



# Welcome to Ashtree Primary School and Nursery

Supporting Smooth Transitions  
*For you and your child.*

Early Years  
Nursery and Reception

# We look forward to welcoming you and your child to our Early Years



## What do parents say about Ashtree Early Years?



“She comes home every afternoon beaming about her day”

“Her confidence has grown every day since being at Ashtree”

“She was made to feel so welcome in her new school”

“I am so pleased with her transition and seen a fantastic change in her attitude to learning”

“I honestly cannot tell you how pleased I am with the teachers”

“He loves to do work at home now, before we couldn't get him to pick up a pencil”

“It is so reassuring knowing your child is going to school every day confident and happy”

“She loves school and feels happy and safe when she is there”

“My child settled into school with so much ease, the enthusiasm and excitement is infectious”

“The teachers create a happy, caring and nurturing environment”

“We have had very positive experiences with the quality of teaching”

“The speed which my child has progressed has been amazing”

“I couldn't be happier with her first year”



# Meet our Senior Leadership Team



Headteacher



Mrs Janes

Deputy  
Headteacher



Ms Ruprai

Assistant  
Headteacher



Mr Yates

# Meet the Early Years Team



## Teachers



Miss Sinnott



Mrs Compton

## Early Years Practitioners



Mrs Manak  
Mrs Graham  
Mrs Holtom

<https://ashtree.herts.sch.uk/about-us/staff/>

# Supporting individual needs



Our SENDco is:

Ms. Ruprai

Please contact the school office on 01438 351090  
if you feel you need to speak to the SEND team.

# Getting to know you and your child



## We will do this through:

- ✓ Meet and Greet sessions
- ✓ Information gathered from you and your child's previous setting
- ✓ Transition for each child carefully planned with you and the Early Years staff
- ✓ Opportunities to ask questions and share concerns

# What will my child be learning?



Prime Areas of Learning	Specific Areas of Learning
Personal, Social and Emotional	Literacy
Communication and Language	Mathematics
Physical Development	Understanding the World
	Expressive Arts and Design

Please click the link below 'What to Expect and When' for further information:  
<https://foundationyears.org.uk/files/2021/09/What-to-expect-in-the-EYFS-complete-FINAL-16.09-compressed.pdf>

# How will my child learn?

## Characteristics of Effective Learning



### Characteristics of Effective Learning

#### Playing and exploring – engagement

Finding out and exploring  
Playing with what they know  
Being willing to 'have a go'

#### Active learning – motivation

Being involved and concentrating  
Keeping trying  
Enjoying achieving what they set out to do

#### Creating and thinking critically – thinking

Having their own ideas  
Making links  
Choosing ways to do things

Children need to be engaged and motivated in order to learn and think critically.

Integrating the Characteristics of Effective Learning in our Early Years will enable our children to succeed.

# Where are the classroom doors?



The Nursery classroom door is on the left hand side.



The Reception classroom door is on the right hand side.

The classroom doors are at the front of the school next to the main office. This is where you will drop off and pick up the children each day. If your child is in Nursery, we recommend you wait in the shared garden area. If your child is in Reception, we recommend you stand outside the main office.

# Daily routines - Nursery



Time	<i>Morning Only Nursery</i>
8.45	Arrival and Physical Development Skills
	Registration and Calendar
	Brain Gym
9.15	Phase One Phonics and Listening Skills
10.00	Child Initiated Learning Session and Snack
11.10	Adult Led Learning Session and Story
11.45	Home Time

Time	<i>Afternoon Only Nursery</i>
12.30	Arrival, Physical Development Skills and Snack
	Registration and Calendar
	Brain Gym
1.00	Phase One Phonics and Listening Skills
1.30	Adult Led Learning Session
2.00	Child Initiated Learning Session
3.00	Story
3.30	Home Time

# Daily routines – 30 hours Nursery and Reception



Time	Session
8.45 Nursery 8.50 Reception	Arrival and Morning Work
	Registration and Calendar
	Brain Gym
9.30	Phonics
10.00	Child Initiated Learning Session and Snack
11.10	First Adult Led Learning Session
11.45	Lunch
1.00	Afternoon Registration and Listening Activities
1.30	Second Adult Led Learning Session
2.00	Child Initiated Learning Session
3.00	Story Time
3.20 Reception 3.30 Nursery	Home Time

