



A guide to the  
Early Years Foundation Stage at  
Ashcroft Infant and Nursery  
School

## School Information

Ashcroft Infant and Nursery School  
Mildenhall,  
Tamworth,  
Staffordshire,  
B79 8RU.

**Tel:** 01827 213760

**Email:** [office@ashcroft.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:office@ashcroft.staffs.sch.uk)

**Website:**

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

## Staff

Mrs Jayne Fellows, Headteacher.

Mrs Eluned Lane, Deputy Headteacher.

Mrs Sam Bowyer, Office Manager.

## Nursery

Mrs Katie Brown– Nursery  
Leader



Mrs Debbie Morrall– Nursery  
Teaching Assistant and  
Lunchtime Leader



Mrs Charlotte Marshall–  
Nursery Teaching Assistant



Mrs Sally Coates– Nursery  
Teaching Assistant



## Reception

### Hedgehog Class

Mrs Louise Meakin (EYFS  
Lead, Reception Teacher)



Mrs Julie Teal (SENCO,  
Reception Teacher)



### Fox Class

Mrs Eluned Lane (Deputy  
Headteacher, Deputy DSL,  
Reception Teacher)



Our Reception TA at Ashcroft is: Mrs Michelle Hickman.



## The Early Years at Ashcroft

Welcome to the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). This is how the Government and early years' practitioners describe the time in your child's life between birth and age 5. Throughout the Reception Year your child will explore an ambitious curriculum which is designed in a sequential way to ensure progress towards our end of year curricular goals. At Ashcroft our curriculum incorporates everything we want the children to experience, learn and be able to do. It meets all the requirements of the educational programmes in the statutory framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) and our planning in the moment approach creates flexibility and allows us to respond quickly to children's new interests and/or needs. The intent for our children is for them to enter the next stage of their education ready to tackle new challenges with confidence and a positive mindset.

## Prime areas of the EYFS

### **Communication and Language Development**

involves giving children opportunities to experience a rich language environment; to develop their confidence and skills in expressing themselves, enabling them to speak and listen in a range of situations.



**Physical Development** involves providing opportunities for young children to be interactive and to develop their coordination, control and movement. Children will also be helped to understand the importance of physical activity and to make healthy choices in relation to food and hygiene.



### **Personal, Social and Emotional Development**

involves helping children to develop a positive sense of themselves and others, to form positive relationships and develop mutual respect. They will develop social skills and learn how to manage their feelings, understand appropriate behaviour in groups and have confidence in their own abilities.



## Specific areas of the EYFS

**Literacy Development** involves encouraging children to link sounds and letters and to begin to read and write. Children must be given access to a wide range of reading materials (books, poems and other written materials) to ignite their interest



**Mathematical Development** 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, spaces and measures

**Understanding of 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.



Our environment has been developed to encompass all seven areas holistically, ensuring that stimulating and open-ended opportunities engage children through their interests and abilities, enabling them to progress. Through these experiences we develop the children's enthusiasm for learning and building confidence and independence in tackling new situations. The children form positive relationships with their peers and the school community in order for them to thrive as members of our Ashcroft family.

## How can I find out how my child is getting on?

### Assessment at Ashcroft

Staff will assess your child's progress in the seven areas of learning throughout Nursery/ Reception. These informal assessments will be through observations, conversations and the work that children complete with their teachers/ teaching assistants. Photographic and written observations, as well as examples of your child's work will form the evidence of their achievements. Access to Dojo classroom will provide parents/carers with real time access to observations that have been taken in class.

In Nursery, as part of our observation, planning and assessment cycle we will choose six children every two weeks to be a focus child. This provides us with an opportunity to work on individual areas of development and highlight potential next steps in your child's learning. In Reception where the structure of the day and timetable change we will provide regular updates via dojo on your child's progress.

At Ashcroft we believe in creating a strong partnership with parents and/ or carers. Therefore, we would welcome and encourage you to contribute by making us aware of any achievements you notice at home. Please send you photos and comments via your child's dojo profile.

