

**High Blantyre Nursery Class**

**Starting Nursery Information**

**Session: 2023-2024**



**Our Ethos**

Welcome! We hope to make your child’s time at nursery a pleasant and enjoyable experience, where they feel confident to explore, investigate, learn through play and enjoy new experiences.

At High Blantyre Nursery, we practise a Froebelian approach, where we provide high-quality nursery experiences, where all children and young people are safe, happy, healthy and well cared for. We create a safe, stimulating, play based environment, where all children and young people are treated with mutual trust and respect. Our ethos promotes the rights of the child. We strive to work in partnership with parents, families, the wider community and other agencies. We value and respect all children, their families and carers. We aim to involve and consult with all about the aspects of the life and work of our nursery.

We provide an inclusive environment and show respect for all children, young people and families without discrimination of age, religion, ethnic background, social and economic factors or gender. We celebrate the diversities within our children and communities and the individual achievements and contributions of each child.

We are delighted that you have chosen to send your child to High Blantyre Nursery Class and we are looking forward to working with you, in supporting your child’s learning and development.

Further reading <https://www.froebel.org.uk>

**Our Vision**

Children will lead their own learning and have an early learning and childcare experience that is nurturing, engaging, inviting, and exciting. Working together with families and the local community, ensuring that we keep the child at the heart of everything.

**Our Values**

Friendship

Kindness

Respect

Independence

Safety

**Our Aims**

* We aim to provide quality learning experiences that are led by the child. Providing experiences both indoor, outdoor and within the local community.
* We aim to provide a safe, secure, inclusive and nurturing environment.
* We aim to promote and foster positive relationships with our children and their families.
* We aim to create an ethos where we celebrate the whole child.

“Children are like tiny flowers: They are varied and need care, but each is beautiful alone and glorious when seen in the community of peers.”

Friedrich Frobel

**Contact details**

High Blantyre Nursery Class

High Blantyre Primary School

Broompark Road

Blantyre

G72 9SH

Nursery direct telephone number: 01698 710648

Email:office@highblantyre-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk

IMPORTANT

We recommend you download the following as this is how we share children learning and share updates of information.

**Twitter:** @hb\_nursery

**School App:**

Go to Play store/Apple store

Search PSA

Download - School App for parents

Select High Blantyre Primary School

**Session times**

Our nursery provides early learning and childcare for children aged three to five, from 9am to 3pm and operates on a term time basis. Children are entitled 30 hours a week, however full entitlement does not need to be taken. Please ensure that you bring your child on time and adhere to the session times to allow your child to have the best nursery experience possible. If your child requires to attend an appointment and you need to take your child away earlier, please notify a member of staff by email or telephone.

**Settling in**

Prior to your child starting nursery, you will be given the opportunity to attend an induction information session. This will give you the opportunity to find out about our nursery, meet our staff, find out how we work in partnership with you, our daily routines, how the children learn through play and our general expectations. You will have the opportunity to ask any questions you may have before your child starts nursery. We understand and appreciate that the transition from home to nursery can be difficult for children and their families, our trained nursery staff will work closely with children and their families to support you through this time.

When your child begins their nursery placement, you will be asked to fill out some paperwork (available in other language formats if requested); child’s personal care plan, permissions, information sharing and a Child smile fluoride varnish consent form. A member of staff will be able to help you if you require any support.

Some children may settle into the nursery way of life easily and for other children this may take more time. Our trained staff will work closely with children and their families to become more secure, confident, and comfortable as they find their place within the nursey.

**Attendance**

We encourage parents and carers to ensure their child has good attendance at nursery. However, we do understand that there will be times when your child is not able to attend. If your child is going to be absent from nursery, please call to inform us on the first day of their absence and keep us informed of how they are.

Staff will inform the school office if they have not been notified of an absence and the office staff will make a courtesy call to you.

This is South Lanarkshire Council Policy.

**Emergency contacts**

It is very important that you provide the nursery with the correct names and up to date telephone numbers of the people that can be contacted in the event of an emergency. They will only be contacted if we are not able to contact you first instance.

**Parking**

* Under no circumstances should parents/carers park in the staff car park without a disabled badge or permit issued by the school.
* Cars must not park in the turning circle.
* Parking is available in the drop off zone at the school gates only.

**What to wear and bring to nursery**

**Nursery uniform:**

light blue/white polo shirt or t shirt and navy-blue joggers, shorts/leggings.

* Bring a bag with full changes of clothing **please put your child’s name on ALL belongings i.e. clothes, bags, footwear.**
* Children will get dirty at nursery please ensure that they wear clothes that you do not mind getting messy/dirty. All children have free flow access to outdoor play. Children have daily opportunities to take part in a wide range of messy experiences daily as part of their nursery learning experience.
* Children should wear shoes with flat soles, and it would be beneficial if they have Velcro fastenings to encourage your child’s independence.
* It is important that you dress your child for the weather e.g. waterproof jacket and boots/wellies.
* We encourage children to be as independent as possible; you can help us by encouraging them to dress themselves at home.

**Sun Protection**

During warmer weather, please ensure that you apply sunscreen to your child **before** they come to nursery in the morning. The nursery does not provide sunscreen and all parents/carers must provide us with a bottle of sunscreen with their child’s name clearly labelled on it. This will be stored in the nursery and nursery staff will support your child to re –apply during the session and let you know when it is running low.

**Toileting**

Most children are toilet trained by the time they start nursery with us. However, if your child wears a nappy or pull up you are required to provide nappies, nappy sacks, and wipes. Nursery staff will inform you when these are running low so you can replenish items. We change children at regular intervals throughout the session or when it becomes apparent that they need a change.

