

Welcome to The Berkeley Academy Nursery



**WHERE WE STRIVE TO
DO OUR BEST!**



Contact Information and find us at

Address – Laidon Avenue, Wistaston, Crewe
Postcode - CW2 6RU

Email – admin@berkeley.cheshire.sch.uk

Telephone – 01270 845726

Website - www.theberkeleycheshire.sch.uk

Facebook - www.facebook.com/Berkeley/Nursery

Twitter - [@theberkeleyaca1](https://twitter.com/theberkeleyaca1)



Who are we?

We are a term-time Nursery located within the grounds of The Berkeley Academy. You will find us at the front of the school next to the parent car park.

We provide places for children aged between two to four years old.

We offer 15 and 30 hours funded places.

Funding entitlement must be accessed for a minimum of 3 hours per day and a maximum of 6 hours per day between the following hours.

*9.15am – 12.15pm – Morning Session
12.15pm – 3.15pm – Afternoon Session*

Children may start at 8.45am – Early start session for a charge of £5.50

At 11:30am the children will have their lunch. They will be able to have a packed lunch which can be brought in from home or have a hot dinner that is provided by the school kitchen (at an additional cost) If you decide to have a hot dinner you will have a choice of 4 options. Parents can order their child's lunch on our Meal Manager app.

We also offer places to non-funded children

8.45am – 9.15am – Early start session - £5.50

9.15 – 12.15 – Morning Session - £18.00

12:15 – 15:15 – Afternoon Session - £18.00

Our Team

Hi everyone and welcome to our meet the team page.

During Nursery you find all members of staff working closely with our 2, 3 and 4 year olds each day.

*Miss Monaghan
Teacher*



*Mrs Shorten Teaching
Assistant*



*Mrs Wright
Teaching Assistant*



*Miss Berry
Apprentice*



Our groups

The Nursery is split into 2 groups.

Our 2-year olds and rising 3's will be in our Jelly Tots group.



Our 4-year-old Pre School children, the year before your child starts Reception class will be in our Jelly Beans group



Indoor learning environment



Outdoor learning environment



Uniform

To highlight the difference between our Jelly Tots and Jelly Bean children, we would like our Jelly Bean Pre School children to wear the Berkeley uniform.

A white polo t-shirt and a blue jumper/ cardigan with the option to wear a pinafore, grey trousers, shorts or a skirt. We recommend trainers or sturdy shoes.



What I need to bring with me

- A good-sized backpack
- A couple of spare changes of clothes including footwear
Children have the opportunity to explore various materials including water, paint and mud so can get a bit over excited!
- A sturdy water bottle – this must only contain water – no juice or flavoured water
Children do tend to drop their bottles and some types have a tendency to break easily.
- If not toilet trained, spare nappies or pull ups
- A snack – this must be a piece of fruit/vegetable sticks
- A lunch box
If having lunch and not having a hot dinner

For sunny days

- Sun cream (labelled)
Please apply before coming into Nursery to help staff and we will re-apply
- A sun hat



For colder days

- A warm coat
- A winter hat
- Gloves

Please, please, please label ALL your belongings with your child's name. Unfortunately, from time to time items can go missing and having a name on each item helps staff to quickly return the items to correct person.

Our Nursery day in pre-school as a Jelly Bean

Your child will be taught using a carefully planned and well-balanced curriculum.

They will learn through a mixture of adult direct and child initiated activities.

Our days are flexible and will often follow the child's interest, but will look something like this.

8:45 – 9:15 – Children arrive and will take part in morning activities

9:15 - 9:20 - Registration

9:20 – 9:40 – Phonics and scribble whilst you wiggle

9:40 – 10:15 - Continuous provision and adult directed activities

10:15 – 10:30 – Whole group maths

10:30 – 10:45 – Snack time and time to talk

10:45 – 11:30 – Continuous provision and adult directed activities

11:30 – 12:15 – Lunch time

12:15 – 13:30 - Continuous provision and adult directed activities

13:30 – 13:45 – Group time activities

13:45 – 14:30 - Continuous provision and adult directed activities

14:30 – 15:00 – Tidy and snack

15:00-15:15- Story and home time

Drop off and collection

All children will arrive and enter through the door at the top of the ramp. We ask that all children be here by 8:45 ready for our morning activities.

