



## Avoncroft Pre-School Nursery

### June 2024

We are now taking bookings for the school year commencing September 2024. Please let us know asap what sessions you require. We have limited spaces available. Confirmation emails were sent out over the Easter holidays.

### Donations

We are looking for the following donations for the garden party.

1. Raffle prizes
2. Bottles for the tombola
3. Toys
4. Surprise in a jar what your child might want to win (Get an empty jar and fill, previous years have been, sweets, cotton wool, balloons).

Any donations will be appreciated.

### Term Dates

#### Summer Term 2024 (14 Week Term)

Friday 19th July  
Thursday 18th July

End of Summer Term  
Graduation

### EYPP – Early Years Pupil Premium

This term we will be putting the money towards Leap Frog sports coming on Thursday mornings. The sessions will give an opportunity for the children to learn a different sport each week. This allows the children to explore different sports in a positive way. It provides an opportunity for your child to burn off energy in a positive and pressure-free environment. They will develop fundamental movement skills (balance, agility and co-ordination). The children will also gain experience developing their independence and self-care by getting changed for the P.E. sessions. In Early Years teaching children about their body/physical activity is important as it allows the children to develop confidence and an appreciation for their bodies. Learning about the body is also super important because it helps them to identify what their needs are. It also provides children with the vocabulary they need to communicate these needs. Physical activities support this by developing the children's cognitive skills creating healthy brain development from an early age.



## Avoncroft Pre-School Nursery

### Funding

If you qualify for 2 year old 15 hour or 3 year old 30 hour funding please ensure you keep your code valid / updated, Worcestershire County Council will only guarantee funding if the code is valid prior to the start of the term that you attend so being validated as current for the term.

Funding forms will be given out for September. 3 year old children automatically get 15 hours funding. To see if you qualify for 2 year old 15 hours funding or 3 year old 30 hour funding apply for your code on:

<https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/> .

### Planning

During the Summer Term we will be focusing on different cultures/ festivals, minibeasts, living and growing, life cycles and transitions to school. The first 2 weeks we will be focussing on transition, helping the new children to settle into nursery, building relationships and strong links. We will also be introducing 2 songs, letter sound and book of the week across the term. This will support the children's language development in a fun way.

	Letter of the Week	Book of the Week
Week 8	b	Gingerbread Man
Week 9	j	Harper's Surprise
Week 10	z	Spinderella
Week 11	w	What the Ladybird Heard
Week 12	v	Shark in the Dark
Week 13	y	The Rainbow Fish
Week 14	x	Pig in the Pond

At home to support your child's language development, you can read the books at home as well. Explore the characters with the children i.e. "what they look like?", encourage them to retell the story on their own or join in with the repeated refrains. This will support the children's love of books. If you would like to borrow one of the books of the week please ask on the door.

At nursery we love stories and exploring them with the children. We have set up a book swap in the porch at nursery. This will give the children the opportunity to share books they love with their friends and try new ones. Reading stories with children is very important. They help develop listening and communication skills, improve concentration, memory, help sequence events, key literacy skills, early language development and bring experiences alive by creating a sense of wonder!



## Avoncroft Pre-School Nursery

### **Why Living and Growing?**

Children, interacting with nature brings great benefits. Nature offers rich stimuli and the chance to be inquisitive, exploratory, adventurous, innovative and messy. Adults who value and enjoy nature themselves enable children to make best use of nature by following child-led learning. It provides opportunities to enhance their capacities for such areas as thinking, transferring and applying skills and problem-solving, channelling feelings and emotions and developing a “can do” attitude. The use of plants can create sheltered calmer places for stimulating different kinds of play alongside experiences of growing plants, and hands-on experiences of wildlife, awe and wonder. Growing is an area of great fascination for children and offers much experience of “learning by doing” alongside physical activity, collaboration, talk, healthy eating and the foundation of lifelong positive attitudes.

Young children are very curious to learn about the environment that surrounds them, and being in the garden provides the opportunity to explore different smells, senses and tastes. It also shows them how to care for our planet. Growing food helps young children understand what good food is, how it grows, and that it tastes delicious. It creates a sense of community from working together.

### **Why Cultures/Festivals?**

All children are individuals. They come with a range of past experiences based on their own personal experiences. Cultural background gives the children a sense of who they are. Teaching children in Early Years different cultures allows them to explore similarities and differences to others and how to value everyone/ be respectful of others in the community.

### **Why Minibeasts?**

Learning about minibeasts can play a big role in children’s understanding of the world. Understanding the World provides powerful, meaningful context to children’s learning and development. This understanding enables children to make sense of their expanding world and their place within it through nurturing their wonder, curiosity, agency and exploratory drive. Teaching children about insects and allowing them to see them up close will encourage them to make new discoveries and observations, and learn new concepts such as *Why does this insect look like this? Why does it need so many legs? What does it eat?* Learning about minibeasts at a young age is a great opportunity for children to understand and respect the natural world. They learn how to be gentle and kind to all living creatures and the best way to do this is by seeing minibeasts first-hand by getting outside!



