

# Ladybird Class

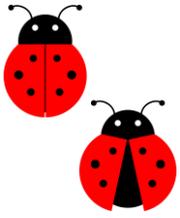


## **Contact Information:**

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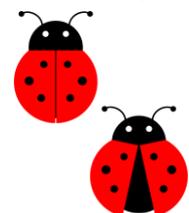
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## Welcome

At Stoughton Nursery we aim to be friendly, approachable and helpful. We create an environment which will stimulate and encourage your child; developing their confidence, independence and positive self-esteem, providing a sound basis on which to build all future learning.



### The Ladybird Staff Team



**Mrs Coles**  
Nursery Teacher



**Mrs Crossley**  
Nursery Teacher



**Mrs Collins**  
Nursery Assistant



**Miss Holt**  
Nursery Assistant



**Miss Bruder**  
Nursery Assistant



**Mrs Loveday**  
Nursery Assistant

### Language Unit - Bees



We have a pre-school speech and language unit at Stoughton catering for 7 children with specific needs in this area. They join our morning session at nursery for approximately 1 hour per day and also for P.E. on Monday mornings. We share resources with the Language Unit and the staff meet to plan together each week.

## The Nursery Session

Five mornings	8.40 -11.40 am
	or
Five afternoons	12.30 - 3.30 pm

Each nursery session is based on a balance of activities; some child initiated and some adult directed, and is a play based curriculum. Each child is assigned to a Key Person in line with the recommendations of the Early Years Foundation Stage. The Key Person will work alongside each child to help them feel secure; extend their own learning experiences and be aware of the next steps in their development. This person is responsible for maintaining the child's online profiling system (Tapestry) containing photos and observations of each child's achievements. Parents are encouraged to share any concerns or achievements, at home with their child's Key Person.



On arrival, after finding their name and hanging up their coat, each child is encouraged to choose a library book with their parent or carer to be read at home. The child may select and change a book as frequently as they wish.

Once you have brought your child into the nursery it is best to say goodbye quite soon. The children can then select what they would like to do from the activities that are set out or use a resource of their own choosing. To help with this a list of some of the day's activities are displayed on the wall by the library for parents to look at with their child. An adult will intervene as necessary in order to support and extend the children's learning according to individual needs. The adult will also encourage and support the children to try a wide variety of activities and persevere to develop new skills.

The equipment that the children need is, as far as possible, at their own height so that they can help themselves. The room is divided into different areas in line with the EYFS (Early Year's curriculum) e.g. creative, finding out, role play etc. and the garden has a variety of resources the children can access themselves e.g. balls, see-saws, sand play.

In the creative area children are encouraged to develop their own ideas. When they have finished their work of art the children can put it on the drying rack themselves.

The children are split into small key groups. Groups meet on different days according to the sessions their key person is working. Group times cover a variety of areas of learning. We often have a circle time to discuss the children's news, ideas and feelings. Other activities may be related to our weekly theme or a numeracy/literacy session. Group time lasts 10-15 minutes.

During the session a snack bar is available, inside and outside, for the children to choose a piece of fruit and have a drink of milk or water.



Our outside area is a wonderful resource, where children can ride bikes, play in the sandpit or playhouse. There are also planned activities linked to nursery topics, covering all areas of the curriculum. Children are encouraged to take part in caring for the garden by helping with weeding, planting and planning what to grow. The garden is used every day and the children can move freely from inside to outside.



We are very fortunate to have such a lovely area where the children can achieve so much, it is used everyday so please make sure your child is suitably clothed and expect them to come home muddy!

At the end of the session we sing a song as a signal for the children to help tidy up inside and outside. We end each session with whole class carpet time. Activities during this time may include stories, singing, circle time discussions and other activities related to our weekly learning intentions.

## **Planning**

The nursery staff meet weekly to plan according to The Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum. Themes are developed from the children's interests and individual needs. We also incorporate activities relating to festivals and celebrations relevant to the children's learning.

## **Information**

You will receive a nursery newsletter via Parentmail once a fortnight which is also available on the school website. This contains information for the nursery, including information about what the children will be learning, and any relevant whole school activities parents need to be aware of. **Please read it carefully.**

## **Home Time**

The children are handed over to the adult who has come to collect them at the nursery door. No child may go with anyone else except by prior arrangement. A large diary is kept in the nursery entrance for this purpose and for recording clinic appointments, special events and children's birthdays.

## **Physical Education**

Once a week (morning and afternoon) we have a PE session where we use the hall. The children take off their shoes and socks and are encouraged to do this themselves.

