

Welcome to Kendal Nursery School @ Brantfield.



Every child deserves the Brantfield experience

Kendal Nursery School @ Brantfield
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Welcome.....



Welcome to our very busy Nursery School. This brochure will hopefully give you a flavour of life at Kendal Nursery School and provide you with lots of helpful information. Nursery can be a child's first experience away from family, we aim to provide a stimulating, challenging environment which is a warm and friendly extension of home. At Brantfield we are a small but friendly team who have lots of experience in working with children and families. We are so lucky to have such fantastic setting and we really want your child's time here to be memorable and filled with enjoyment, We aim for all children to develop a real love of life and learning and to leave them full of confidence ready for all the demands the future brings. If you have any questions feel free to ask the staff or myself.

Alyssa Dobbs
Headteacher



About us.....

Kendal Nursery School is the only Local Authority Maintained Nursery School in Kendal and was established in 1946 to serve the local community.

As a Local Authority Nursery School we offer:

- Nursery Education Places - Term Time Only - 15 hours or 30 hours per week
- 2 Year Funded Places - Term Time Only - 15 hours per week
- Breakfast club- Term Time Only 8-9am everyday
- After School places - Term Time 3.00 - 6.00pm everyday
- Holiday club-8.00am-5.30pm-in school holidays
- You are also able to top up your funded hours at £4.75 per hour

Ofsted say.....

"Kendal Nursery School is an amazing place for children to learn and thrive....Children are extremely safe in this deeply caring environment....At this school, learning is active, magical and fun. Staff just know how to feed children's imaginations and develop a love of learning....Staff have a high expectation of all children. The expertise of staff ensures children achieve all they can. Children leave nursery extremely well prepared for their next school and for the next stage of their lives."

Ofsted Report Oct 2019



Our Nursery School Team....

Headteacher Alyssa Dobbs
 Office Manager Karen Bradbury
 Admin Apprentice Faye Ferris
 Chair of Governors Vivien Kincey



2-3 Year old Nursery School Staff

Class 1	
Teacher	Eleanor Sanchez
Teaching Assistants	Carol Johnston Emma Crawford Kym Astill Reanne Hodgson Carol Robertson Jenny Murphy Paula Goodyear

3-4 Year old Nursery School Staff

	Class 2	Class 3
Teachers	Beth Mason	Nicola Kitchen Ann-Marie Swallow
Teaching Assistants	Sharon Williamson Shelley Wilson	Katie George Emma White Judi Shire
Apprentices	Abbie King	Josie Macdonald



Additional Lunch Club Staff

Lorraine Davis	Paula Goodyear
Holiday Club Staff	
Judi Shire	Carol Johnston
Additional Afterschool Club Staff	
Clare Mullen	
Toddler Group Staff	
Paula Goodyear	
Cleaners	
Angela Gadsby	Vikki Patterson

Designated Person for Safeguarding
 Alyssa Dobbs
 Nicola Kitchen

3 and 4 year old Classes.....

We offer term Time Only Nursery Education for 3 and 4 year olds. Your child is entitled to receive 15 hours free Nursery Education the school term after their 3rd birthday. From September 2017 some children are entitled to 30 hours of free Nursery Provision.



15 hours can be taken over:

5 Morning sessions- 9.00 - 12.00am

2 Full days - 7 1/2 hours per day

2 1/2 days M T W am

30 hours can be taken over:

5 classroom days 9-3

3 Full days 8- 6

Subject to availability and number of hours needed we may be able to adjust these hours to fit parents working patterns

Additional top up hours are available for 3-4 year olds are charged at £4.75 per hour.



2 and 3 year old Class.....

2 Year Funded Places - Term Time Only we offer places for children aged 2-3 years who qualify for free funding. Your child would be entitled to receive 15 hours free Nursery provision the school term after their 2nd birthday. These can be taken over:

2 Full days - 7 1/2 hours per day

2 1/2 days M T W am



Charged Nursery Sessions - The Nursery offers payable sessions for children 2-3 years if the child does not qualify for 2 Year Funding.

These sessions are offered on a full day rate of £28.50 for 9am-3pm

Additional top up hours for 2-3 year olds are charged at £4.75 per hour.

Holiday Club.....

To help meet parental requirements any children who attend the Nursery School can continue their hours over the school holidays. The club runs from 8am- 5.30pm

These sessions are offered on a full day rate of:

£28.50 for 9am-3pm with any additional hours charged at £4.75 per hour.

