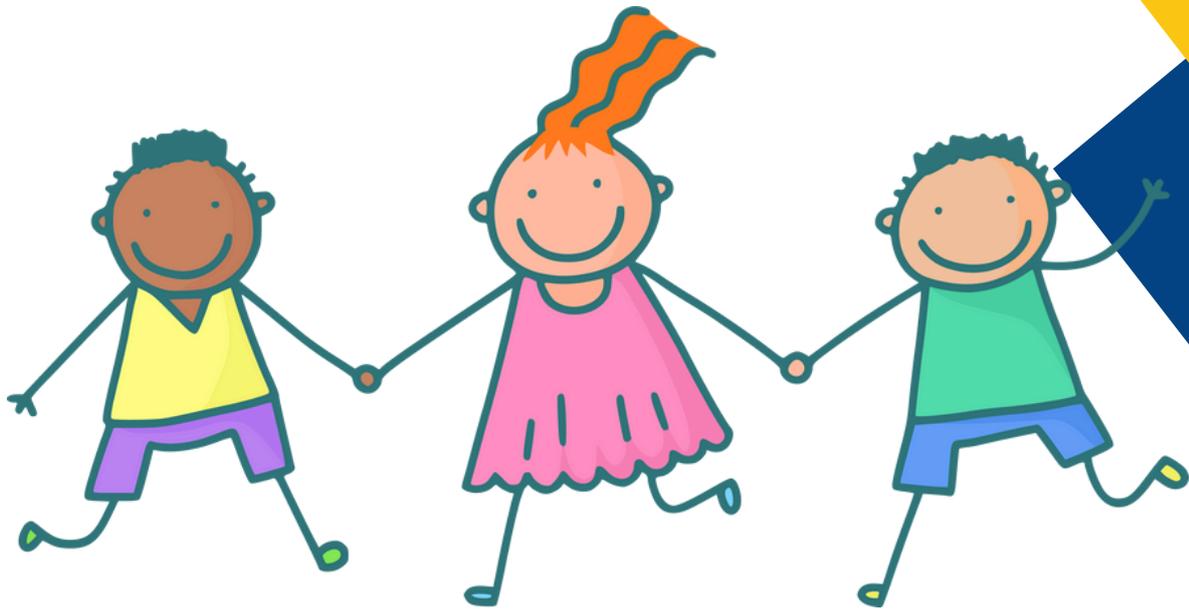




Whittington

Primary & Nursery School



Headteacher Mrs. Leeson

Deputy Mrs. Jakeman

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Welcome to our school



At Whittington, our pupils start their life-long learning journey in our Early Years Foundation Unit in a happy, safe and secure learning environment where they can flourish and achieve their full potential.

Learning in Early Years adopts a highly successful play-based approach both within the classroom and in our outdoor learning area. Through play, our children are encouraged to explore, negotiate, take risks and develop their language skills and relationships with others - skills essential to their development.

Our Early Years Foundation staff are highly adept at bringing learning to life and developing a deep sense of curiosity, awe and wonder to inspire and motivate our pupils to achieve their very best academically.

We also place great value on establishing a genuine partnership between home and school. Shared goals, encouragement and support from home and school lay a firm foundation for our pupils' learning and well-being. It also helps to prepare them for their next stage in education.

I hope you enjoy reading through our Early Years prospectus and that it gives you a feel for what being at Whittington means to our staff, pupils and wider school community.

Of course, you are also more than welcome to contact me if you would like to find out more information or arrange a visit to experience the "Whittington Way" for yourself.

Nichola Leeson
Head Teacher

Our EYFS Mission Statement



In the Whittington Foundation Stage Unit, we recognise that every child is unique and enters the setting with their own experiences and abilities. We aim to develop the children by building positive relationships with other children and supportive adults. We expect our children to show respect for themselves and others by sharing, taking turns and using manners.

Within a caring and safe environment, we encourage the children to be independent and take appropriate risks through stimulating and challenging activities where all children succeed.

We believe that children should take ownership for their own learning through adult supported and child-initiated activities based around a holistic curriculum. We expect the children to continue to be interested, motivated and excited to learn and that adults and children thrive in learning together.

Through ongoing and rigorous assessment, we plan to meet the needs of each individual child by taking their interests into account.



What will my child learn in Early Years?



The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) is a framework that sets the standards for the learning, development, and care of children from birth to five years old. It aims to ensure that all young children have the best possible start in life and are equipped with the skills they need for future success.

The EYFS is divided into seven key areas of learning and development:

Communication and Language,
Physical Development,
Personal, Social and Emotional Development,
Literacy,
Mathematics,
Understanding the World,
and Expressive Arts and Design.

These areas are designed to be interconnected and are intended to help children learn through playing, exploring, active learning and creative and critical thinking.

The framework also emphasises the importance of creating a safe, secure, and stimulating environment where each child can thrive at their own pace.

For parents, understanding the EYFS can help them support their child's learning and development both at home and in partnership with early years practitioners. That's why, here at Whittington, we value working with parents as partners to support every child to learn to the best of their ability.