## Avoncroft Pre-School Nursery

### Why Transition to School?

In Early Childhood the transition from nursery to primary school is a significant milestone in a child's life. Getting transition right is of the utmost importance for children to develop both emotionally and academically. Children need to feel happy, settled and secure to learn. Children greatly benefit from well-supported transitions. These moments enable them to develop essential life skills, such as self-regulation, independence, and resilience. Amongst the many skills children will develop, navigating transitions encourages them to adapt to change, follow routines, and develop a sense of time management – all of which are crucial for their overall development and future success.

Our nursery long term planning is available on our website. This shows roughly what the children will be learning over the year across the 7 areas of the EYFS. This is only a rough plan as it maybe adapted to allow for the children's interests to flow through the progression.

### Home Link

The children are welcome to bring a toy from home for show and tell. **If you do not want to bring the toy in, you could also send a photo on Tapestry! Rising Stars children are to bring their homework/ letter sound books on Tuesday's and Thursday's so they can explore these with their keyworker.**

### Home Learning – Minibeasts

To help support the children's knowledge of minibeasts, you can:

- Label different insects.
- Talk about what the insects look like? What are they doing? Where they live?
- Build a bug house.
- Go on a bug hunt.

### Home Learning – Living and Growing

To help support the children's knowledge of living and growing you can:

- Talk about where healthy food grows i.e. underground, bush, vine, tree etc.
- Do some planting. You can plant flowers, bulbs, seeds, vegetables or fruit.
- Talk to the children about composting, recycling and reusing.
- Go on a nature walk to see what wildlife, flowers, trees, insects etc.



## Avoncroft Pre-School Nursery

### Home Learning – Transition to School

To help support the children's transition to school you can:

- Take your child for a tour of the school.
- Attend the settling in sessions at school.
- Attend the parent information sessions.
- Ask the school any questions you have.
- Teachers may visit the children at home to develop relationships prior to settling in sessions.
- Show the children a picture of their teacher and say their name.

### Home Learning – Cultural Events

To help support the children's knowledge of different cultures and festivals you can:

- Dress in cultural clothes.
- Join in with local celebrations.
- Listen to cultural songs or nursery rhymes.

Easter: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zs8jyWcnCPc> (4.2 mins)

### Home Learning – Letter Sounds

To support the children's learning of letter sounds you could:

- Go on a letter sound treasure hunt in the house/ garden and see how many objects they can find.
- Go on a walk and see how many things they can find of that letter sound.
- Play letter sound 'eye spy' i.e. "I spy with my little eye something beginning with a". Make sure you are saying the phonics sound not the letter itself.

### Tapestry

Tapestry is our online learning journal that allows us to send the parents observations of what they have done at nursery home, and also for you to send photos from home. Last term we were blown away by the number of photo's and achievements sent to us via Tapestry. We would love to continue this. If you go to a special event, any home learning activities, days out and WOW moments or even if the children want to show us something from home, please do not hesitate to send it via Tapestry. The children enjoy showing these photos during show and tell. How to upload photos or videos to Tapestry:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=espJ96TJHV8>. You will receive at least 1 observation a week unless your child is off sick or on holiday. When you receive an observation it will say the areas of development it links too such as: physical development etc.



## Avoncroft Pre-School Nursery

### **Wow Board**

At nursery we have a 'WOW' board. It contains stars with achievements the children have met at nursery. The children themselves with their keyworker add their own stars to the board. The board also contains photo's of achievements from outside nursery. When your child achieves something i.e. a certificate for dance, using the toilet for the first time, learning a new song etc, please can you send us a photo on Tapestry or email so the children can add it to the board. A 'WOW' board is important as it shows the strong links between parent and nursery. It helps the children become more positive, helps them grow in confidence, feel valued and raises their self-esteem.

### **Post Covid -19 Recovery Plan by Speech and Language**

We are pleased to say we have completed the Post Covid-19 Recovery Plan by Speech and Language. Although we have completed this all the staff have signed up to the termly speech champion training. This term's training is on Supporting Social Communication and Transition to School.

### **Garden Renovation**

This term, we have updated our craft and book areas. These areas help support the children's early reading and writing skills. Early writing skills are the first steps before children learn to write. The children begin creating drawings and symbolic marks that represent their ideas and thinking. It develops their understanding that writing is a form of communication and that marks they make can convey how they are feeling. Craft activities, engages children's sense of touch, sight, sound and helps develop fine motor skills and hand-eye coordination. It also encourages the children to explore their creativity, imagination, and self-expression, which can boost their confidence and emotional well-being. Early reading skills ignites creativity, sparks curiosity, and stimulates the imagination in young children. When children learn to read at an early age, they have greater general knowledge, a wider range of vocabulary, they are more fluent readers, and they have improved attention spans and better concentration.

