



Mrs Coley
Teaching Assistant



Mrs Arnold
Teaching Assistant

And Finally...

When children first start Nursery, they often don't want to discuss what they have done when they get home. Don't worry this is quite normal. Starting a new routine and coping in a new situations and with new people can be quite tiring.

Our focus in Nursery is not just providing them with a great start to their academic education but also to create happy, confident individuals. We want to do everything we can to ensure your child loves coming to school and that they are motivated to learn. If you have any concerns that this is not the case, please also speak to a member of the EYFS team about this.

If you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to email the school on office@knighton-tmet.uk

– Please include your phone number in the email so that a staff member can get back to you.

- Should you need any of this document translated or need to speak to a member of staff in home language, please email the school on the email above, including the translated language you require. We will do our best to support you.

We look forward to meeting you and your child soon and welcoming you into our school community.