# Nursery Additional Optional Charges



Session	Time	Lunch
Nursery AM only	Monday to Friday 8.45 – 11.45	Optional Lunch session: 11.45 – 12.30 £4.50 per lunch session
Nursery PM only	Monday to Friday 12.30 – 3.30	Your child is welcome to bring their own packed lunch but a cold school packed lunch is available for £2.45
Nursery 30 hours	Monday to Thursday 8.45 – 3.30  Friday 8.45 – 11.45  <u>The times above complete your child's 30 hours entitlement.</u>  If you wish your child to spend Friday 11.45 -3.30 in Ashtree Nursery, then each Friday afternoon session will cost an additional £22.50.	Your child is welcome to bring their own packed lunch, but a cold school packed lunch is available for £2.45

All payments need to be made to the school a minimum of a week in advance.

# What will my child need to bring to school in EYFS?



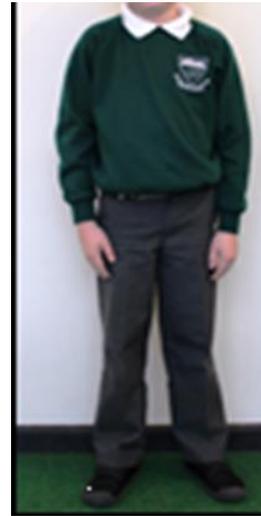
- ✓ A named book bag for every child, with reading record and reading book inside for Reception children once they have been issued in the Autumn term
- ✓ A named water bottle in school every day, even if your child is having milk.
- ✓ A named canvas bag with a spare change of clothes in case of any toilet accidents (If your child has a medical condition and is still in nappies please can you provide nappies, wipes and nappy sacks)
- ✓ The children need to come to school wearing their named PE kit (a white t-shirt and bottle green shorts/black joggers) on their PE day. **This day is to be confirmed.**
- ✓ Suitable outer clothing for the weather, e.g. sun hats in summer, welly boots in the rain and woolly hats in winter



# School Uniform



- Named bottle green sweatshirt or cardigan
- Named white shirt/polo shirt
- Named grey or black trousers/shorts/skirts
- Long hair tied back
- Grey, black, white socks or tights
- Black outdoor shoes – No laces
- Named Green summer dress



# School Uniform - PE



- Named white T-shirt (logo optional)
- Named bottle green shorts/black jogging bottoms
- Named bottle green school sweatshirt
- Trainers without laces
- Long hair tied back

All children in both Nursery and Reception are required to come to school wearing their PE uniform on their PE day.

We will let you know the PE days soon.



# School Uniform



- The following items with the school name and crest on are available from Smarty Schoolwear.

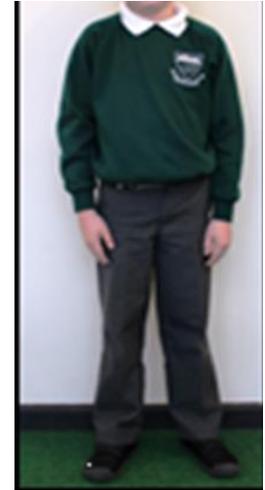
[www.smartyschoolwear.co.uk](http://www.smartyschoolwear.co.uk)

- Sweatshirts
- Cardigans
- Fleece jackets
- Winter and summer hats
- Book bags and PE bags
- T-shirts and polo shirts

- Items in school colours are available, without the school name or crest, from major high street shops.

- We would ask that **all** clothing worn to school is marked with your child's name, so that any items which are lost can easily be returned to them.

- Children should not wear any jewellery to school, however if it is required for religious observance or medical reasons please discuss this with the Headteacher.



# School Dinners, Milk and Snack!



## School Dinners

In Nursery should you wish your child to have a school packed lunch there will be a cost of £2.45 per lunch.

In Reception, every child is entitled to a free school dinner! The children can choose from a menu that will be shared with you.



## Milk

In Early Years, all children are able to have milk for free until the term they turn 5 years old.



## Snack

In Early Years every child is entitled to a free piece of fruit each day!



# EYFS Merits and Challenge Stars!



## Merits

In EYFS we operate a merit reward system. The children collect 10 merits on a rocket to earn a badge. The badges move through the colours of the rainbow.



## Challenge Stars

In EYFS we actively encourage the children to challenge themselves. The children can collect challenge stamps on their own individual star.