Breakfast club

Breakfast Club runs from 8-9 am and is held in our 'Children's Centre Room'. Children are offered toast and a drink of milk or water on the snack table if they would like some. We don't charge extra for this snack we just rely on donations from parents to keep this going for free.



Afterschool club

Afterschool club runs from 3-6 pm. Between 3 -5pm the older 3-4 year olds are based in our 'Children's Centre Room' and the younger children stay in their classroom upstairs. At around 5pm when numbers are smaller all the children join together in the 'Children's Centre' room until 6pm when we close.

Again snack is available for the children at no additional charge.

Breakfast club and Afterschool club are available as part of your hours or as additional hours should you need them. The clubs often fill up quickly and so we ask you to book in advance if your child needs to access these.

Lunch club

If your child is staying over for lunch time please send them with a healthy packed lunch and a drink. There is also an option to order a hot school meal for your child.

Please can we ask if you send your child grapes that you cut them in half as children can easily choke on whole grapes.

Dropping off and picking up

Please ensure that your children are brought right into the school building and are collected by people who are known to them and us. If the expected adult is unable to collect your child or if a new person will be coming to school, please let us know so we are prepared. To ensure your child's safety we are unable to let your child go home with an older sibling unless we have your prior written permission.



You will appreciate that for safety reasons we are unable to allow any cars to use the school drive at the beginning and end of sessions and gate is often closed at these busy times. Of course we do accommodate people with mobility issues. If this applies to you, please talk to Karen Bradbury.

Settling in.....

Making sure your child is happy and settled at Nursery is very important to us, we know that children only learn when they feel happy and so time spent on settling in is time-well invested for your child's security and confidence.



Stay and play session- For the first part of our induction process you will be invited to a stay and play session with your child. This is a chance to meet the staff and spend time in your child's classroom. You will be introduced to your child's 'key carer' who will get to know your child well and will develop a special relationship with them and you.

The home visit

Your child's key carer will come and visit you and your child at home to enable them to find out all about your child from the people who know them best. We value Home Visits they allow us to go through all the information you need and allow you to ask questions and discuss any issues you want to in the privacy of your own home. Parents always tell us how much their children enjoy and remember their home visit.



Starting school

Some children will confidently walk into Nursery without any support, some will take longer to settle in and may be initially upset... all children are unique and individual and we will work together to make it a smooth process. If your child is upset of course you are very welcome to stay for as long as you and the staff feel is necessary. Once your child is settled, a quick, definite "goodbye" is best, with the reassurance that you will be back soon to see what they have been doing, and an explanation of what you will be doing while they are at Brantfield. If your child is upset when you leave, you are always welcome to ring school and find out how they are.



The Key Carer

During your child's time at Kendal Nursery School their key carer will co-ordinate your child's observations and records in their Special Book. This book will be shared with you regularly but you are welcome to have a look at it any time. Also you can talk to your child's key carer at any time if you have any questions or to find out how your child is getting on.

Safeguarding



Our school fully recognises its role in protecting and supporting children sensitively and professionally in school. If staff become aware of changes in behaviour or failure to develop they will share these concerns with you and offer support and guidance. Alyssa Dobbs is the designated safeguarding Lead in the school for child protection and all other staff have been trained in child protection procedures. Kendal Nursery School has agreed a child protection policy which is available from the

school office for any parent who wishes to read it. Should there be concerns about a child who may be at risk of harm or neglect these concerns will be discussed with you. If it is necessary a referral will be made to the Social Care Team within the local authority.

The school has a responsibility to protect children in its care from harm. To ensure that this responsibility is met all new staff appointed to work at the school are vetted and are interviewed for appointment by trained personnel.

SEND

We are an inclusive school which welcomes all children and believes every child has equal opportunities to develop their full potential through:

- The development of happiness and an enthusiasm for learning.
- A broad balanced early years curriculum delivered both indoors and out.
- Quality learning experiences and appropriate active learning, based on play and communication.
- Building well-being, self-esteem and confidence which enables children to become independent, interactive learners.
- The development of respect and tolerance for each other through interaction and co-operation.



Our policy guidelines and the Code of Practice for Special Educational Needs ensure the appropriate support for children who have additional needs and that all children are included. We are aware that to enable children to achieve their potential, additional resources and staffing may be necessary. These resources may include in-put from the Speech Therapist, the Early Years Specialist Teacher and the Educational Psychologist. We work very closely with parents to support all additional needs.