We are very impressed with how our children confidently and independently come in and get ready for the day.

We pride ourselves on building great relationships with you and your child so if you need to chat to a member of staff or we feel your child needs a little bit of encouragement we have an open door policy.

If your child does either a morning or afternoon session, collections need to be prompt.

12:15 – All Children – Collection and drop off will be at the door at the top of the ramp.

15:15 – Jelly Beans – Collection will be at the door at the top of the ramp.

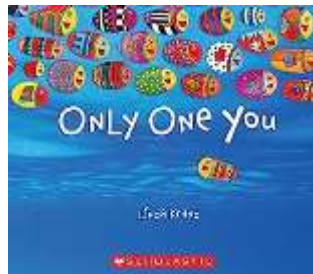
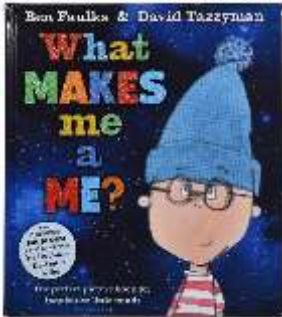
15:15 – Jelly Tots – Collection will be the door opposite the staff car park.



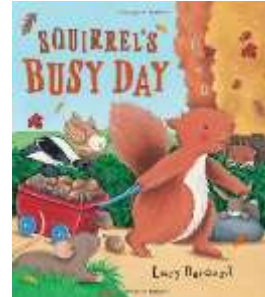
If your child is being picked up by someone new. You will need to inform us beforehand and give the collector the password for your child.

Topics
and some of the stories we read. Check our website
for more details.

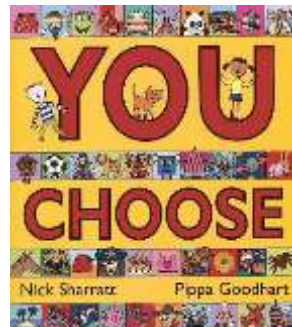
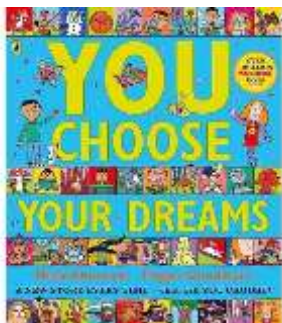
Autumn 1 – All About Me



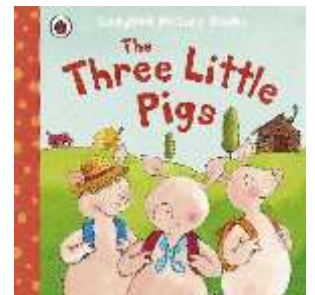
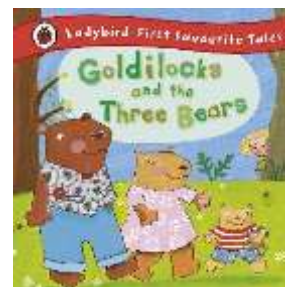
Autumn 2 – Celebrations



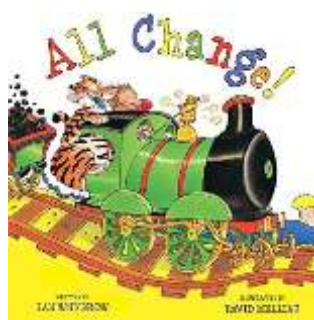
Spring 1 – New Year, New Possibilities



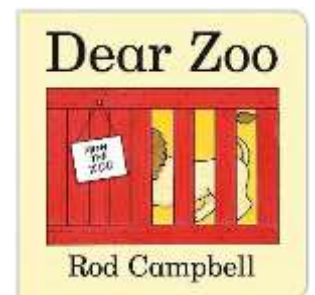
Spring 2 – Traditional Tales



Summer 1 – Transport



Autumn 2 – Animals



The Berkeley Curriculum

What is the Early Years Foundation Stage? (EYFS)

The EYFS is the period of education from Birth to five. The Berkeley Academy Nursery educates children from the term after their second birthday till the age of four.

The EYFS claims its name and importance from the fact it gives children secure foundations for later learning. Early experiences affect children's attitude to learning, so it is vitally important we get it right. All children learn best from experiences that are suitable for their stage of development. Play is key to the way young children learn. Through play, children can develop, for example: the confidence needed for learning; the social skills needed for personal development and the skills needed for reading and writing. We encourage independence from an early stage to aid problem solving skills.