# We support learning at home in a variety of different ways



## Look out for:

- Parent/Carer consultation meetings
- Home learning activities
- Parent/Carer workshops (for example, how to support early reading)
- Information and tips in newsletters, on social media and the school website
- Stay and Play sessions

# EYFS - How can you support your child at home?



## Homework

In EYFS every child will receive homework once a week. This will alternate between the 'Whole School Homework' and an activity matched to their class based learning.

Homework is to be returned the following week.

## Home Reading

In *Nursery* every child will be able to choose a library book once a week to take home for you to read to them.

In *Reception* every child will receive a home reading book to be kept in their school book bag. This book will be changed weekly on their reading day. It is absolutely vital you read with your child for a minimum of 4 times per week. Please sign their reading record each time you read.



# Breakfast Club



We are a friendly, relaxed club with many activities for the children.

We are open daily from 7.55am and children should arrive no later than 8.15am.

The entrance is via the Junior Dining Room (same entrance as used for the School Discos).

The cost for each child is £3.75 per day.

If you have more than one sibling attending the cost will be £3.25 per child, per day.

The Breakfast Club can be used on a regular basis, once a week or on a single occasion; however you must phone ahead to book a place as it is very popular and some sessions may be full.

We are always here to welcome the children during term time. We have a variety of breakfast cereals or toast followed by fruit and yoghurt. For drinks we serve milk, milkshakes or squash. We have occasional theme days, i.e.. Pancake day, hot cross buns at Easter, strawberries and cream during Wimbledon fortnight, etc.

At 8.45am we walk the Nursery children to their classrooms.

07583 615465 (Breakfast Club mobile phone) Mrs Marlor

01438 351090 (School Office)

# Friends of Ashtree



- The FOA develops close co-operation between parents and the school, and provides much-needed finance to enrich the educational environment for the children.
- Many items of equipment have been purchased with money raised over the years by the FOA, including playground equipment and a whole new reading scheme.
- The FOA promotes activities such as Family Discos, Quiz Nights, Mothers' and Fathers' Day Sales and a Christmas Fair, and is affiliated to the National Confederation of Parent Teacher Associations.
- Meetings of the Friends of Ashtree PTA and Fundraising Committee are held regularly, and the dates will be found in the weekly newsletter issued by the school. An Annual General Meeting is held once a year, usually in September.

**For information about joining the FOA contact the school office.**  
**HOPE TO SEE YOU SOON!!!**



# How we communicate with you

Communication is so important. It plays a huge role in ensuring that you are regularly sharing information with us to best support your child.

We do this by...

- Daily chats at drop off and pick up time
- Parent consultation meetings
- Stay and Play sessions
- Newsletters
- Social Media – Facebook, Twitter
- Email [newnurseryparents@ashtree.herts.sch.uk](mailto:newnurseryparents@ashtree.herts.sch.uk) OR [newreceptionparents@ashtree.herts.sch.uk](mailto:newreceptionparents@ashtree.herts.sch.uk)
- School Website [www.ashtree.herts.sch.uk](http://www.ashtree.herts.sch.uk)



# Keeping children safe is everyone's responsibility



- **Children who are unwell**
- If your child is unwell, it is important to contact the school office as soon as possible to let us know. If your child has been sick or has an upset stomach, they must stay home for a period of 48 hours.
- **Medication**
- You must inform the school if your child requires any type of medication during the school day. Please take any medication to the office and they will help you to complete a medical form.
- **Individual medical needs**
- It is vital for parents/carers to share information about their child's individual medical needs. The school will complete a Health Care Plan with you in order to keep your child safe
- We are a **NUT FREE** school and do not allow nut-based products in a child's packed lunch. If there are additional severe allergies within the class, we will inform you, so you are able to support us further.

# Where can I access more support?



School Nursing Service:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7RoTkp3vkB0>

Hertfordshire Family Centre Service:

<https://www.hertsfamilycentres.org/family-centres.aspx>

Hertfordshire - Starting School:

<https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/services/schools-and-education/starting-school.aspx>

# Future dates for your diary



**Start of term:** Monday 4 September

**Half-term Holiday:** 23 October – 27 October

**Christmas holiday:** 21 December 2023 – 3 January 2024

**Half term holiday:** 19 February 2024 – 23 February 2024

**Easter holiday:** 29 March 2024 – 12 April 2024

**Half term holiday:** 27 May 2024 – 31 May 2024

**Summer holiday:** 24 July 2024 – 1 September 2024