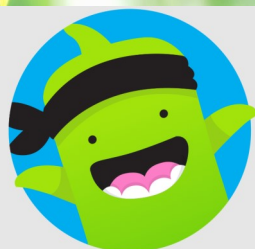
We provide many opportunities for parents and carers to take an active role your child's education:

Parent Interviews - in the Autumn and Spring term, where you will be invited to discuss your child's progress. A summary of their development will be discussed with you and how you can support their learning at home.

Parent workshops- Throughout the year we also have a variety of opportunities for you to see your child's classroom environment and share activities with them.

When your child is 5 (At the end of the EYFS) – in the summer term of the reception year in school, teachers complete an assessment which is known as the EYFS Profile. This assessment is carried out by the reception teacher and is based on what they, and other staff caring for your child, have observed over a period of time. A written report will come home towards the end of the Summer term and opportunities can be given for you to come in and discuss this with the class teacher should you need to.

Please feel free to message us on Dojo if you are unsure of anything!



**ClassDojo**

## Settling into School

Our aim is to settle your child into school happily and confidently. However we recognise that each individual is different and some children may take longer to settle than others.

The door opens at 8.45 am each day. A member of the team will greet you at the gate and be available for you to chat to every morning should you have any questions or concerns.

On entering the classroom each day, children are encouraged to hang up their coats and put their snacks in their named trays. Children will then self register, using our photograph system and join a member of the team on the carpet area straight away. This helps the teachers and children to settle into a routine quickly. The children will have their own named peg to hang up their coats and bags.

### School Day

Doors open at 8.40am

School starts at 8.55am

Lunch –

Reception and Nursery - 11.45am-12.45pm

Year 1 and Year 2 - 12 – 1pm

School ends at 3.05pm

### Snack Time

To promote healthy eating please would you provide a healthy snack for morning break. We ask that only fruit or vegetables be sent into school. The children will receive free school fruit each morning as an additional snack. Friday however, is treat day where the children are able to bring in biscuits, chocolate or crisps (**no boiled sweets or anything containing nuts**) if they would like to. All children are also able to have free school milk; water is available if they prefer.

### Water Bottles

The children are able to bring plastic water bottles into school and there is a designated place for them to keep them in their classroom. Please only provide water in these bottles and ensure that your child's name is clearly labelled on the bottle. Ashcroft Water bottles can be purchased from the school office at a cost of £2.00. (These are available while stocks last)

## School Uniform

We encourage the children to wear our school uniform to encourage a sense of belonging and pride in their school.

### **Girls**

Grey skirts, trousers or pinafore dresses.  
White polo shirts/ blouses  
Red and white gingham dress  
Red fleece, jumper or cardigan.  
Black shoes

### **Boys**

Grey trousers or shorts  
White polo shirts  
Red fleece or jumper.  
Black shoes

**Please ensure that all clothing is clearly labelled with your child's name.**

## School Bags

Book bags are available to buy from the school office at a cost of £4.00. These bags have an easy to use Velcro fastening, they are the ideal size for your child's reading book and letters.

## **PE Kit**

Rather than having a PE kit children are encouraged to come to school in comfortable clothes that are suitable for physical activities.

### **Indoor PE**

Shorts/ jogging trousers  
T- shirt  
Trainers (please consider supporting your child's independence in dressing by sending trainers with Velcro fastenings)

### **Outdoor PE**

Plain jogging trousers  
Warm long sleeved top  
Trainers (please consider supporting your child's independence in dressing by sending trainers with Velcro fastenings)

Also please note that earrings need to be removed for PE. Plasters or tape can be used to cover pierced ears in the first six weeks due to health and safety reasons, these need to be put on at home on PE days .

### Afternoon Nursery

We provide additional provision in the afternoons for our Nursery pupils. This is at an additional cost of £4.00 per hour. If you are eligible to receive the 30 hours funding you can use this in our afternoon sessions. Children can also stay on for our after school club which provides further care until 5.00pm. Again this is at an additional cost of – please see below.

### Nursery Lunchtime

If your child is accessing afternoon nursery provision, you will need to provide a packed lunch, or we can provide a school meal at the cost of £2.35 (**please note this is the current cost and may be subject to change**).