The activities in the hall may take the form of moving around imaginatively to music, acting out a story, exploring some of the apparatus or playing ring games. If a child feels unhappy/uncomfortable at first they can sit at the edge and watch and will be encouraged to join in next time.

Please help your child to become independent in taking off and putting on their shoes and socks.

Please send them in shoes that they can put on themselves and which need little help with the fastening.

- Tights and lace up shoes are not very suitable.
- Earrings are not allowed.
- Long hair should be tied back.

## **Exchanging information**

The nursery staff aim to be approachable and friendly. We welcome any comments/suggestions so please feel free to talk to us about any worries or queries you might have. Please remember that sometimes it is better that the child is unable to hear your comments. We have a suggestion box for you to contribute your comments located in the cloakroom.

## **Record Keeping**

The child's key person monitors children's achievements through observations using our online profiling system called Tapestry. This observation may be an individual observation or a group observation. It may include a photo or video of the activity the child was involved in and will link to one or more areas of the EYFS. When your child starts Nursery, you will be given your own Tapestry account, where you will be able to access your child's online journal. The nursery holds an open afternoon once each term for parents to discuss their child's progress and next steps with their Key Person. A short report is also sent out but you are welcome to make an appointment with the teacher anytime to discuss any immediate concerns. The children's profiles are working documents which the children, nursery staff and parents can all contribute to.

## **Additional Notes**

### **Maths games and puzzles.**

We have a selection of maths games and puzzles available for you to borrow to play at home with your child. These are located in the cloakroom please help yourselves. We encourage you to use this as often as you like.

### **What to bring**

A box of tissues at least once a term.

A voluntary contribution of £12 per year or £4 per term (towards cooking etc.)

### **How parents can help**

When you bring your child to nursery please hand them over to the nursery staff if you are unable to stay and settle them.

Please discourage children from bringing toys to nursery if possible. Each Friday one of the key groups has a Showing Day to share a toy or something special from home. A rota for this is located in the cloakroom area.

**It is very important** that you do not allow the nursery children to play on the outside equipment before or after the session, including their older and younger siblings.

### **Praise**

After the session encourage your child to tell you something that they have done that day. Share their enthusiasm and pride in their pictures, paintings and models. Give your child praise for their 'work of art' and encourage them to talk about what they have made. We also praise individual children each day for something kind or helpful they have done. They are awarded 'Ladybird of the Day'.

### **Time Keeping**

Please be on time so that your child can make friends and get to know the pattern of the day. This is especially important on P.E. day as the time we have in the hall is limited and the children enjoy it so much that they would be disappointed to miss it.

Please do not be late picking up, as the last child can become upset. Nursery staff also need to set up for the following session/day.

### **Unable to Attend Nursery**

Please phone the school and inform the office if your child is unable to attend nursery or send a note on the child's return. Please do not send your child to school if they are feeling unwell, or if you felt it necessary to give them Calpol. Please note our policy regarding children's sickness. If a child has been absent with sickness/diarrhoea they need to be kept off school for 48 hours following the last bout of sickness/diarrhoea. Children should not be in school if they have needed Paracetamol (e.g. Calpol or similar) to relieve a temperature.

### **Things to collect for us**

We always appreciate newspapers, empty boxes and various materials for creative activities.

### **Home Visiting**

We aim to encourage close co-operation with parents right from the start. In order to do this we invite parents to accept a home visit. We value and foster the home school link because working together we can make the transition from home to nursery a happy one and give your child the best possible start for their future education.

### **Parent helpers**

We encourage and welcome all parent helpers. Please come and talk to one of the nursery staff if you are keen and available to do this. All helpers need to hold a valid Disclosure and Barring Service, please ask for information.

### **Clothing**

Painting, glueing, cooking and gardening are regular activities at Nursery so your child will get messy! Please dress them in suitable comfortable clothes, not anything too special and sensible shoes (not flip flops or crocs). Also avoid long coat ties or baggy trousers that may get caught in bicycle pedals and wheels.

### **Head lice**

Please check your child's hair regularly. There are several advice leaflets which you may collect from the school office.

## Forest Schools

Forest School is an inspirational process that offers children regular opportunities to achieve and develop confidence and self-esteem through hands on, achievable tasks in a woodland environment.

Across the UK and Denmark, Forest Schools has demonstrated success with children of all ages who visit the same local woodlands on a regular basis.

What does the programme involve?