Early Years Foundation Stage.....

The Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum is a play based framework which we use as a tool to ensure that all our children are developing and learning to their full potential. We plan and provide a range of play activities, which help our children to make progress in each of the areas of learning and development.



There are 7 areas of Learning. 3 Prime areas and 4 specific areas.

Prime Areas

Personal, social and emotional development

This helps children to develop a positive sense of themselves, and others; to form positive relationships and develop respect for others. This also involves

developing social skills and learning how to manage their feelings.

Physical development

This involves providing opportunities for young children to be active and interactive; and to develop their co-ordination, control, and movement.

Communication and language development

Involves giving children the opportunity to experience a rich language environment; to develop their confidence and skills in expressing themselves; and to speak and listen in a range of situations.

Specific Areas

Literacy

Involves encouraging children to link sounds and letters and to begin to read and write. Children need access to a range of reading materials to ignite their interest.

Mathematics

Involves providing children with opportunities to develop and improve their skills in counting, understanding and using numbers, calculating simple addition and subtraction problems; and to describe shapes, space and measures.

Understanding the world

Involves guiding children to make sense of their physical world and their community through opportunities to explore, observe and find out about people, places, technology and the environment.

Expressive arts and design

Involves enabling children to explore and play with a wide range of media and materials, as well as providing opportunities and encouragement for sharing their thoughts, ideas and feelings through a variety of activities in art, music, movement, dance, role-play, and design and technology.



Learning through Play.....



Through play, children make sense of their world. Young children have an enormous capacity for intellectual development, they learn by exploring and investigating, watching and listening, talking and discussing, creating and communicating. It is key for children to 'have a go', to be able to learn from their mistakes and try again. Our Nursery School lays firm foundations for future learning and provides a rich variety of learning situations to enable the all round development of your child.

We are flexible and adapt our interactions for individual children's maturities. This allows us to meet children's learning needs and enables all children to achieve their full potential.

At this age children need a great deal of adult time and attention and our experienced staff give sensitive, appropriate and well timed support.

Observation and Assessment

Staff at Brantfield use observations as a means of identifying children's stages of development, their interests and their learning needs.

Observations in the form of 'Learning Stories' together with photographs and samples of learning are collected in your children's 'Special Books' and will be used to track your children's progress and plan their future learning.

Staff encourage parents to look at your child's book regularly and are often available to update parents through informal discussions.

Illness

If children are not well they are better off at home, whatever they may say! There is no quiet, comfortable place in school for a sick child to rest. Please could you notify school if your child will not be attending, letting us know the cause so we can inform other parents if necessary. If we suspect your child is ill, we will contact you by telephone. Please let us have 'emergency' telephone numbers.

As a general rule, children who have been prescribed medicines e.g. antibiotics, are recovering from an illness and are not well enough to come to school. We are not qualified to give medicine to children at nursery. However children with long term medical conditions, e.g. asthma, may need treatment and in such cases parents will be asked to sign a form giving permission for staff to administer medication, e.g. inhalers.

Accidents

Minor cuts and bruises are fairly frequent with young children and are dealt with by the staff. Anything more serious is referred to you, and recorded in the Accident book.

Should your child need a doctor or hospital treatment, we use your 'emergency' telephone number to contact you. Doctors and hospitals prefer a parent to be present when giving treatment.

In order for us to contact you via text in case of an emergency closure due to weather, flu pandemics etc. please will you provide us with a mobile phone number.

Outdoor play.....

We recognize the significance of the outdoor environment as an exciting and valuable learning resource for young children. Learning in the outdoors is valued equally as the indoors and children are free to choose where they want to play.



Our garden is unique in its layout providing a range of routes to challenge each child's physical ability. We encourage all children to participate in these and to become aware of the potential of learning within the outdoors: new skills, concepts and attitudes will be developed by using the resources and facilities available. They will have opportunities for creative experiences; working together in imaginative play; investigation; exploration and for sharing and

co-operating in all these activities.

Encouraging independence.....

Playing can be a very messy business so please dress your child in 'play clothes', we provide aprons for children to wear, but accidents can - and do - happen. We encourage children to gain the skills that help them to be independent and look after themselves. These include taking themselves to the toilet and taking off and putting on - outdoor clothes.

Belts, jeans and dungarees can be difficult to manage; look for clothes that are easier for your child to manage themselves, for example, jogging bottoms are much easier to pull on.

Similarly laces can be very frustrating so try to buy shoes with Velcro to make it easier for your child to become independent.