Taking all this into account, the children will be given the opportunity to learn through a carefully planned, well-balanced, thematic curriculum.

Prime areas include

- *Communication and Language – Speaking, Listening, Attention and Understanding*
- *Physical Development - Gross Motor Skills, Fine Motor Skills*
- *Personal, Social and Emotional Development - Self-Regulation, Managing Self, Building Relationships*

Specific areas include

- *Literacy – Comprehension, Word Reading, Writing*
- *Mathematics – Number, Numerical Patterns*
- *Understanding The World - Past and Present, People, Culture and Communities, The Natural World*
- *Expressive Arts & Design - Creating with Materials, Being Imaginative and Expressive*

At The Berkeley Academy Nursery the children will be assessed against the non-statutory framework Development Matters, which is a document that bands the development of a child in months for each of the seven areas. This then merges into the Early Learning Goals, which the children will be assessed against at the end of the Reception Year.

We have also adapted this to meet our own Berkeley Academy Curriculum by incorporating additional fundamental skills that we feel can help the children flourish further.

Tapestry

In nursery we pride ourselves on a 'no minutes lost' approach. This means being completely present in the moment with the children. How we do this is to limit our time on devices. In a world of technology, we feel this is beneficial for the children to see in our daily routine and allows the adults to focus on sharing learning experiences in the moment. We also understand that as parents, handing over your child to the care of another can be an emotional time. As your child adjusts to experiences without you there, most parents continue to want to share in these times.

At your settling in visit you will also receive a book to fill with all the fabulous things you get up to at home. You will also receive a picture on Tapestry of your child's first day.

Therefore, on tapestry we do what we call a 'photo drop' each week. This is where a teacher will briefly photograph the kind of activities out that day to give you at home a feel for what your child has been doing in discovery time. Unfortunately, your child may not be in these photos every session but rest assured this does not mean they are not busy learning. Some are just more camera shy than others. If your child is a jelly tot a short paragraph will accompany the post to give you a conversation starter point with your young child.

If your child is never in the photos, please let a member of the team know and we will be able to keep that child in mind when we do our daily drop.

We will also have a termly stay and play which gives you an opportunity to see your child in the provision and chat with the staff.

Nappy changes and lunches - these are put on tapestry daily. However, tapestry will not alert you to this. It will be there when you log in and check.

We don't track children's snack on tapestry. Staff will monitor snack time in their own groups and if there was a concern we would discuss this with you.

We welcome posts from home showing your child's learning and what they have been up to when they are not in nursery. It's amazing to see the children's confidence grow over the year sharing these posts with their friends.

Tapestry isn't to be used as a messaging service as we are so busy having fun we don't get chance to check it throughout the day. If you need to get a message to us please either email admin@berkeley.cheshire.sch.uk or phone the school office.

For more information please follow the links below.

<https://tapestry.info/parents-carers.html>
www.theberkeleycheshire.co.uk/how-to-use-tapestry/



FAQ

“What can my child have in their lunch box?”

We encourage children to bring a healthy lunch but at the end of the day we just want to make sure they are happy and are eating. We would recommend not overloading a child's lunch box as this can overwhelm a child and cause them not to eat. 4/5 Items is plenty, A sandwich/ dunker/wrap, crisps, fruit/veg, yogurt and a pudding is plenty.

We are a nut free school, therefore, please do not send any nuts into school. Grapes and such should be cut length ways and guidance states no popcorn for under 5.

“Do you have a breakfast and after school club?”

At an additional cost, The Berkeley Academy do have a wraparound care service which is run by a separate team to the Nursery. This is called Boost Club.

Breakfast club runs from 7:30am to 8:45am.

After School Happy Hour runs from 3:30pm – 4:30pm.

After school club runs from 3:30pm to 6:00pm.

For more information email boost@berkeley.cheshire.sch.uk

Or call on 01270 845726

“Does my child automatically move from Nursery to Reception at The Berkeley?”

Unfortunately, not, you will still need to apply for a school place between September and January the year before your child is due to start Reception.

