



## Nursery Life at Brunswick Park

### Welcome to Brunswick Park Nursery!

Our values are to promote independence for each and every child within our setting and ensure they access the best learning opportunities available. Each child is unique and is encouraged to explore their interests through play and communication. Being able to communicate feelings and thoughts is essential to good social and emotional development which are the foundations of nursery life.

We often follow a small topic but most of the learning opportunities are led from the children's interests. We strive to work in the 'teachable moment' giving children the opportunity to access authentic experiences to further their learning through investigation, questioning and exploring other resources. We often visit the local area shops, post office, vet and doctors, depending in the children's interests.

We strongly believe that a good relationship between home and school is essential for a smooth transition into the nursery setting. We treat all children as individuals when it comes to settling in and stress that what works for your child does not always work for all. Patience is key – we ask for your full support during your child's settling in period.

Your child will participate in regular sessions including key worker sessions, cooking, studio time and 'read with me' throughout the week.

### Preparing your child for nursery

Beginning nursery can be a huge step especially if you have never experienced any other childcare setting previously. Here are some ways that you can support your child:

- ❖ Get talking – make time to talk to your child. Question them during play and encourage conversation by looking at photographs, stories and singing. Encourage your child to make their own decisions. For example, would they prefer cereal or toast?
- ❖ Get outside – our natural environment is full of vast learning opportunities. Take some time to discuss with your child what they can hear (birds chirping, traffic, people talking). This promotes awareness of sounds for listening and attention.

- ❖ Self-care skills – allow your child to be independent. It is important for children to be able to do things for themselves once they start nursery. This includes putting on their own coat and shoes for outdoor play, being able to use the toilet independently and being able to feed themselves. We are always available to help discuss any concerns surrounding self-care skills.
- ❖ Listening – spend time with your child reading and following instructions. Engage in conversation; being able to listen and respond to questions is a key skill in development. In nursery, being able to listen is essential at carpet time for recall and to listen to each other in play.
- ❖ Mark making – give your child opportunities to explore mark making and being creative using their hands or a range of media (for example, shaving foam, rice, salt and flour!). Please value the marks your children make - even the smallest swirl will most likely have meaning.
- ❖ Encouraging your child to identify their name for self-registration.

### Areas of Learning

Whilst your child is in Early Years, they will be assessed against the Early Years Curriculum, called the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). This is divided into 7 areas of learning and development, which provide learning opportunities for your child.

#### PRIME AREAS:

- Personal, Social & Emotional Development
- Physical Development
- Communication & Language Development

We spend most of our learning time embedding these areas into experiences. They are the foundations for further learning opportunities and help to ensure your children are resilient, confident and independent learners and thinkers.

#### SPECIFIC AREAS

- Expressive Arts and Design
- Mathematics
- Literacy
- Knowledge and Understanding of The World