

# Hanbury Preschool



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# Welcome to Hanbury C of E First School and Preschool

## **Our Vision...** Flourishing Through Love and Nurture

**Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. 5 It does not dishonour others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. 6 Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. 7 It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.**

**1 Corinthians 13: 4-7**

**We flourish because we:**

On behalf of the children, parents, governors and staff, I am delighted to welcome you to Hanbury CE First School and Preschool. Our school is special and unique, situated in the heart of the Worcestershire countryside. Through love and nurture, we celebrate every step forward, supporting all children to reach their full potential.

We are privileged to enjoy stunning views and an inspiring outdoor learning environment, where children are supported by a skilled and committed team of staff. If it rains, we put on our coats; if it is muddy, we pull on our wellies; and if it snows, we wrap up warm and embrace every moment. Our ambitious, broad and balanced curriculum nurtures inquisitive, creative and lifelong learners within a safe and secure environment.

Alongside this, we have a strong commitment to providing the foundations for lifelong learning and ensuring our children are prepared for their next steps. Our ungraded Ofsted inspection in 2024 recognised that our children's 'behaviour is exemplary' and that the 'school has high expectations for what pupils can achieve.' Our SIAMS inspection in March 2022 awarded an *Excellent* judgement, noting that 'love is the heartbeat of the school, elevating everyone's experience of life and learning,' and that the school's innovative learning environment enables every pupil to flourish.

Strong partnerships are central to our school community. As a Church of England school, we have a strong Christian ethos and close links with our church. Our values of Friendship, Respect, Trust, Forgiveness, Kindness and Endurance are shared and celebrated by all. We recognise the vital role that parents and carers play in their child's education and strive to build positive, supportive relationships with every family.

Children only have one chance at education, and we believe it is our responsibility to ensure that their experience is inspiring, unforgettable and provides the very best start. I would be delighted to welcome you into our school to share our vision, discuss your child's learning, and show you why your child would flourish at Hanbury CE First School and Preschool.

**Mr Aaron McDonagh**  
*Head Teacher*

## Our School

We are committed to delivering a holistic approach to provide a foundation for each child's future. By offering a caring and nurturing environment, children will be inspired to enjoy and take responsibility for their own learning. We endeavour to be a preschool that grows with our children and the ever-changing world. Our aims are:

- To create a happy, stimulating and secure environment, which fosters in children an active role in their learning.
- For everyone to live out our vision through our 6 values which are: kindness, forgiveness, endurance, respect, trust and friendship.
- To nurture children's enthusiasm for knowledge through developing their understanding of what it is to be a successful learner.
- To resource, develop and support staff in their endeavour to ensure high academic standards.
- To develop a positive attitude and a continuing pride. To encourage self-confidence and motivation.
- To deliver a range of engaging and creative opportunities for pupils to develop their personal skills, talents and interests.

**"There is a great sense of joy and fulfilment among staff who are motivated to nurture every child."**

SIAMS, 2022

**"Warm and friendly staff who care for the children and who go above and beyond to help them achieve."**

**Parent Questionnaire**

- To celebrate individuality and encourage children to become well-rounded 21<sup>st</sup> century citizens who respect and care for the diversity in the world around us.
- To work collaboratively with the community to enrich the experiences of our children.

## Opening Times and Costs

We accept children from 3 years of age. They are supported and nurtured by a teacher and teaching assistant(s), adhering to government set adult/child ratios. We are open during school term time only.

Our core opening times are from 9.00am to 3.00pm. Government funded hours can only be used within these core hours.

Wraparound care is available from 8am until 9am and 3pm and 5pm and is charged at £5.50 per hour. These hours are not eligible for funding and are payable separately.

An admin fee will be administered for late payments. This may impact future bookings if there is a balance that remains unpaid.

## Applying for Funded Hours

You will need to apply to HMRC as soon as possible to obtain your 11-digit code. Once received, please complete the Parent Declaration Form which is available from the school office. Any delays in receiving codes may result in a delay in funding being applied for your child. For more information, please refer to the Government's website or speak to the school office for support. Please note your eligibility needs to be reconfirmed every three months. The school year is 39 weeks, however the government funding is 38 weeks.

## Daily Routines

Having lots of fun! Playing, experimenting, exploring and developing the skills of a learner. All areas of a young child's development are important. In Nursery, the 'Early Years Foundation Stage', children's learning is developed and assessed under these main headings:

- Personal, social and emotional
- Communication and language
- Physical development
- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the world
- Expressive arts and design

The children are encouraged to explore their environment independently as well as working in focus groups. To begin with, of course, the main priority is to encourage the children to settle into the routines of the school and develop good relationships with each other and the staff.