We are currently expanding our outdoor music area. We are hoping to create a music tube area to support the children's learning of rhythm, rhyme and beats whilst expanding on their imagination skills creating their own music.



## Avoncroft Pre-School Nursery

### Oral Health

Keeping your children's teeth healthy will help them to maintain clean and healthy teeth and gums and develop good oral hygiene habits they will need throughout the rest of their lives.

Worcestershire Oral Health have a Facebook page and a Twitter account and post on both regularly with tips and news: <https://www.facebook.com/HWHCTSmileSquad/>

Below are links to apps and songs which can support you and your children with toothbrushing:

<https://www.brushdj.com/> An app to make toothbrushing fun!

<https://www.e-lfh.org.uk/townscape-oral-health/> Learn about oral health and how you can support children and families

<https://youtu.be/u3vdGjj89k8> Hey Duggee toothbrushing song (Cbeebies)

### E-Safety

As a setting we teach children about internet safety by making them aware of what safe use of technology looks like. We choose educational apps that help them to develop their skills. We have an e-safety policy which we follow at nursery. Below are a few links and video's on online safety and how you can support/protect them at home.

[Teaching Your Child about Internet & Online Safety | NSPCC](#)

[Pre-school \(0-5\) online safety tips and advice | Internet Matters](#)

<https://youtu.be/O3OF-NWDzGo> - E-Safety video for parents

<https://youtu.be/lqRSaRQqPt0?list=PLJSbhHkqYnrSxHUttYbDAzh4ysG-UC9Dr> - Good habits for children with technology and online safety

[Early years online safety video guides | Internet Matters](#) online safety videos

### Operation Encompass

We are pleased to say that we are an Operation Encompass nursery. Operation Encompass is a national scheme that operates jointly between Early Years Settings, schools and Police forces. It means that as a nursery we will be notified when a child has experienced domestic abuse (seeing or hearing), prior to them arriving at nursery. All staff members have been trained but the designated key adult is Heather (Designated Safeguarding Lead), with back up of Natasha (Deputy Safeguarding Lead) when Heather is not available. We believe being a part of this scheme as a nursery will provide the best support to all our children and will be extremely beneficial for all those involved.



## Avoncroft Pre-School Nursery

### Early Help

At Avoncroft Pre-School Nursery we recognise the challenges that families face in bringing up children. There may be times when you need extra help and support.

Early help is a way of getting extra support when you or your family needs it, but getting it as soon as the difficulties start, rather than waiting until things get worse. Help can come from all kinds of services and organisations who work together to support your family. You might be using some of these services already, but we want to make sure they are providing the right support for you and your family's needs.

It could be that you're worried about your child's health, development or behaviour, or perhaps because you are caring for a disabled child. Maybe your child is affected by domestic abuse, drugs or alcohol. Maybe you have had a bereavement in the family or someone close to your child is ill, or there has been a disruption to your family life and you are worried about the effect on them.

It could be that you yourself find times difficult and need advice with housing, debt, relationships or mental health issues.

If this is the case, please come talk to us. There are many ways our nursery can help and support you and your family.

### Useful Links

[NSPCC - Keeping Children Safe](#)

[Domestic Abuse Support](#)

[Childline](#)

[Harmony At Home](#)

[ERIC- Toileting Advice](#)

[Starting Well Partnership](#)

[Child Tax Credit and Childcare Funding](#)

[Early Help Family Support](#)

[Alcohol / Drugs abuse](#)

[Emotional Health and Wellbeing](#)

[Mental Health support](#)

[Help To Buy Food and Milk \(Healthy Start\)](#)

[Parent Club Guide To Screen Time](#)

[Top Tips For Weaning Children Off Dummies](#)

[Advice For Bilingual Children](#)

[Tiny Happy People. Activity Inspiration For All](#)





## Avoncroft Pre-School Nursery

### Events

**Garden Party – Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 12-3.** This is our annual 2024 fundraiser for the children, it provides resources and special activities. It's a time when parents and children get together, bring picnic blankets and join in with the fun.

We charge £6 per family to include a bouncy castle, outdoor activities, a treasure hunt and a craft making session (these activities are more suitable for younger children).

Other activities include the BBQ (available from 12) where you can purchase hot dogs, and burgers, refreshments, including cakes and cold drinks, match the card on the jar, name the animal, bottle tombola, toys and books.

Tickets are available now.

### **Graduation – Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> July**

Parents of younger children attending a Thursday will be asked to collect their children at 2 '0' clock. We would also ask the parents of children graduating arrive at 2.25 to start the ceremony. Any rising stars children who do not usually attend a Thursday are welcome to join from 12.00 for a leavers party.

**Although graduation is on Thursday, we are still open on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July. The older children are still welcome to attend as usual on the Friday however it is up to the parents as sometimes it confuses them due to them having already had their leaving party/ presents.**