Our forest school leader will run sessions within the school grounds, providing you have given permission. Forest Schools has the most impact when undertaken as a long term weekly or fortnightly programme over a term or an academic year.

### **What are the benefits of Forest School?**

Through play and exploration, participants have the opportunity to learn about the natural environment, how to handle risks and most importantly how to use their own initiative to solve problems and co-operate with others. Participating children take part in a variety of activities which reflect the rhythms and changes of the seasons which help them to develop:

- Self-Awareness
- Self-Regulation
- Good social communication skills
- Independence
- A positive mental attitude, self-esteem and confidence



Forest school sessions take place in the wildlife area in the main school grounds unless the weather conditions are deemed hazardous, the rain or snow does not stop our sessions.

The sessions are dependent on adequate staffing in the nursery and on Parent Helpers each week, who will require a DBS.

## The Friends of Stoughton Infant School

The Friends of Stoughton Infant School organise social and fundraising events throughout the year. These include quiz nights, school discos, ladies nights, Christmas Fairs, coffee mornings, sponsored events, craft workshops, pantomimes and many more fun activities.

The money raised provides additional funds for the school. In recent years the friends have purchased a willow dome, several large murals, playground equipment, a pebble pit, gardening equipment, and helped with costs of a trim trail. Funds also provide curricular resources for the children helping to enrich their learning, and seasonal treats include a visit from the Easter bunny complete with chocolate eggs, and at Christmas crackers and party bags for all the children.

The Friends have raised money and paid for home corner furniture and the playhouse for the nursery.

The Friends group is run by parents and everyone is welcome to join either as a regular helper or just to participate in individual events. We are a friendly and informal group and have immense fun raising money to benefit the school. Any ideas for fundraising are always welcome.



### Admission to the Nursery Unit

Please contact Mrs. Jenner in the school office to place your child on the waiting list.

### Admission to School

Whilst some of our children transfer to our Reception classes there is no right of entry to school. Further information about school admissions will be given in the Autumn term.

## Cursive Script

Children are taught cursive script in the nursery and in school. These are the letters with a lead in and a lead out stroke to help them when they begin to join up letters in school.

When your child begins to show an interest in writing please encourage them by showing the correct way of forming letters and how to hold the pencil. A good way to start is by teaching them to write their name. Remember to begin with a capital letter and the rest in lower case. e.g. *D a n i e l*





Dear Parents/ Guardians,

All Nursery and Reception children at Stoughton Infant School have a personal on-line Learning Journey which records photos, observations and comments, in line with the Early Years Foundation Stage, to build up a record of each child's achievements during their time with us.

We use the Tapestry system, which is hosted on safe, secure and dedicated servers based in the UK. Once set up you will have password protected access to ONLY your child's on-line Learning Journey.

We would love to share this with you and we encourage you to contribute to it by uploading photos, videos and comments, or commenting on observations made by us. Both parents can sign up for access but both are required to sign the permission slip over leaf.

In order for your child's Learning Journey to be shared in line with safeguarding procedures, please give us permission by completing the attached slip and return to school ASAP.

If you have any questions or queries about the electronic Learning Journeys please do not hesitate to get in contact with us.

Many Thanks

Miss Davies  
The Early Years Coordinator



## Tapestry Sharing Permission Slip 1



### **Agreed guidelines for receiving your child's Learning Journey as a PDF**

As a parent I will...

- Not publish any of my child's observations, photographs or videos on any social media site
- Understand that my child's image may be in another child's Learning Journey if they were engaged in the same activity. This image will not be shared by the other parent (please see above point)
- Keep the login details of any email account personal and private in accordance with safe online behaviour
- Speak to a member of staff if I experience any difficulties accessing my child's Learning Journey

I agree to the guidelines:

Print name: \_\_\_\_\_ Name of child: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to the child \_\_\_\_\_

The e-mail address I would like to use is:

.....

## Tapestry Sharing Permission Slip 2



### **Agreed guidelines for receiving your child's Learning Journey as a PDF**

As a parent I will...

- Not publish any of my child's observations, photographs or videos on any social media site
- Understand that my child's image may be in another child's Learning Journey if they were engaged in the same activity. This image will not be shared by the other parent (please see above point)
- Keep the login details of any email account personal and private in accordance with safe online behaviour
- Speak to a member of staff if I experience any difficulties accessing my child's Learning Journey

I agree to the guidelines:

Print name: \_\_\_\_\_ Name of child: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to the child \_\_\_\_\_

The e-mail address I would like to use is: