



Newsletter

September –October 2024

Elie Street Nursery
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Learning is fun! Every day is a learning day.

September/October 2024

Welcome

A warm welcome to all our new children and families starting at Elie Street Nursery. We are sure you will have an exciting, fun filled time at our nursery. Our positive ethos ensures all children, parents, staff and visitors feel valued and welcome. If you have any questions about any aspect of the nursery please speak to Michelle (Head of Nursery), Nicola (Team Leader) Angela (Team Leader) or your child's keyworker. We look forward to working with you during your child's time at Elie Street.



Outdoor Play

We will be using our fabulous outdoor area (in all weathers) to develop your child's learning. Please ensure you bring your child to nursery wearing suitable clothing for all weathers i.e. jacket/hat and have wellies on the wellie stand / Summer clothing.

Sun Cream

The nursery will provide factor 50+. Staff will apply the cream throughout the day. **If your child requires a different sun cream you are required to provide this.**

Attachment & Relationships

With our children settling back into nursery and all our new children starting, our focus will be on building attachments and relationships between your child and their keyworker.

Also, over the next few weeks staff will be observing and assessing your child's development and will be taking the children's learning forward. The focus of the children's learning over the next few weeks will be Relationships, Attachment and Routines.

Routines

You will see particular routines/planners throughout the nursery e.g. routine of the day, cloakroom, snack and lunch information. These are used as a visual aid to support children's means of communication, following from start to finish. The use of visual planners/timetables are arranged to show the structure of activities/ routines or the structure of the day and the week. Our playrooms have well designed areas e.g. quiet areas, talking areas etc with symbols/pictures and labels. We use symbols/pictures to develop and enhance children's.



Drop Off / Collection System

We kindly request that you refrain from entering the playroom when dropping off/ collecting your child. Please **drop off and collect your your child at Playroom 2 - Little Stars Room.**

- Please press the ring doorbell located outside the door and wait for a member of staff who will come to greet your child.
- Please only enter if this is part of your child's settling in plan, agreed with your child's keyworker. Please share this information with extended family members.

Getting to Know You / Individual Care Plan

Returning Children—Your child's keyworker will have contacted you by now to have a conversation about your child and to update their Care Plan.

New Starts—Staff will shortly be contacting you. Please remember to give the staff any relevant information regarding the wellbeing of your child so it can be logged on their Care Plan and any action can be discussed and taken.

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Nursery Path

Please ensure you keep your child with you at all times whilst in the nursery path area. The area may become congested as Notre Dame Primary School also access the path.



Communication

We value good communication between nursery and home. If you would like to speak to your child's keyworker in detail please call the nursery to make an appointment. This will be done either by telephone or a meeting in the nursery.

Seesaw Learning Journal

Please remember to interact on your child's Seesaw Journal. Children love to be praised and are proud of their achievements. This is the best forum to share learning, teaching and celebrations! **Please Note: Seesaw is NOT the platform to pass messages to staff.**

Learning Fund

We provide a healthy snack for the children each day. The daily choices for snack and our daily lunch are displayed on a notice board in the corridor area.

Your support is vital in helping us to provide an exciting and challenging curriculum for all our children and **all parents are asked to contribute £2.50 per family per week** to cover the cost of extra curricular activities e.g. sports development, cooking, play dough, birthday card and present. **We collect the money weekly, monthly or termly. If you wish you can pay by bank transfer.**

Thank you for your continued support.



Safeguarding of children within the setting is paramount and it is recognised that personal mobile phones have the potential to be used inappropriately. Please **do not** use mobile phones when in the nursery.

Halloween Thu 31 October

We will be celebrating Halloween on Tuesday 31st October. If your child does not attend on this day they are welcome to join us from 9.15am-11.15am. Children may dress up but **please do not bring any form of scary props i.e., horror masks, guns, swords, fake blood etc.**



PATHs

PATHs (Promoting Alternative Thinking Strategies) is a social and emotional development program we teach our children.

PATHs supports the development of emotional awareness, the vocabulary and language of emotions alongside emotional literacy. It also teaches children problem solving skills/strategies and helps them develop positive peer relationships.