### Breakfast/ After School Club

At Ashcroft we have our own Breakfast Club which is open daily from 7.45 – 8.45am. It is available for children to attend as and when needed at a cost of £4.00 per morning with breakfast. Breakfast is served between 7.45 and 8.15am and consists of toast, cereal and a drink.

After School Club runs each evening at Ashcroft from 3.00pm until 5.00pm for all pupils. The children are involved in a variety of activities including craft, dressing up, construction and reading.

A link will be sent to you each Thursday to book after school club for the following week. Payments for this service are payable via ParentPay.

<b>3.00- 4.00pm</b>	<b>4.00- 5.00pm</b>
£4.00	£4.00

**Please note this is the current cost and may be subject to change.**

### ParentPay

As a school, we use a cashless system wherever possible. You will be provided with an activation letter, following enrolment, for ParentPay which will give details of how to set up your account. Please note that accounts need to remain in credit to continue accessing any provision.

## Safeguarding and welfare

### **Medical Conditions**

Please let us know as soon as possible of any medical conditions affecting your child including any food allergies or toileting needs.

### **Medication**

You will need to complete a medical form if your child has been prescribed medicine, such as antibiotics, and they require a dose to be given during the school day. The medication should be handed into and collected from the school office along with the medical form. If your child has an inhaler, this should be kept in school with the class teacher along with a medical form explaining the dosage. We cannot administer medication that is not on prescription.

### **Illness**

If your child is not well enough to attend school please notify the school office on the first day of absence. If your child becomes ill during the school day school will notify you and ask for your child to be collected.

Please notify the school office immediately of any changes to your contact details.

### **Collecting your child at the end of the day**

School finishes at 3.00pm (morning Nursery session finishes at 12.00 midday). We ask you queue up at the school gates (Nursery entrance). If you are unable to collect your child from school we will need your permission to let them go with another adult. It is useful to send a message vis class dojo to let the teacher know of any regular arrangements or last minute changes. In an emergency please telephone the school office and they will inform the class teacher.

### **Accidents and Injury**

If your child has had a minor accident or has injured themselves at school, a note informing you of the injury and treatment will be sent home with your child and a member of the team will endeavour to speak to you. You will receive immediate notification of any serious injury/ bumps to the head.

### **Keeping your child safe**

Ashcroft is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. Parents / Carers can feel confident that careful procedures are in place to ensure that all staff and volunteers are suitable to work with children. Staff hope that parents/ carers will feel free to talk about any concerns or worries which may affect the educational progress and that they will see the school as a safe place. Children will be taken seriously if they seek help from a member of staff. Parents/ Carers will normally be consulted and their consent obtained before any referral is made to an agency outside the school under local 'children in need' procedures. However, staff cannot guarantee to consult parents/ carers first, or to keep children's concerns confidential, if a referral must be made to the appropriate agencies in order to safeguard the child's welfare.

## Getting Ready For School

We encourage the children to be as independent and manage their own needs as far as possible. Here are some ideas that can help your child.

- Encourage your child to dress and undress independently. Perhaps they could practise putting on and taking off their uniform.
- Teach your child to use the toilet independently and show them how to wash their hands properly afterwards.
- Encourage your child to put things away when he/ she has finished using them.
- Encourage them to use a knife and fork at mealtimes.
- Show them where the name labels are on all of their belongings so that they know where to look when they are inevitably misplaced!

Make time for your child to run, jump, climb and  
**PLAY OUTDOORS!**

Cook / bake together.

Allow your child to see you reading for pleasure or writing for a purpose such as making shopping lists or writing birthday cards.

Play games that encourage sharing and taking turns.



Share a book.

Play board games that involve moving a certain amount of steps on, and play with dice and dominoes.

Sing and tell nursery rhymes.

Plant seeds or bulbs in a pot or garden patch.

Talk to your child at every opportunity - e.g. what you are doing that day.

We look forward to welcoming you to  
**Ashcroft Infant and Nursery School.**