



## Avoncroft Pre-School Nursery

February 2026

**We are now taking bookings for the school year commencing September 2026. Please let us know asap what sessions you require. We have limited spaces available. Confirmation emails will be sent out over the Easter holidays.**

We would like to give a special welcome to all our new children (Alfie, August, Florence and Joshua).

### Term Dates

**Spring Term 2026** (11 Week Term)

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March

End of Spring Term

### EYPP – Early Years Pupil Premium

Last term we 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 had extra staffing in to support the children settle into nursery and form positive attachments. We paid for a child's extra activities so they could join in with all the activities they wouldn't ordinarily afford to participate in. We also purchased sustainable wooden construction vehicles based on the children's interests to support the children holistic development through open ended play.

This term we have continued to pay for a child's extra activities so they could join in with all the activities they wouldn't ordinarily afford to participate in. A staff member has taken part in speech and language therapy with her keyworker child supporting his speech targets in a fun way. We have also purchased lots of new role play equipment. The children have a doctors area, vet area and hairdressers/barbers/beauty area which will be out throughout the term. Role play is crucial for child development because it fosters creativity, builds empathy, strengthens language skills, and enhances cognitive problem-solving abilities. By acting out different scenarios, children navigate social situations, express emotions, and learn to understand perspectives different from their own, which promotes emotional intelligence and confidence.

### Funding

Please be aware that as of April, we will be increasing our private fees. The increase is in line with the new government charges. We charge £5.68 per hour for a 3 year old (term after they turn 3) or £7.67 per hour for a 2 year old. All other optional extras remain the same.



## Avoncroft Pre-School Nursery

### 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

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!

### 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?

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.



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### 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 can be found on the 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 - 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.



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### 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=llzxz2BAmSU>

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



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### 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.

### Sally Leaving

It is with great sadness, that we have to say goodbye to Sally at Easter. She has been a valued member of our team for the last 3 years. We wish her all the best with all her future plans and we look forward to seeing her when she drops by. Sally's keyworker children will be looked after by their back up keyworker. We will let you know who these are. If you have any concerns, please let us know.

#### Message from Sally

I have been at Avoncroft Pre-School Nursery for the past 3 years and I have enjoyed my time immensely and will be very sorry to leave. We have been a very strong team and work very well together to make a wonderful environment for the children to be safe and sound, and enhance their learning bringing each and every one on all being ready for their next step for school. I am leaving due to family reasons, my eldest son and his partner are expecting their first child and we are moving closer to them, with my youngest moving to New York with work. It is a big year for me with change. I would like to wish each and every one of you, all the very best for the future and I will truly miss you all.

### 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 photos 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.



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### 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.

### Maths Champion

Our nursery has successfully been accepted to participate in the Maths Champion Programme. Maths Champions is an online professional development programme with 12 months access. The aim of this innovative programme is to improve children's maths outcomes by providing access to a range of bespoke online training, evaluative tools and resources which can all be used to develop the knowledge, skills and confidence of practitioners working at the setting. The Maths Champion is Natasha and the Deputy Maths Champion is Heather.

### Nutrition In Early Years

EYFS Nutrition Guidance April 2025 - Good nutrition in the early years is crucial for setting the foundations for a lifetime of good health. From September 2025, settings should have read the nutrition guidance and come up with a setting approach. Our whole setting approach to food and healthy eating is available on our website.

### Sustainability

The sustainability and climate change strategy for education states: "By 2025, all education settings will have nominated a sustainability lead and put in place a climate action plan". Research has highlighted that settings have the greatest success in driving change where there is a holistic action plan that is supported by a leadership team with the authority, knowledge, and commitment to take it forward. Our Climate Change Ambassador is Tomomi. Our action plan is available on our website.

### Severn Arts

[Severn Arts](#) is a charitable arts company formed in 2018, committed to offering new, inclusive arts activities that focus on widening access to the arts for all, with a particular emphasis on children and young people. They have over 25 different instruments to choose from and around 7,000 instruments, which are available to rent. Parents/carers can apply directly to Severn Arts – free instrument hire is available for those who meet the criteria: [Free instrument hire | Severn Arts](#)



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### 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.

### 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.



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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](#)

[Alcohol / Drugs abuse](#)

[Emotional Health and Wellbeing](#)

[Mental Health support](#)

[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 \(Healthy Start\)](#)

[Free Instrument Hire](#)

[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](#)

[Starting Reception](#)

[BBC One - Panorama, The Truth about Baby Food Pouches](#)

[Information for parents](#)

[Better Health - Start for Life](#)

[Feeding, weaning, and healthy eating |](#)

[Worcestershire County Council](#)

[Best Start Worcestershire](#)

[Preparing Food Safely](#)

[EYFS Nutrition Guidance April 2025](#)

[Eatwell Guide](#)

[Early Years Food Chocking Hazards](#)

[How To Resuscitate A Child](#)

[Appropriate Food Preparation - Weaning](#)

### 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.



## Avoncroft Pre-School Nursery

### Events

**World Book Day – Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March.** The children can dress up as their favourite book character and bring their favourite book to read. If any parents would like to come in and read the children a book throughout the day, that would be amazing.

**Easter Egg Hunt – Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March 10-11.** 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 21<sup>st</sup> April and Friday 24<sup>th</sup> April 9-10.** Group and single photographs have been booked on the Tuesday for the Rising Stars children and Friday for the children not going to school. Children who do not usually attend can drop in if they would like to take part. Sibling/family photos can be done on request.

**Garden Party – Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> June 11.30-2.** Donations and help on the day welcome nearer the time. This is our annual 2026 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 11.30) 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.

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

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

**P.E –** Kathryn from KCSIM will be visiting on Thursday afternoons after the Easter holidays. The children will get to learn a new sport every week. The rising stars children will need a P.E kit to change into. The children not going to school 2026 will need to wear suitable shoes but **do not** need a change of clothes.

If there are any other activities you feel your child might enjoy, please let us know.