All of our activities and learning experiences are aimed to develop outgoing, independent and confident learners, by developing the following 3 characteristics as described in the 'Early Years Outcomes' documentation:

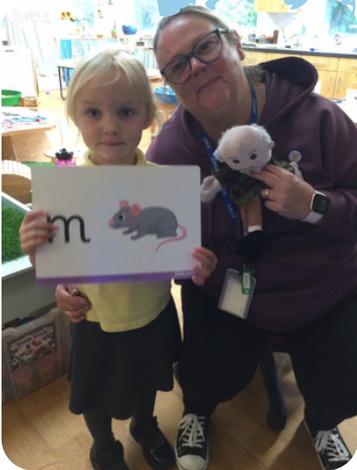
- Engagement; playing and exploring
 - Motivation; active learning
- Thinking; creating and thinking critically



How we teach Literacy & Maths



Rocket
Phonics



We teach our Early Years children to read and write through the use of systematic, synthetic phonics. Our scheme is Rocket Phonics. Nursery children begin their phonics journey through learning to hear and distinguish between sounds. Moving forward they start to recognise and write letters & sounds to read and write independently.



We teach maths skills through a mastery approach using practical and engaging experiences. This prepares them for future learning by building and practising early arithmetic skills so they are fully understood and can be applied in various ways. The children also learn about shape and measures through meaningful experiences.

Master the
Curriculum



NCETM
NATIONAL CENTRE FOR EXCELLENCE
IN THE TEACHING OF MATHEMATICS

The Great Outdoors



We have a fantastic garden area which is great for exploring the seasons and natural environment.

We have an outdoor kitchen, perfect for making mud pies! Why not climb aboard our pirate ship that's great for role play, get digging in our sand area, or even go on a fairy hunt? There's plenty of opportunity for play and exploration in the garden!



Here at Whittington, we value the importance of the outdoors as an extension to the classroom. It also supports part of our curriculum, 'Understanding the world' which is the foundation to Science, History & Geography. We also value the beauty of our rural location and the awe and wonder that nature inspires. We recognise that this also supports well-being and physical health. Children enjoy climbing, balancing and moving which develops and strengthens their gross motor skills which is so important. It also promotes team work, problem solving and risk taking.

The children have daily access to our many outdoor spaces. We also have designated learning times throughout the day and Nursery have an extra Forest Friday .

We have two Forest school trained staff in our unit.

Parent Partnerships

We fully believe that working with parents is key to help achieve the best for children.

We do this in a number of ways.



Tapestry is our shared online journal. We share your child's learning experiences by sending you updates through this app. You can also share home experiences by sending us posts too. We also share our planning with you so you can see what we are learning. We also aim to share tips and hints in how to help your child with their learning.



We have opportunities for you to join us and your child to enjoy a delicious school lunch.



We also like to invite you in to share in our open days. We have Nursery Halloween themed craft sessions and we all enjoy a Christmas Crafternoon! We are looking forward to having more events over the coming year.



**Rocket
Phonics**



We hold workshops to help you understand what your children are learning in school.

Admissions



Children may be admitted to our **Nursery (Ducklings)** in the September after their third birthday and can attend morning sessions, full days or a combination of both, during term time. Applications for September open the previous November and close on 31st January. Places will be allocated after that, according to the school's Admissions' Policy. Late applications will be considered if places are still available.

Children are admitted to our **Reception (Robins & Woodpeckers)** in the September after their fourth birthday. This is for full time sessions. We have 45 places available. Applications are made online via Staffordshire County Council from 1st November until the closing date of 15th January.

Reception class places are allocated by the Pupil Support Services of the Local Authority. More information is available on their website:

<http://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/education/schoolsandcolleges/admissions>

This is the same website address for you to apply to secondary school.



Nursery Fees



A morning session 8.45am- 11.45am= £15

A full day 8.45am-3.15pm will cost £32.50 which covers supervision over lunch time. School lunches are extra for Nursery aged children at a cost of £2.70 or you can provide a packed lunch from home.

Most working parents are entitled to financial support from the Government to assist with their registered childcare costs. This support can reduce the cost of your childcare. There are four main forms of support:

Tax-Free Childcare

Universal Credit

Tax Credits (now closed to new entrants)

Childcare Vouchers (now closed to new entrants)

Depending on your circumstances, you could save up to 85% on your registered childcare costs.

Additionally, parents in receipt of income-based benefits could receive a grant to assist with upfront childcare costs if they are moving back into work or significantly increasing their hours of work.

Employers For Childcare's Family Benefits Advise Service can advise you what support you are entitled to, simply give them a call on Freephone 02892 678 200 or email hello@employersforchildcare.org The service is free, impartial and confidential, and you could save a lot of money.

Childcare Vouchers

If you wish to use childcare vouchers we have accounts with the following providers:

Computershare

Sodexo Our school account number is 903422

Edenred Our school account number is P21259903

Midcounties Coop Our school account number is 85121915

Care-4 Our school account number is 21307033

Apple Our school account number is CA00011819

TFC <https://www.gov.uk/tax-free-childcare> Please select Whittington Primary and Nursery Sch with URN: 149421 as the provider

Wrap around care



'The Nest' is our on-site wraparound care club which provides before- and after-school sessions for any family that needs it. Please email The Nest for more information and to check availability wac@whittington.staffs.sch.uk

Morning Session

Full session from 7.30am including breakfast £5.25

Half session arriving from 8.15am £3.15

Afternoon Session (includes snack)

Half Session up to 4.45pm £7.35

Full Session until 5.45pm £8.90

*prices subject to change

In the event that your child is collected after 5.45pm, a late collection fee will be applied:

1-15 minutes- £10 or 16-30 minutes-£20

An additional £15 will then be charged for every additional 15 minutes, or part thereof, to allow us to cover the extra staffing and overhead costs incurred

You can find more information about The Nest on our school website

<https://www.whittington-school.co.uk>



**Thank you for your interest in joining
our school.**

**If you require further information
feel free to contact us.**

Email:

admin2@whittington.staffs.sch.uk

nursery@whittington.staffs.sch.uk

Tel: 01543 432487

