



# Kingswood

NURSERY SCHOOL



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# WELCOME TO KINGSWOOD NURSERY SCHOOL

Kingswood Nursery School is a unique and special place with a wonderful community spirit; our ambitious curriculum is organised to ensure that the children at Kingswood aim high, enabling them to be confident and capable learners in the next phase of their education, and conscientious citizens of the future. Key learning experiences are delivered within a vibrant and inclusive atmosphere, where diversity is celebrated, and mutual respect fostered.

Kingswood Nursery School is funded by the Local Authority and is staffed with qualified teachers, nursery nurses and learning support staff. We have an active Governing Body who support the work of the school and act as our 'critical friends'.

The wellbeing of the children is at the heart of the school; ensuring that both their emotional and learning needs, are met. Working together with parents, carers and professionals has a positive impact on children's development and learning. We strive to nurture positive relationships, working collaboratively to achieve the very best outcomes for children.



Kingswood is open during school term times and offers a range of services to meet the needs of local families, which include:

- Places for children aged 2 – 5 years
- 15 hours per week of free funded education for children the term after their third birthday
- 15 hours per week of free funded education for those children entitled to 2 year old free funding
- 30 hour places for children who meet the criteria
- Extended opportunities to continue care with additional 'wrap-around' sessions
- Packed lunch club each day
- Excellent transition arrangements
- Regular opportunities to be involved in your child's education
- Links with local primary schools and Children's Centres
- Training for a range of students and trainee teachers

**Currently we retain a legacy of Outstanding school, following the inspection in 2017: 'This is an Outstanding School. Kingswood Nursery is a special place to learn. Children are happy and they learn very well because they greatly enjoy all the stimulating and exciting activities.'**

# PHILOSOPHY AND AIMS

“Where learning is an exciting adventure”

**CHILDREN ARE AT THE HEART OF EVERYTHING WE DO**  
Childhood is valued; each child is seen as unique, competent and capable.

**RESPECT**  
Everybody is respected, valued and listened to.

**RELATIONSHIPS**  
Children flourish, adults are dedicated, and everyone feels appreciated

**ACTIVE LEARNING**  
An inspiring environment in which children are involved in their own development and learning

**AMBITION**  
To provide the best outcome for every child in a learning community

**SAFE and SECURE**  
Everyone's safety and wellbeing is our priority.

## OUR SCHOOL

Kingswood Nursery School is almost 80 years old-it was opened in 1942! It is a purpose built setting that has extensive outdoor grounds with grass areas, playgrounds and an exciting wildwood den. We have a wide variety of resources and equipment to extend skills and challenge children.

The classrooms are organised into curriculum areas and our outside areas are used every day. Inside and outside children can be physical, imaginative and inquisitive; they explore and investigate, co-operate - or they can be quiet and contemplative.



We asked the Nursery children why Kingswood was such a special place to be. Here are some of their responses:

*'Our nursery is the best because there is a cosy place'.*

*'My teachers look after me every day'*

*'I look forward to seeing everyone at school'.*

*'Nursery is the best because we have so many playgrounds'.*

# SCHOOL TIMES

## MORNING SESSIONS

8.30 a.m. to 11.30 a.m.

## AFTERNOON SESSIONS

12.30 p.m. to 3.30 p.m.

### Extended opportunities include:

**Lunchtime Club - 11.30-12.30** - children bring a packed lunch from home.

'Wrap-around' care – parents can purchase additional blocks of three hour sessions either side of their core entitlement enabling children to stay all day according to availability.



**Ofsted Inspection March 2017 states:** *'Children feel secure in the nurturing environment and display an excellent attitude to learning new experiences'*.

## THE SCHOOL DAY

During the session the children take part in a variety of activities:

- **'Busy Fingers'** includes activities to develop fine motor control and includes playdough, construction, picking up with tweezers, mark making in gloop
- **'Fizzy Fit'** develops the children's gross motor skills and offers exercise and brain gym development
- **Key Person Time** enables the group to interact and cover current topics and areas for development
- **Child Initiated Learning** allows the children quality time to develop their own interests, participate in active learning, develop their skills and problem solving
- **Snack** is the time when children can access a drink and snack with their friends
- **Phonics and Maths** sessions develop their early literacy and mathematical skills
- **Story and singing sessions**

## SETTLING IN

We offer our families an initial meeting with your child's key person to give us a chance to get to know your child and invite you to attend stay and play sessions, to explore our spaces with your child. We place great value on building a relationship with parents and carers enabling us to work in partnership to continue your child's journey of life-long learning.