When your child indicates that they are ready toilet train, please discuss this with your child’s key worker so we can help to support this within nursery.

**Arriving and Leaving Nursery**

* Nursery doors open at 9am. Parents and carers enter with their child; children hang up their belongings at their peg. You and your child enter the playroom and go to their keyworker/group area. Please then sign your child in, help them to choose their lunch and if appropriate you can share any important information with their keyworker/or arrange an appointment at a more suitable time.
* If a member of staff has concerns over the care of the child at collection time, they will contact one of the child’s emergency contacts.
* Staff must be informed if your child is being collected by someone who does not usually collect them, please tell the person your child’s chosen password.
* If an adult attempts to collect your child from nursery and staff do not have their contact information, your child will not be permitted to leave, until nursery staff have made contact with you.

**What happens if my child is unwell?**

* In accordance with NHS guidelines, children who have sickness or diarrhoea must have a clear 48 hours before they return to nursery.
* If your child has any type of infection, please let the nursery know as soon as possible.
* All medicines / creams must be prescribed by your doctor before the nursery can give them to your child. You will also have to sign a medical consent form daily to enable the nursery to administer the medicine.
* The nursery is unable to give children any medication unless a doctor has prescribed it. There must be a label with your child’s name, date of birth and dosage on all medicine handed in to the nursery, this includes Calpol/ Paracetamol.
* Parents should already have given at least one dose of a new medicine to their child prior to attending nursery, to ensure that their child does not have an adverse reaction to the medication.
* If a child refuses to take medication, nursery staff must contact their parent/carer to inform them. A record of this should be recorded on a medicine form and parents will be asked to sign this at the end of the session.
* If your child becomes unwell in nursery, we will phone you and ask you to come and collect him or her. If you are unavailable, we will contact one of your emergency contact numbers.
* If your child suffers from any allergies and/or medical conditions, you must inform the nursery immediately. You will be required to sign a health protocol for your child.

Many childhood illnesses are contagious, so we need to consider the health of other children, parents and staff.

**Medicine**

**Medicine must be prescribed from a doctor/pharmacist labelled and in its original packaging.**

**First dose must be given by parents**.

**Fever management** – If your child appears unwell and feels ho= we will telephone you so you can make arrangements to collect your child.

All medicine held within the nursery is inspected every 28 days, to ensure it is in date, good condition, inform if medication is running low/still required. You will be asked to sign a 28-day protocol form to confirm that your child still requires the medicine.

***It is the responsibility of parents/carers to inform the nursery of any changes to emergency contacts or telephone numbers.***

**Accident/Incidents**

During your child’s time at nursery, they most likely will have accidents. Our staff are first aid trained and will ensure that all children are well looked after. At times, we may need to phone you if your child is particularly upset or if the accident is of a serious nature.

We have the responsibility to inform you of any accidents and incidents (no matter how minor the injury) which occur throughout the day. These are recorded and you will be informed when you collect your child. In most cases, the accident/incident will be minor and can be dealt with by staff. It is also helpful if parents inform nursery staff if their child has had an accident at home.

All head injuries will be recorded, and a phone call will be made to you at the time, in line with South Lanarkshire Council policy. In the event of a more serious accident or incident, staff will contact you immediately and any necessary emergency service. If your child becomes ill during their time at nursery, we will contact you. Telephone numbers and names of emergency contacts should be made available to staff for use in the event of an accident, illness or serious emergency.

**Eating Arrangements**



We are a health promoting nursery, we offer your child a healthy, nutritious and snack every day. We also aim to educate your child on how to make healthy food and drink and choices and keep active. We are a **nut free environment** therefore please ensure your child’s packed lunch **does not** contain nut products i.e., no peanuts, chicken satay sticks or chocolate spread.

Lunches are provided for children that attend the full day session and those who attend until 1pm within the nursery. Mealtimes are an enjoyable social time and a valuable learning opportunity for your child. We ensure our lunch routine is relaxed and children are encouraged to be independent and to communicate with their peers and staff. We operate rolling snack and lunch, and children are supported during this time by nursery staff. Lunches are provided by the school catering staff and are brought along to the nursery. Parents/carers are required to make sure their child has chosen their lunch daily when they arrive in the morning.

We prefer all our children to have a meal prepared by our catering staff for lunch. However, if your child needs to have a packed lunch, please make sure their name is clearly labelled on it and that it contains an ice pack.

Please ensure that you make healthy choices i.e.: a sandwich, piece of fruit and a yoghurt for pack lunches. Children should not be eating chocolate, crisps and sweets at lunch time. If you are giving your child grapes, they must be sliced lengthways to avoid choking. Water and milk are available throughout the session.

**Special diets/allergies**

Full provision is made for children with allergies. Details of any allergies and procedures to be followed should be provided in writing to the nursery. In the case of severe allergies, a medical protocol will be established for your child and shared with all nursery staff. It is important that staff are informed about any medical condition which requires treatment or any circumstances which would affect the child’s progress.

**Sleep**

During the nursery day if a child requests to lie down or appears tired they can rest in the quiet spaces. Small fold away mat beds and blankets are available if children wish to use these.

If a child is unwell, they can also lie down in this area whilst waiting for their parent/carer to come and collect them. Nursery staff record when a child falls asleep and checks on them every 15 minutes until they awake.

The quiet room is available to children during the session, children can take part in relaxation time or listen to stories.