We aim to involve all our children in our PATHs lessons and experiences.

Improvement Plan

The nursery improvement plan for 2024-2025 will focus on the following areas:

1. Revisit Observation, Planning and Assessment.
2. Nurture Accreditation.
3. Moderation and Transitions.

We will share progress and further information throughout the year.

Nurture Group

I am delighted to invite you to join our upcoming 'Parent/Carer Nurture Group' sessions at Elie Street Nursery. These sessions are designed to create a supportive environment where you can learn more about the nurturing practices our nursery uses to support your child's development and wellbeing.

The group provides a safe, non-judgemental space for parents and caregivers to discuss how our children are nurtured both at home and in nursery. We aim to share experiences, offer support, and exchange ideas on parenting, all while fostering a positive and open environment where everyone feels comfortable expressing their views.

Please speak to Michelle if you would like to join.

REMINDER

Please download the Xpressions App. This is a free resource and allows us to contact you as much as we need to without incurring charges. Available for Apple and Android.



School Enrolment

Angela Barrie, Team Leader will be sharing School Enrolment information with Parents/Carers in October. Please be advised that school enrolment will take place in November.

Staff News

A FOND FAREWELL

We would like to say farewell to Ruth (Nursery Clerical) who has recently retired. I am sure Ruth won't be a stranger. I will inform you when our new Clerical is in post.

Welcome to Team Elie...

We would like to welcome Paula to the team. Paula will be the keyworker to the Lime Group. Please introduce yourself and say hello when you see her.

Please also be advised that Sharon and Suzanne are now part-time and share the Purple Group.



Nursery Staff Team

Michelle Smith	Head of Nursery
Nicola McCoy	Team Leader
Angela Barrie	Team Leader
Tricia McKinlay	Child Development Officer
Michele Railton	Child Development Officer
Sharon McArthur	Part-Time Child Development Officer
Lorraine McMenemy	Child Development Officer
Suzanne Irvine	Part-Time Child Development Officer
Francisco Arbol	Child Development Officer
Lauren Smart	Child Development Officer
Amanda Hannah	Child Development Officer
Beccie Wells	Part-Time Child Development Officer
Nicola Ferguson	Part-Time Child Development Officer
Sarah Chapman	Support for Learning Worker
Shamas Yusuf	Support for Learning Worker
Ruth Kinghorn	Clerical Assistant
Kim Mathers	Catering Assistant
Laura McLauchlan	Catering Assistant
Claire Scanlan	Catering Assistant
Jan	Day Cleaner
Gary	Shared Janitor with Notre Dame

Security

Please remember to close the door securely as you are entering and leaving the building. Do not allow anyone else access as you are entering or leaving.

Also please do not allow your child to push the green buttons.

Lost Property

Please DO ensure that you label your children's clothing, jackets, wellies and shoes!

All unclaimed items will be used as spare clothing for the children, if they are not claimed within a period of time. We may also donate lost property to the Rag Bag container.

Please check your child's pockets at the end of the day for nursery toys. We are finding some toys are going home and aren't finding their way back to nursery. Please encourage your child to return the toys, particularly if it's from a specific play set e.g., happy land set.

Dates for your Diary

2024-2025 Holiday List

2024

Monday 12 August	In-Service Day
Tuesday 13 August	In-Service Day
Wednesday 14 August	Pupils Return
Friday 27 September	Public Holiday
Monday 30 September	Public Holiday
Friday 11 October	In-Service Day
Monday 14 October	Closed—October Holiday
Monday 21 October	Nursery Re-opens
Friday 20 December	Last Day before Christmas Holiday

2025

Monday 6 January	Nursery Re-opens
Monday 17 February	Mid-Term
Tuesday 18 February	Mid-Term
Wednesday 19 February	In-Service Day
Monday 7 April	Closed—Easter Break
Tuesday 22 April	Nursery Re-opens
Monday 5 May	Public Holiday
Thursday 22 May	In-Service Day
Friday 23 May	Public Holiday
Monday 26 May	Public Holiday
Wednesday 25 June	Last day of Term—Summer Holidays
Thursday 14 August	Nursery Re-opens Pupils Return