Most children will feel secure and want to be independent quite quickly, but we understand some children may take longer to settle; therefore, individual arrangements are always made for those children who may need more support.

## ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY

Please make sure your child arrives at school on time, as arriving late is often uncomfortable for children, can make it difficult for them to settle and they miss valuable learning time.

Good attendance and punctuality are very important and routines established in early life will last a lifetime.

If your child has to be away from school, please telephone the school office on the first day of their absence. Children that have been sick or had diarrhoea should be kept away from school for at least 48 hours from the last episode, to try and prevent the spread of infection. It is important that we know of any contagious/infectious illnesses so that we can inform other parents. We can care for children with long term medical needs and we will work closely with you to develop an individual 'Health Care Plan' to enable your child to gain maximum benefit from attending our Nursery.

## CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR

- School uniform (polo shirt and sweatshirt) is available with our school logo on and is ordered online.
- Clothing should be suitable for play and easy for your child to manage.
- Children need sensible, comfortable shoes for running and playing with Velcro fastenings.

**Please label items of clothing, especially sweatshirts, coats, hats and gloves. Your child will not recognise their un-named sweatshirt as we have so many the same!**

When the weather is hot it is essential that you apply sun-block before school and send your child in with a named sun hat.

When the weather is cold the children will need warm coats, hats, scarves and gloves as we offer the children outdoor play all year round, whatever the weather!

And finally jewellery should not be worn in school – it is too precious and contravenes the 'Health and Safety' guidelines which all schools must abide by.

If your child has pierced ears, **then they may only wear one small stud earring in each ear.**

**On a general but very important note, do not dress your child in their best clothes – they will get mucky after a busy day at school!**



## CONTACT NUMBERS

Please make sure that we have a **daytime** telephone number so that we can contact you in an emergency, **if this changes, please let us know immediately.**

We use an electronic system to distribute our newsletters electronically to an email address of your choice and texts to inform you of emergency closures in the case of 'adverse weather conditions' etc.

We use a service called 'WisePay' to collect all monetary payments to school online.

This is quick, safe and simple. You will be given a unique password to use.

## PAYMENTS

**There is no charge for 15 hours of free early education per week.** Additional payments depend on the age of the child so please check on our website or ask for a booking form.

- **Voluntary contribution:** We ask for a voluntary contribution of £2.00 per week to cover the costs of daily snack, cookery ingredients, extra equipment, entertainments and subsidising school events.  
Again, please put your payment in an envelope with your child's name **or better still use 'WisePay'.**
- **All money (in sealed envelopes) can be placed in the letter boxes found outside the main school office and the Pre-School classroom door.**

## The Early Years Foundation Stage

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) documents the statutory requirement for young children's development and learning, and outlines the knowledge, skills and understanding children should have acquired at the end of their Reception school year.

### EYFS:Prime Areas of Learning

These three areas are particularly important for building a foundation for igniting children's curiosity and enthusiasm for learning, forming relationships and thriving.

- Communication and Language



- Personal, Social and Emotional Development



- Physical Development



### EYFS:Specific Areas of Learning

Young children's development in the prime areas is strengthened and applied through these four areas.

- Literacy



- Mathematics



- Expressive Arts and Design



- Understanding the World



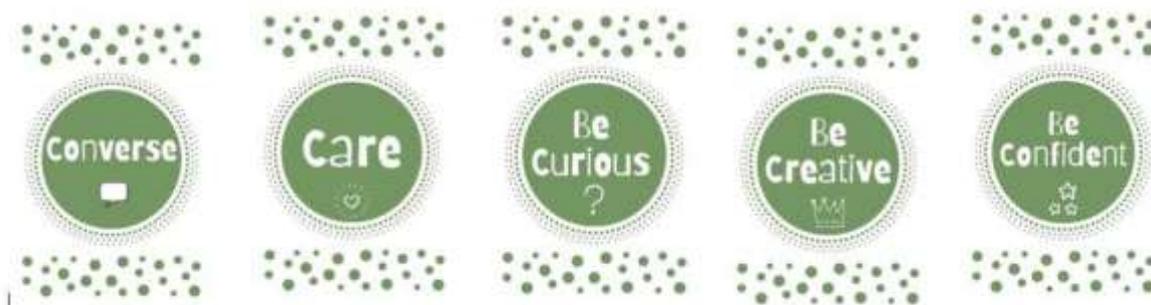
**A representative from the local authority stated: 'Staff demonstrate wonderful practice-the main strength here is your practitioners. The depth of knowledge and learning of the children is a strength. The quality of teaching is excellent.'**



### **Our 5 Ways to Wow! Curriculum**

The 5 Ways to Wow curriculum is unique to Kingswood, based upon children acquiring skills over time, developing their understanding and deepening their knowledge. This is underpinned by the Early Years Foundation Stage, so that children leave well placed to achieve the Early Learning Goals at the end of their Reception School Year.

By the time they leave all children will possess 5 Ways to Wow! They will be able to:



We constantly reflect upon our practice, and adapt our curriculum to ensure the needs and interests of our cohort and individual children are met. This flexibility means our provision may vary year upon year.

#### **What parents tell us:**

**'My child has had the most amazing year and leaves with excellent skills, both physical, social and academic, for when he starts Reception.'**

**'We've loved seeing our child's confidence grow; her kind and caring personality has been nurtured.'**

## OUTSIDE AGENCIES

As a maintained Nursery School, we have wide access to a range of services to support children's learning and development. These include Children Centre staff, Speech Therapists, Educational Psychologists, Health Visitors, Social Workers, Family Support Workers, Early Years Advisers and other professionals. These agencies may be called in when an individual child has a particular need – emotional, behavioural or learning.

## EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

Every child is valued as an individual and for the qualities they bring with them. At Kingswood, every child has equal access to education opportunities regardless of race, religion, colour, gender or special needs. We encourage children to be caring, tolerant and interested in each other and their cultures.

**Ofsted Inspection March 2017 states:** *'The Nursery supports very effectively the children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities because teachers carefully identify what they need.'*

## GOVERNORS

Kingswood Nursery School is managed and supported by a Governing Body consisting of local authority representatives and parent representatives. When a parent governor role becomes available you will be able to put your name forward and be elected by other parents. The Governors of Kingswood support us to ensure that the children, their enjoyment of learning, their safety, health and wellbeing are at the heart of all we do at Kingswood.

**Ofsted Inspection March 2017 states:** *'Governors regularly visit the school and are involved in evaluating its work and developing improvement plans. Governors ask probing questions on the progress that children make'.*

## PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT

At Kingswood we believe that you as parents are children's first and most enduring educators. By working together, the results have a positive impact on children's development and learning and we value the important and essential role you play in your child's education.

**Ofsted Inspection March 2017 states:** *'Parents spoke about how much they appreciate being able to come into school to see how activities are taught, learn how they can support their children's learning at home and share these approaches with their children'.*

100% of parents on Ofsted Parent View said they would recommend the school.

*'My child has such a thirst for learning. The staff are friendly and approachable. They show a clear dedication to enhancing children's learning'.*

### Parents and carers

#### Will know that:

- their child will be safe
- their child will be cared for
- their child will be known as an individual
- every member of staff is committed to the wellbeing and progress of their child
- their queries and concerns will be listened to and acted upon



#### Practitioners will know that:

- parents trust us to do the best for their child
- parents will work in partnership to achieve best outcomes for their child
- parents are committed to being involved in all aspects of their child's experiences

**Parents are always welcome and encouraged to become involved in all that we do. We have regular open-sessions for parents to come into school and see the curriculum in action and parent workshops give you an opportunity to learn about ways you can support your child at home with their learning.**

#### **PLEASE REMEMBER:**

- **Always** close, bolt and latch the main gates when entering and leaving.
- **Park considerately** – not on the yellow lines outside the Nursery or blocking a neighbour's drive. This is for the safety of your children – please be warned that traffic wardens do patrol the area and issue penalties! Please be considerate to our neighbours and help us maintain good relationships with them.
- **On arrival** take your child to the cloakroom area and assist them with their coat and belongings. Return to class and find their first 'Busy Fingers' activity! You are welcome to spend a few minutes starting them off at this first activity and then when you feel your child is happy and settled say your goodbyes!
- **Please ensure** you arrive promptly at home time! Your child **hates** to be the last one collected from school!
- **Do not send** anyone under the age of 16 to collect your child, as we do not consider it safe.
- **Let staff know** at the start of your child's session if someone different is to collect your child.  
We will not allow your child to go home with someone different unless we have been notified in advance. In an emergency telephone the school office (01923 672531) for Nursery or the Pre-School room (01923 679500) and we will use a password system for collection.
- **Always let us know** if you change your contact number!
- **Do not use your mobile phone or smoke** on the school site.

**Ofsted Inspection March 2017 states:** *'Children make outstanding progress in their behaviour because of the excellent way staff model positive behaviour in front of the children'*.



**We hope that this handbook has given you some general information about Kingswood Nursery School and has answered some of the questions you may have. We aim to provide a setting where the children feel happy, secure and confident and where they will be helped to reach their full potential. Working in partnership with you will enable this to happen!**