Children have a coat-peg and Wellington-boot space for their belongings. Please could you provide:

- a named splash-suit* and a pair of wellies so that your child can play out in the garden.
- a named cloth bag with a change of clothes in case of accidents.

Please name all your child's belongings including 'Brantfield' sweat-shirts*, as this helps children and staff identify clothing.

*Sweat-shirts and T-shirts are available for purchase from Coniston Corporate via our Brantfield website, sample sizes are available to see and try on at school. Splash-suits can be ordered at school at the beginning of each term. Sweat-shirts with





Parent Partnerships.....

We aim to build on the foundations you have laid. We know that you are the most important people in your child's life and by working closely in partnership we can ensure that your children progress and achieve success in reaching their potential. Newsletters are regularly emailed to you or put in your child 'box'. They contain information and details of any



forthcoming events.

During the year we will invite you to parents evenings and other events. These allow you to talk to your child's keyworker about their progress, to have a look around the school and their classroom, meet governors and other members of staff, and to find out how children experience the curriculum.

Staff are also available at the beginning of each session to share information or for a quick discussion on how your child is getting on. You are also welcome to arrange a meeting with your child's key carer or teacher at the end of sessions to discuss your child's progress in more detail. Your child will also have a special book collated with pictures and stories about their learning and achievements. We encourage parents to have a look at this regular and to write comments in.

Story Sacks.....

There is a lending library for the children at nursery to borrow our story sacks. Time spent sharing a book with your child is an important social and educational step to foster a love of reading. We also have books in the staff reference library for parents to borrow.

Getting involved..... We hope you will join in the varied activities which happen at Kendal Nursery School. We have a very active 'Friends of Brantfield' group who organize events throughout the year and fundraising functions. They have helped us raise a lot of money this year and the money is used to buy resources and help towards new exciting developments. Parents have often helped by joining us for gardening days or even simply by donating raffle prizes or coming along to an advent. Every bit of support counts and helps.

Additional charge.....

At Brantfield we pride ourselves with the variety and quality of the different experiences we provide. School Fund is used to buy most of these extras as they are not covered by our Nursery School Budget. Cooking ingredients, snacks, fruit, playdough and a whole lot more resources for fun activities comes from this fund. To cover all this and more there is a one off annual payment of £50 each September.



Parents say.....



"I think Brantfield is an excellent Nursery and I will be sad when he has to leave."

"My child has had a amazing start to his education at Brantfield. The staff go above and beyond to provide a safe, fun and secure learning environment that has helped our son to thrive and develop his independence."

"We couldn't be happier with our child's pre-school experience..... When I come into the classroom I love the variety of stimulating activities for the children and the enthusiasm from the staff."

"The outdoor provision is amazingI have nothing but praise for Brantfield and the staff in particular. I'm so pleased my child has had such an amazing start on their learning journey."

"The garden is fantastic ... a dream for children."

"I feel extremely welcome and I am impressed with how much effort the staff take to get to know parents as well as children. The staff are really fantastic and so kind and caring toward the children."

"I have met so many people in Kendal who at the mention of Brantfield say 'its amazing' with a misty look of magic on their face and now I am one of them!!Its a place to be treasured!!"

"My child has massively benefited socially and emotionally. He loves going to Nursery, all the activities and has made some great friends. He has made excellent progress especially in his speech and counting."

School Term Dates 2021-2022....



AUTUMN TERM 2021

Inset Day (1) - Wednesday 1st September 2021

Inset Day (2)- Thursday 2nd September 2021

Re-open- Friday 3rd September 2021

Half-term Holiday- Monday 25th October- Friday 29th October 2021

Last day of term- Friday 17th December 2021

SPRING TERM 2021

Inset Day (3) - Tuesday 4th January 2022

Re-open- Wednesday 5th January 2022

Half-term Holiday- Monday 14th February- Friday 18th February 2022

Last day of term- Friday 1st April 2022

SUMMER TERM 2020

Inset day (4)- Tuesday 19th April 2022

Re-open- Wednesday 20th April 2022

May Day holiday- Monday 2nd May 2022

Half-term Holiday- Monday 30th May - Friday 3rd June 2022

Last day of term- Wednesday 20th July 2022

Inset day (5)- Thursday 21st July 2022

Website..... Kendal Nursery has a detailed website containing much more information about our school and the services we offer.

The website address is :- www.brantfield.com

Or alternatively our school phone number is :-

