

**Getting Started at
Magherafelt Nursery
School
September 2022**

A Warm Welcome Awaits You...

- We are really looking forward to getting to know your child.
- We are a dedicated staff with many years of experience of working with nursery aged children.
- The children will be in a class group of 26 children with one teacher and one nursery assistant.
- The well being of your child and your family are important to us.
- You will be welcome to join your child at the 'Meet and Greet' Session, and at the 'Stay and Play' session at the start of Term 1.
- We will share your child's learning journey with you and keep you informed about how your child is settling in.
- We will build up your child's time at school when your child is ready and when routines are in place.
- We want to work in partnership with you, the parent and appreciate your support.
- The 'Getting Started' in Magherafelt Nursery School handbook will provide you with key information about the school.

Stay and Play Session Term 1



- This is a special day for you and your child and we encourage you to join in with the play activities.
- You are your child's first educator and you know your child best so tell us about your child.
- Each 'Stay and Play' session will last for 1 hour and will have a small pod of children.
- Two parents may attend but no older / younger siblings on this occasion (babies excepted).
- We will aim to answer any questions that you have.
- We will give you 'An All About Me' booklet which you can complete at home and return.
- You will receive a Policy Summary and you will have some data capture forms to complete and return.
- We encourage you to add a family photo to the 'All About Me' booklet or send it to the school email address.



What do I need to bring for my child?



- Full set of spare clothing
- Box of tissues
- Care Plan and Medication from your GP / Consultant *if your child has a medical condition.*
- £25 School Fund at your earliest convenience.
- School bags are not needed.

Exploring, Learning and Growing Together...

We will seek to nurture a community of children who are:

- Happy and healthy
- Caring and helpful
- Enthusiastic and independent
- Creative thinkers
- Motivated learners
- Flexible and resilient
- Inclusive of others



Teachers and Assistants



Mrs Whiteside



Mrs McGill



Mrs Quinn



Mrs Campbell



Mrs Gilmour



Mrs McCreesh



Mrs McLernon



Mrs McCullagh

Support Staff



Mrs Walker is our Senior Clerical Officer and she works hard to keep the school administration flowing and to keep you up to date with nursery events.



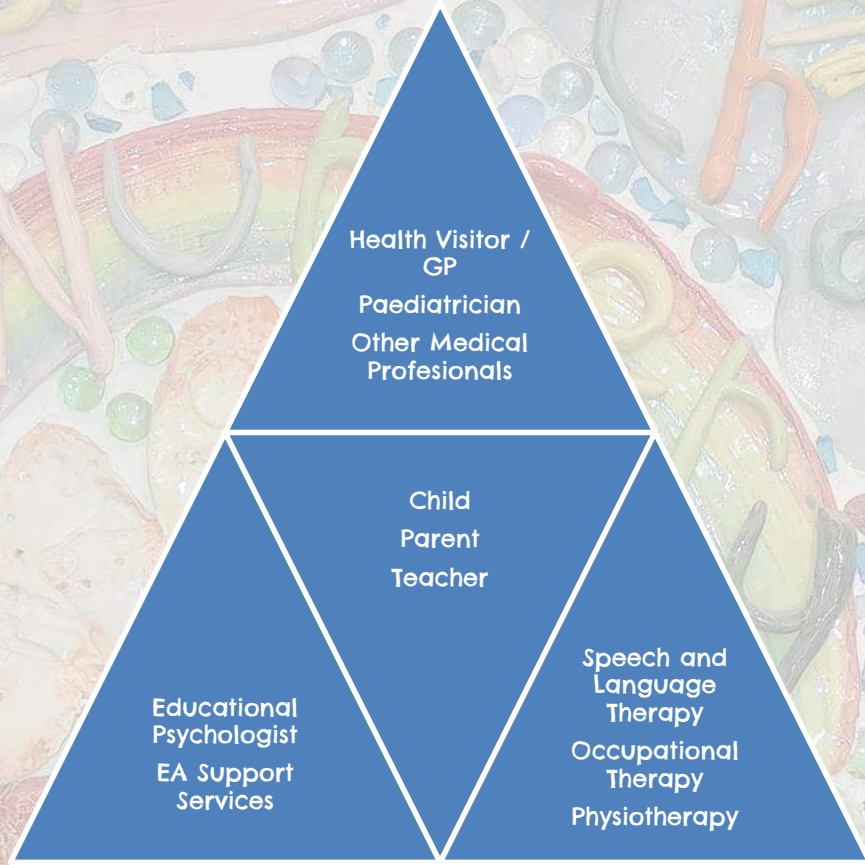
Mr Whiteside is our Building Supervisor and he takes great pride in his work, keeping our school sparkling and clean and doing lots of DIY jobs!



Mrs Young is our cleaner and she works hard to clean our school at the end of each day! She also helps out at our Breakfast Club and generally around the school.

