



Cornton Nursery

Family Newsletter

August 2022

Dear Parent/Carers

We are looking forward to welcoming back all our returning children from Wednesday 17th August and welcoming all our new children and their families to Cornton Nursery. After nearly three years of a pandemic, working in hubs and a new refurbishment, we are able to start a fresh new year with lot of possibilities, have families back in for parent groups, learning sessions with their children and to have a fun filled year learning all together.

Some of the staff team have been working hard through the summer both indoors and outdoors to re vamp the learning environments. All staff reflected on the learning environments indoors, spoke to the children, did evaluation audits and have used lots of imagination to help promote children's imagination curiosity and communication.

Once our refurbishment was complete we ended up with a lot of unused space. Through consultation with the children last term, they gave lots of ideas so these will be ongoing. Some of our 'green fingered staff' have had some amazing results working very hard to transform the area outside the Acorn Room garden by creating planters, resourcing materials from local builders/companies and asking friend and families for plants and cuttings.



If you would like to help out for an hour or so or have skills you could share in the garden, please speak to a member of staff.

Our Nursery Team:

Nursery Head:	Sam Smith
Principal ECE:	Lyndsay Gass
Equity & Excellence Lead Senior	Lynne McKay
Admin Assistant:	Linda Samson, Julie Logan
Nursery Teacher:	Louise Bellin (6 weeks per year)

Willow Room

Senior ECE	Susan Smith
Early Childhood Educator:	Ashley Douglas
Early Childhood Educator:	Sarah Hawkes
Support Worker ECE:	Nichole Robin, Helen Millar

Acorn Room

Senior ECE:	Sarah Beveridge
Early Childhood Educator:	Lynn Milne
Early Childhood Educator:	Sandra Scobbie
Early Childhood Educator:	Chloe Conner
Modern Apprentice:	Alisha McCallum

The Oak Room

Senior ECE:	Danah Al Sayed
Early Childhood Educator:	Lillian Gorham
Early Childhood Educator	Nicolle McCallum
Early Childhood Educator:	Vacancy
Early Childhood Educator:	Tracey Miller
Early Childhood Educator:	Robyn Blair`
Early Childhood Educator:	Mairi Hallows
Early Childhood Educator:	Stephanie Cochrane
Early Childhood Educator:	Sammie Tucker
Early Childhood Educator:	Ashleigh Quayle
Support Worker ECE:	Maggie Stewart,
Support for Learning Assistant:	Vacancy

We may have other staff in and around the nursery throughout the year e.g. Pauline our Link Speech and Language therapist, Becca who is our ASN Complex Needs Teacher, Physiotherapists, Work Experience students from Wallace high School and ECE Students from Forth Valley College. *Photos will be added to our staff wall in the entrance hall.*

Nursery Arrival & Exits

We have a new buzzer system working and staff will be able to let one family in at a time for each room. Unfortunately, staff will not be able to answer any questions etc., so if you feel you need to speak to your child's keyworker, we can arrange for a phone meeting or time for you to come into nursery. The staff in the office cannot let you in so please buzz your child's playroom and if there is already a parent in, you will have to wait until they exit.

Children's bags and jackets

Each child will be allocated a peg with their photograph on it. Can you please ensure you have spare changes of clothes and underwear if they need changed? We also are very much an inside/outside nursery whatever the weather so it would help they have a waterproof jacket and welly boots or sun hats available too and have items named. As the children are involved in digging and planting, playing in the mud kitchen etc. please ensure they don't have the best clothes on. If your child uses nappies or pull-ups and wipes, please ensure you keep your child's supply full and if they are running low, staff will inform you.

Hand washing

We will still be focussing on hand washing and there is lots of chat about this and the children are becoming very used to using the hand sanitisers when they arrive and leave the building.

Staff will be continuing to support children with effective hand washing and additional cleaning of the nursery will take place out with opening hours. As restrictions being lifted we will be resuming tooth brushing with the children through the *Childsmile* initiative. Staff will continue to promote 'catch it, bin it, kill it' by encouraging children, where appropriate, to cough or sneeze into a tissue and dispose of tissues in a secure bin.

Communication

In the next week the senior staff will be handing out your child's Care Plan, Annual Data checks and Contracts. Can you please check and fill them in with all your updated information and return them to the office in the envelope they were issued in? It is of the utmost importance that in an emergency, we are able to contact you quickly.

Lunches

All children aged 3 years and upwards and the 'entitled 2' children are entitled to a free school lunch. Lunches for non-entitled children are available at a cost of £2.20. When you arrive with your child in the playroom, please remember to choose with your child, their choice of lunch for the day. If paying for lunch, please pay on Parentpay and keep the account in credit. Nursery fees increase from the start of the session and are now £19.50 for half a day and a full day is £39.00.

Allergies

Cornton Nursery is a NUT Free nursery. We currently have a child with a severe nut allergy so it's imperative that if your child has a packed lunch, they do not have nut products in their lunch. You will notice that if your child has brought in a home lunch, there will be sticky notes on the lunch box saying your child's lunch was checked and they're was traces of nuts in the food you provided. Please make sure you check any packaging from home.

E Journals

At Cornton Nursery we use online Learning Journals to record your child's learning and progress. You will be able to access your child's profile on your PC, Laptop or phone. If you don't have an internet connection at home, you are welcome to view your child's profile from within the nursery by using our computer(s). We will be giving out data protection forms for you to complete to ensure safe sharing of learning as well as how these E-journals will be used and shared between ourselves and you.

Play and Learning

Our main learning focus when all children return will be '*Me, Myself and my Community*'. This will focus very much on our Transitions from home to nursery and room to room. It will look at settling in, learning new routines, developing new friendships and exploring that we have similarities and differences but are all unique. To underpin this, we will be revisiting our nursery values through consultation with the children and their families.

Nursery Social Media Platforms:

Class Dojo

All new children will have been issued with a link when starting and returners can ask for a new link if they have problems logging back in.

Facebook

As some of you may know we have our own Facebook page to share information and learning updates. If you have Facebook and wish to follow us, simply search Cornton Nursery in your search box to find us.

Nursery Improvement Plan 22/23

Cornton Nursery's Improvement Plan is complete and if you wish to take a look at this, copies will be available in the nursery foyer alongside our **Standards and Quality** report for last year.

Best wishes

Sam, Lyndsay and the Team :)