The preschool children are based in our heated Tipi classroom and have access to their own toilets, and purpose built outside area including our forest school site. During the day they will have several short group activities led by the teacher on the carpet area such as reading books, singing songs and playing games. They will enjoy increasingly focussed opportunities in small groups. A range of provision will be available such as sensory play, construction, role play, reading corner, water play, gross and fine motor and open-ended play resources.

## Lunchtimes

Parents are to provide a packed lunch from home for their child. Please remember that we are part of the 'Healthy Schools Programme' so please provide a balanced lunch including a drinks bottle containing water. This ensures children stay active and engaged throughout the day. A healthy snack (fruit) and milk will be provided. Please note that we are a nut free school.

## The End of the Session

Please collect your child from the Tipi. We must know who is collecting your child, so please tell us of any changes to the usual collection arrangements. A password will be required for non-named adults who are collecting.

## **What should my child wear and bring to preschool?**

Nursery children uniform is as follows:

- Hanbury school hoodie (purchased from the school office)
- Black jogging bottoms or leggings
- White round neck t shirt
- Suitable footwear for the weather such as trainers, school shoes
- Coat for outdoor play
- Wellies to keep in school, including a set of waterproofs

## **What to do if my child is going to be absent?**

If your child is too unwell to attend preschool, please keep them at home. If they have sickness or have had diarrhoea they should not return to school until 48 hours after the symptoms have stopped. On the first day of absence please inform school by telephone and then update us as appropriate.

## **Communication**

We use Seesaw, a secure online app, to connect teachers and families, to strengthen our school community. By fostering collaboration and open communication throughout each child's learning journey, we help families stay informed and actively involved. Engaging students during these important developmental years supports their academic progress, social growth, and emotional wellbeing—nurturing confidence, creativity, and a lifelong love of learning.

## **Parking**

We have a large school carpark a map of this will be shared to show parking locations. Please vacate the carpark promptly to allow other families to use it for drop off and collection.

## **Pre School Admissions**

Our admissions policy for nursery is based on the admissions policy for Worcestershire Local Authority (LA) maintained nursery provision. We recognise that the area served by any nursery is wider than the catchment area of the providing school and may vary according to local circumstances. We currently take children after they turn 3 years old.

## **Over Subscription Criteria**

If the demand for places exceeds those available, the following criteria will be used to allocate places:

1. Children Looked After\* and Children Previously Looked After including those who appear to have been in state care outside of England and have ceased to be in state care through adoption.
2. Children with additional needs\*\*, with priority given to those who meet the County Council's criteria for statutory assessment.
3. Siblings if the older sibling will still be on the role of the school when the younger sibling starts in the nursery class;

4. Children living nearest to the nursery measured by the shortest straight-line distance.

Priority will be given to those wishing to access their full 15- or 30-hour entitlement, over those wishing to access less than 15 or 30 hours per week.

\*\*'Looked after' means all those currently accommodated by a Local Authority under the terms of the Children Act 1989 and children who were previously accommodated by a Local Authority but immediately after being looked after, became subject to an adoption, residence or special guardianship order.

\*\*Additional needs include those children whose needs are monitored by LA or external support agencies. Needs may be physical / emotional / social or intellectual. The decision will be taken by the LA in consultation with the Headteacher, SENCo and early years teacher.

The sibling connection, as well as brother and sister will include half-siblings, adopted children, stepsiblings or a child of the parent/carers partner. They must also be living at the same home address. Children who are brought together as a family by a civil partnership and who are living at the same address, are also considered to be siblings.

## **Access to Statutory Education**

Attendance at our preschool does not give entitlement or greater priority for a reception place in the school. Places in reception are allocated as per the admissions policy for Worcestershire.

## **Child Protection & Safeguarding**

Our school and Preschool is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all our children and we work hard to create a happy, stimulating and secure environment which fosters in children an active role in their wellbeing and learning.

We adopt an 'open door' policy with parents, encouraging communication with staff to discuss any matters. We actively seek parental engagement through regular parent questionnaires, curriculum open afternoons and specific information about events and learning.

Regular attendance to sessions booked is important so that children develop and improve social skills, confidence and have more opportunities to progress in their learning. This also provides children with stability and routine.

Our school and preschool is a happy, safe and inspiring place where children sit at the heart of the decisions we make, opportunities we provide and the curriculum we deliver. If you have any further questions or require further information, please contact the school office in the first instance.

## *What Do Our Parents Think?*

“Wide range of activities to fuel imagination, creativity and enthusiasm.”

“Promote a joy of learning!”

“Have great values and promote these well.”

“Welcoming, inclusive and our child is happy!”

“Stimulating and making great use of outdoor space.”

“Leadership is strong and consistent but each member of staff excels in their own merit.”

“Overall, the school exceeds my expectations on every level.”

“Operate a family like atmosphere.”

“Knowing, caring for and understanding my child.”

“Communication from the teacher is wonderful.”