



Avoncroft Pre-School Nursery

September 2025

We would like to give a special welcome to all our new children (Alfie, Archie, Austin, Elliott, Elsie, Finley, Harper, Isabelle, Klay, Mabel).

It was lovely meeting the new children and their families on Tuesday 29th July, Wednesday 13th August and Thursday 28th August for the stay and play sessions. It was also great to see some of our current children as well at the stay and play sessions.

Term Dates

Autumn Term 2024 (14 week Term)

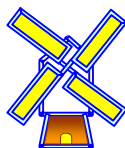
Monday 1st September	Term Starts
Monday 27th October - Friday 31 st October (inclusive)	Half-term
Friday 12th December	End of Autumn Term Christmas Party

Invoices

Invoices have been sent our prior to the start of term. This was to provide you time to set up payment schedules, review your bill, set up voucher schemes etc. This year you can pay online or by childcare vouchers. Please let us know how you will be paying. The invoices show the total fees for the term and how much to pay every month. Payment information will be sent out with the invoice. A late payment fee of £20 will be added if fees are not paid on time.

Attendance

Whilst attendance at an early years setting is not mandatory, regular poor attendance may be a sign of safeguarding and welfare concerns that should be followed up. It is a legal requirement for us to monitor the absences from nursery. We ask if your child is going to be off nursery, to please inform us by text or phone call within an hour of when your child is due to arrive. If we have not heard from you, the manager will call to ask why your child is away. If children are going to be absent due to holidays, we ask that you complete a holiday form.



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Planning

During the Autumn Term we will be focusing on different cultures/ festivals, healthy foods and emotions. 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 and book of the week across the term. This will support the children's language development in a fun way.

	Book of the Week
Week 1	Sharing A Shell
Week 2	Peppa Loves Our Planet
Week 3	The Very Hungry Caterpillar
Week 4	The Colour Monster
Week 5	Billy Goats Gruff
Week 6	Worrysaurus
Week 7	Squirrels Who Squabbled
Week 8	Winnie's Amazing Pumpkin
Week 9	Fire Engine Is Flashing
Week 10	Goldilocks
Week 11	Giraffe's Can't Dance
Week 12	Koala Who Could
Week 13	Pip And The Bag Of Buddies
Week 14	Not So Perfect Penguin

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 Emotions?

Early Years children feel a range of emotions, but often cannot express, interpret or process them. Research shows that children with poor emotional skills, it could be harder for the children to learn. Behaviour can be an expression of their feeling and emotions.



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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 Healthy Foods?

In Early Childhood good nutrition is essential as it is a time of rapid growth, development and activity. This is a vital time for healthy tooth development and prevention of decay. General eating habits, likes and dislikes are formed in the first few years of life. Children need to develop an understanding of their own likes and dislikes of food and how different foods affect their body. The children will then be able to make healthy choices which will result in them having a healthy body and mind.

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!**

Home Learning - Emotions

To help support the children understand their emotions, you can:

- Label the children's emotions when at home. "I understand you are feeling _____".
- Ask them "how are you feeling?"
- "Why do you that way?"
- Show pictures of emotions.
- Listen to what the child says.
- Look at their body language, actions, sounds or words used.



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Home Learning – Healthy Foods

To help support the children's knowledge of healthy foods you can:

- Go to the supermarket, corner shop, farm shop. How many vegetables can the children spot or name.
- Go to the supermarket, corner shop, farm shop. How many different fruits can the children spot or name.
- Fruit or vegetable tasting activity.
- Do you have a vegetable patch or fruit trees? Can the children spot where the fruit and vegetables grow?
- Do a cooking activity with the children using the fruit or vegetables such as; apple crumble, carrot cake etc.

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.

'Peppa Pig' Halloween rhymes: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VUnnc2GSLVw>

- Read 'Peppa Pig' or other festival stories.

Diwali: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z-ecsnFZ4ZI>

- Food tasting activity.
- Watch 'Peppa Pig' festival episodes.

Halloween: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vfMTu_b_xY (4 minutes 11 seconds)

Christmas: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EXxlW9cW-c4> (9 minutes 55 seconds)

Christmas: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vb2eRVeNyPk> (Has lots of different episodes).

Bonfire Night: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z6gPFp3jNcw> (3 minutes 17 seconds)

Remembrance Day Animation: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pv_ub7Be7oA



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Tapestry

Every child has a Tapestry account. For all the new children, these will be created before the 1st September once we have met all the new starters at the stay and plays and all the registration forms have been returned. The parents will then receive an email on how to activate their account. **If you have not received this email, please let us know asap! Please note if we have not received the registration forms we cannot email you an activation code.**

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, next steps 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's 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.

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.



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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](#)

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)



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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.

Outdoor Renovation

Over the summer we have improved the outdoor area. We would like to give a massive thankyou to Wren's family for the new hedgehog house and Scarlett's family who helped replace the outdoor classroom roof. The makeover includes; more loose parts and extra shelters so the children can spend more time outside in all areas.

Loose Parts - Loose parts are materials that can be moved, carried, combined, redesigned, lined up, and taken apart and put back together in multiple ways. Loose Parts open the door to children's self-directed creative and imaginative play. They enhance children's ability to think imaginatively and see solutions and bring a sense of adventure and excitement to children's play.

Extra Shelters - This will provide essential weather protection from the wind, rain, and sun, allowing the children to spend more time outside all year around. Being outside is crucial for children's development, fostering physical health, mental well-being, and social skills through activities like exploring nature, engaging in physical activity, and building relationships.

Future Garden Renovations

Fairy Garden - Fairy gardens are important for children as they foster imagination, creativity, and a connection with nature, while also teaching them about plant care and developing their fine motor skills.

Bird Nesting Area/ Bird Feeders - Building and observing birdhouses with children fosters a love for nature, teaches about wildlife needs, and provides hands-on learning opportunities, while also promoting environmental awareness and a sense of responsibility for the natural world.

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.



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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](#)

[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](#)



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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/lqRSaRQgPt0?list=PLJSbhHkqYnrSxHUttYbDAzh4ysG-UC9Dr> - Good habits for children with technology and online safety

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

Events

Christmas Concert – Tuesday 2nd December/ Wednesday 3rd December 2.00 – 2.45 in the main hall (to be confirmed). All children can participate.

Christmas Party – Friday 12th December 12 – 3.00 (Extra staffing is in place so all children have the option to attend. If you would like your child to participate, please book via email (the sessions fee will be applied, you may be able to claim government funding). If your child receives EYPP, the party is free of charge).

Animal Mania – Tuesday 30th September (afternoon). This is always a favourite for the children as they get to see, touch and hold various different species of animals (Extra staffing is in place so all children have the option to attend. If you would like your child to participate, please book via email (the sessions fee will be applied, you may be able to claim government funding). If your child receives EYPP, the party is free of charge). (date to be confirmed).

Pyjama Drama – Tuesdays. 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.

Yoga/ Pilates – KCSIM (Kathryn) will be coming every Thursday afternoon to teach the children some Yoga /Pilates. Yoga builds 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.



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French – Mondays. The sessions will develop the children's early language skills through fun experiences, stories, games, songs and dances. Engaging the children at this young age will create a curiosity and early love of learning foreign languages.

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