



Avoncroft Pre-School Nursery

February 2025

We would like to give a special welcome to our new child (Heidi).

We are now taking bookings for the school year commencing September 2025. Please let us know asap what sessions you require. We have limited spaces available. Confirmation emails will be sent out over the Easter holidays.

Term Dates

<u>Spring Term 2025</u> (11 Week Term) <u>Summer Term 2025</u> (2 Week Term)	
Friday 11 th April	End of Term

EYPP – Early Years Pupil Premium

Last term we put money towards Pyjama Drama coming on Tuesday mornings. The sessions encouraged the children to pretend, play and explore real and imaginary worlds by harnessing the power of their imagination. Through games, singing, dancing and imaginative adventures the children developed key skills such as; communication, co-operation, concentration, confidence and imagination. We also brought in Animal Mania to visit nursery. The children got the meet, hold and stroke different types of animals. They learnt new vocabulary, information about where the animals live and how to care for the different animals. We upgraded our Hudl at nursery to improve communication between the setting and parents using Tapestry. We bought resources to upgrade our outside facilities such as crates and balance logs. These will allow the children to take risks in their play, develop their concentration skills, gross motor skills, understand their own body limits, develop their own body awareness and improve their self-esteem when they achieve their goal of crossing the logs or crates.

This term we will be putting the money towards Pyjama Drama coming on Tuesday mornings. The sessions will encourage the children to pretend, play and explore real and imaginary worlds by harnessing the power of their imagination. Through games, singing, dancing and imaginative adventures the children develop key skills such as; communication, co-operation, concentration, confidence and imagination. We will be putting the money towards Yoga/ Pilates coming on Thursday afternoon. The sessions will build confidence and self-esteem, because children learn from playing and experimenting. It allows children to scaffold their physical and mental development stage by stage. It strengthens the children bodies improving their core body strength. As they progress in their physical and mental development yoga helps the children grow in confidence and self-esteem. We will be creating a giant bug house outside with the children. By creating a giant bug house, the children will get to learn about different insects and the essential role they play in creating a healthy eco-system. It will also give a chance to the children to deepen their connection with nature.



Avoncroft Pre-School Nursery

Funding

Working parents who qualify for 2 year old 15 hours and/ 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. For parents applying for the code for the Summer Term the code needs to have been given before 31st March. Please check if you qualify and apply for your code on: <https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/>. Please ask Heather for further information.

Planning

During the Spring Term we will be focusing on different cultures/ festivals, oral health, occupations and our body/ physical activity. 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 7	c/k	Squash And A Squeeze
Week 8	e	Brown Bear, Brown Bear
Week 9	h	Mad About Dinosaurs
Week 10	r	Room On A Broom
Week 11	m	The Snail and the Whale
Week 12	d	3 Little Pigs
Week 13	g	Whatever's Next

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.

Why 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. We will be supporting this by teaching children this term about healthy foods, show the children how to brush their teeth using a giant model/ toothbrush and in January a dentist will visit nursery to talk to the children as well.

Why Cultures/Festivals?



Avoncroft Pre-School Nursery

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 Occupations?

In Early Childhood it is important for children to make connections with their local environment as they can last a lifetime. In the Early Years we build connections and values in children that they can take throughout their lives and become community- minded and responsible adults. It is important for the children to understand the people in the community who support us and how to get help in case of an emergency.

Why Our Body/ Physical Activity?

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 supports this by developing the children cognitive skills creating healthy brain development from an early age.

A copy of our nursery long term planning will be sent to you shortly. 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 - Occupations

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

- Label different occupations.
- Talk about what people do in different occupations.
- Take the children to community events to meet people who help us.



Avoncroft Pre-School Nursery

Home Learning – Oral Health

To help support the children's knowledge of oral health you can:

- Talk about healthy foods.
- Talk about how to brush your teeth.
- Make oral health fun by counting or using songs.

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/u3vdGij89k8> Hey Duggee toothbrushing song (Cbeebies)

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/>

Home Learning – Our Body

To help support the children's knowledge their body you can:

- Name the parts of the body.
- Play eye spy with body parts i.e "I spy something you use to smell something".
- During physical activities talk about how you are feeling/ what you need i.e. "I'm tired, I need to rest" or "I'm thirsty I need a drink".

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.

Holi: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V3Ew2ctrWmc>

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

World Book Day: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PBcl2ej0zig>

St David's Day: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ilzxx2BAmSU>

St Patricks Day: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C3PKRxke0sc>



Avoncroft Pre-School Nursery

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.

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.

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](#)



Avoncroft Pre-School Nursery

[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.

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.



Avoncroft Pre-School Nursery

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](#)

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

[Alcohol / Drugs abuse](#)
[Emotional Health and Wellbeing](#)
[Mental Health support](#)

[Parent Club Guide To Screen Time](#)

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

[Advice For Bilingual Children or Children](#)
[Learning More Than One Language](#)

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

Easter Raffle

We will be holding an Easter Raffle to be drawn at our annual Easter Egg Hunt. Tickets available £1 a ticket. Proceeds towards summer activities for the children.

Easter Raffle donations welcome.

Events

World Book Day – Thursday 6th March. All children who attend a Thursday can come in a costume relating to their favourite story book. The children can bring their book to show their friends and the adult can read some of them too!

Easter Egg Hunt – Thursday 24th April 10-12. A family fun day out for just £2 per child. Follow the trail around Avoncroft Pre-School Nursery grounds, to find the elusive clues to retrieve your egg prize.

Please contact us by phone 07749477553, email or on Facebook to reserve your ticket.

Brookfield Photography – Tuesday 1st April and Wednesday 2nd April. Group and single photographs have been booked on the Tuesday for the Rising Stars children and Wednesday for the children not going to school. Children who do not usually attend can drop in if they would like to take part.

Yoga/ Pilates – Kathryn from KSCIM will be visiting on Thursday afternoons. Please read EYPP section for more information.



Avoncroft Pre-School Nursery

Pyjama Drama – Lydia will be visiting on Tuesday mornings. Please read EYPP section for more information.

Dentist Visit – A Dentist will be visiting the nursery to teach the children through fun activities how to take care of their teeth.

Early Years Sports Fund 2025 – On 3rd April there will be a special sports visit. It will be a chance for the children to be inspired to be fitter, healthier, and happier. The programme is designed to tackle childhood obesity by introducing young children to the joys of movement and healthy habits, all in a safe and fun environment.