Applications should be made online at cheshireeast.gov.uk/schools/admissions/start-school-September or by calling Cheshire East Admissions on 0300 123 5012

“How many sessions would you recommend my child do when they start Nursery?”

Minimum of 2 days. Every child is different but as a general gauge we would recommend that a 2-year-old start with a couple of morning sessions to ease them into Nursery. For our 3 & 4 year olds we would recommend them to do most days to get them ready for being in school full time in Reception.

“Can my child increase their Nursery sessions?”

Children can only increase sessions 3 times in the academic year unless it is an exceptional circumstance, in which case please speak to the school office on 01270 845726. Funding forms will be sent out around these times.

November – For January sessions

February – For April sessions

May – For September sessions.

“Do you accept children in nappies or pull ups?”

Yes, we accept all children. Each member of staff checks the children regularly to see when they need changing and or encouraging the child to use the toilet /potty if they are toilet training. We would just ask that you bring in spare nappies or pull ups please.

“My child still has a sleep in the afternoon, is there anywhere for children to sleep?”

To facilitate this and the importance of rest at this age, we have created a quiet area for the children to have a rest where they will have access to a fold out bed. Just let staff in the morning if you want your child to have a sleep that day and how long for.

“Can my child bring a comforter, dummy or their own toys to Nursery?”

Your child is welcome to bring in something that will help them settle into a session when they first start Nursery. As they grow in confidence and settle into nursery life, we will gently encourage them to keep them in a safe place. We also ask dummies are only used at sleep time, as frequent use during the day can affect speech.

“Will my child have a settling in session?”

Yes, we offer settling in sessions for all 3 intakes.

September starters – Usually during the summer term

January starters – A date in December

April starters – A date in March

Please note, due to staff ratio's parents will have to stay with their child for the settling in visits.

“Can my child have a hot school dinner? How do I order the dinner?”

If you would like your child to have a hot dinner, you may order online via Meal Manager (details of how to register will be provided once your child has started), or let a staff member know when you drop off your child.

A hot school dinner currently costs £2.95per meal.

Things you can do at home to support your child

Read, read, read.

Children learn so much from books, from language skills to social skills. It is also a lovely way to bond.

If you would like further support or you would like to borrow some stories, please ask.

Promote independence

Encourage them to put on their own shoes and coats and find their own belongings. Show them where their name is on their belongings. Encourage bum wiping.

Singing

Sing lots of Nursery rhymes, this develops lots of skills including literacy and numeracy.

Funky fingers

Get fiddly, children need to build the muscles in their hands for writing and manipulating tools. Let your children do buttons, zips, play with playdough or threading beads.

Talk, Talk, Talk

Dive into your child's curiosity. "Why is the sky blue?"

"What would happen if you didn't put the rubbish in the bin?"

Point out what you see as you go about your day.

Narrate everything you do and talk through your routine.

"It's time for lunch. Daddy is making a sandwich".

Get involved

Mystery Readers

We love to share books at Nursery, to promote reading we would like to invite guests to come in throughout the year to read a story to the children at the end of the day. Children get very excited to see who the next mystery reader will be.

You can either bring your own book from home or choose from the books we have at Nursery. We have our end of the day story at 2:45pm

Celebrations

To give the children a broad view of the world we live in, we like to incorporate a range of world celebrations.

Do you celebrate cultures such as:
Ramadan
Diwali
The Lunar new year
Or any others

We would love to learn more about these wonderful celebrations.

Occupations

Like with celebrations, we love to learn about different occupations.

Do you work/worked in a job that the children would find fascinating? How would you feel coming in and talking to the children about your job?

Children love role playing occupations including hair dressers, police officers, nurses, vets, builders, bakers and many more.

These chats could really help expand the children's knowledge and create a new way of thinking in their play.

Parent Helpers

Throughout the year we will have days where we may need extra help with the children, for example for a Christmas performance we may need extra hands to help the children get changed into their costumes.

We would also like to welcome helpers to come and help with baking, musical or craft activities.

FOBS (Friends of Berkeley School)

We are a group of volunteer parents and grandparents who meet regularly to plan and organise exciting events for the children and raise funds for our school.

The funds raised are used to purchase equipment that both teaching staff and parents believe will enhance the education, socialisation and overall experience our children have during their time at the school.



To register interest, please let a member of staff know on the door or leave a message on Tapestry and we will arrange a time and date.