We are a conscientious and caring team who will work hard to ensure your child has a fabulous year at Magherafelt Nursery School.

Other Professionals who may work with your child



Most Services are triaged by level of need and many services have significant waiting lists due to the impact of Covid 19.

What To Wear to School

We do not have a uniform but make sure that your child wears practical clothing that is suitable for playing in both indoors and out!



With 130 active children in the building, clothing can get mixed up! Put child's name on shoes, jumpers, coats, hats, gloves and snood.



- tracksuit bottoms / leggings
- t-shirt / long sleeved top
- waterproof velcro shoes
- microfibre fleece with a half-zip
- coat, hat, gloves, snood

- laced shoes
- scarf
- belt
- ear-rings
- jewellery

Top Tips for Settling into Nursery Life

- Make sure that your child can use the bathroom as independently as possible.
- Teach your child to use a tissue and to put it in the bin.
- Talk to your child about the names of the teacher and assistant.
- Give your child experiences of being away from you before starting school.
- Each child has his / her own personality so try not to compare your child with others!
- Read all messages, emails and texts.
- Trust the staff and get to know them as best you can.



Settling In

Stay and Play

Two parents are welcome and must stay with your child for the duration of the session so that you can introduce your child to the play activities and get to know the teacher and assistant.

Day 1 in week commencing 5th / 12th September.
Give your child a cuddle and tell him / her that you have a job to do and will be back soon.

Follow the Settling In Plan for your child and be guided by the teacher who will let you know how your child is getting on.

Keeping You informed

- Website and NI Schools App
- Facebook ('Like' us!)
- Monthly Newsletters
- Monthly Curriculum Information
- Learning Together Programme on the website
- Settling In Meeting (in person / by phone)
- Progress Meeting
- Seesaw Learning Journey





Mrs A McNicholl
Chair, Board of
Governors



Mr N Richardson
Designated Governor

Safeguarding Team



Mrs D Campbell
Deputy Designated
Teacher



Mrs L Whiteside
Head of
Safeguarding



Mrs Quinn
Deputy Designated
Teacher



Mrs L McGill
Deputy Designated
Teacher

The Nursery School Day

Full Time Class
9am-1.30pm

Greeting Time
Outdoor Play
Snack Time
Story Time
Indoor Play
Lunch Time
Music Time
Outdoor Play
Home Time

Part Time Morning Class
9am-11.30am

Part Time Afternoon Class
12.30pm-3pm

Greeting Time
Indoor Play
Snack Time
Outdoor Play
Story Time
Music Time
Indoor Play
Home Time



Regular handwashing will be added at key points of the day...

My Child Will Experience...

- High quality teaching and learning
- A balance of child and adult led activities
- An enabling, enriching and nurturing environment in which to learn
- Spontaneous and planned experiences
- Teaching matched to the ability level of each child
- Learning in the indoor and outdoor environments

Enriching and Engaging Themes

- All About Me and My School
- Playing By Myself and With Others
- The Adventures of Mr Hullabaloo and Friends
- The Adventures of Elmer and Friends
- Traditions, Festivals and Celebrations
- Keeping Healthy and Safe
- Exploring the Seasons and Weather
- Finding out about animals and habitats
- Exploring the Garden
- Moving On and Moving Up

Child Led Learning



It is the teacher's role to:

- Extend and widen the learning as children play and explore together.
- Develop and deepen the language experiences.
- Encourage, motivate and support the play experiences.
- Observe and document the progress of each child.

Teacher Led Learning



The teacher and assistant will:

- Make handwashing and hygiene a regular part of the school day.
- Encourage the children to get to know each other.
- Set up structured activities for all children to experience.
- Lead group activities such as craft, Eco tasks, planting seeds, circle time, story time and physical activity.
- Teach songs, rhymes, drama and dance.

Learning outdoors in a Stimulating Environment



The children's favourite time of day and a great way to keep healthy... All areas of the pre-school curriculum are taught outdoors.



Together Time

Story Time

Music Time



Attention and listening
Sequence of a story



Rhythm and beat
Fast and slow,
loud and soft

Home Time is a Special Time



- The teacher will bring your child to you at the door.
- Take an interest in what your child is telling you or showing you.
- Chat to the teacher when you can.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development



Early Language and Communication



- Discussing ideas
- Reading books
- Making marks
- Writing notes
- Drawing pictures
- Talking to others
- Using gestures



Gross and Fine Motor Skills



Mathematical Development



- Learning to sort explain the thinking
- Learning about size, capacity, shape and measure
- Rote counting, touch counting, number patterns and number recognition
- Solving problems and finding solutions



Imagination and Creativity



Learning About Our World



Curriculum Enriching Experiences



Visitors to School will be in line with Department of Education Guidance in relation to Covid 19.

**Thank you for
choosing
Magherafelt Nursery
School and we look
forward to meeting
you in September.**

**Enjoy the
Summer break!**

