

Welcome to Forest Gate Academy

# Early Years

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS BROCHURE



Places are limited; for further details, please contact the school office on 0161 775 4356 or email: [office@forestgateacademy.co.uk](mailto:office@forestgateacademy.co.uk)

Forest Gate Academy, Daniel Adamson Avenue, Partington, M314PN

**MEET THE TEAM:**



**Miss Hicks**  
Reception Teacher



**Miss C Rothwell**  
Nursery Teacher  
EYFS lead

**Welcome to Forest Gate Academy**

Forest Gate Academy Early Years department provides children with an outstanding level of care combined with a warm, secure and stimulating environment. We pride ourselves on delivering a fun, creative and balanced curriculum for all our pupils, both in Nursery and Reception, that develops their knowledge, skills and understanding and prepares them for their educational journey.

Our Nursery is staffed with a Nursery Teacher and a Level 3 Teaching Assistant. Our Reception class also has a Teacher and a Level 3 Teaching Assistant. All of our Early Years staff are fully trained in paediatric first aid. Our nursery can accommodate a maximum of 26 children between the ages of 3 and 4 years. Our numbers are small so that all children receive lots of individual attention from staff who are experienced, dedicated and professional.

Doors open at 8.35am and we invite parents/carers to 'stay and play' from 8.35am – 8.45am each day.

We work closely with parents at all times. From the very start you will find the Early Years community a warm and supportive environment. We work to ensure that you have peace of mind that your child is happy, safe and learning. As well as daily dialogue, we invite parents to a Parents' Evening/Meetings where you are able to view your child's learning at regular intervals throughout the year.

We are an encompass school.



**Ms S Taylor**  
Teaching Assistant



**Ms D Stout**  
Teaching Assistant



## NURSERY-What we have to offer..



At Forest Gate Academy Nursery we offer part time and full time places.  
**Doors open at 8.35am.**

**Morning sessions run from 8.45am—11.45am and afternoons from 12:15pm—3:15pm.**

**Full time places are also available 8.45am—3:15pm including lunch.**



**All children receive a piece of fruit and milk each day.**

8.45-9.15 Self registration and continuous provision activities (individual readers, small group interventions)	9.15-9.25 Circle time	9.25-9.35 Funky Fingers	9.35-10.00 Mathematics  10.00-10.10 Snack	10.10-11.30 Continuous provision activities and adult directed small group work	11.30-12.00 Phonics
12.00-12.45 Lunch in hall followed by outdoor play	1.00-1.15 Review/ 'Five a Day'	1.15- 1.45 English	1.45- 2.50 Continuous provision activities and adult directed small group work	2.50-3.10 Review/Story Time	3.15 Home time

All children are entitled to 15 hours of free Nursery education per week (Core Universal Offer). Full-time places are available for children who qualify for 30 hour funding through Trafford. For those not eligible for the additional free 15 hours, the cost of any additional provision will be chargeable at **£5.00** per hour. This equates to **£75.00** per week which must be paid in advance. Lunch can also be provided at a fixed cost of **£2.25** per day and will include a hot meal, dessert and a drink. However you are welcome to send your child in with a packed lunch if you prefer.

### Eligibility for 30 hours free childcare from Trafford Council:

3 and 4 year old children are eligible for 30 hours free childcare where their household meets the following eligibility criteria:

- both parents are working or one parent is working in lone parent families. This is defined as earning the equivalent of 16 hours per week on national minimum wage/national living wage, but less than £100,000 per year. This applies for self-employed and zero hour contracts.
- both parents are employed but one or both of them are temporarily away from the workplace on parental, maternity, paternity or adoption leave.
- both parents are employed but one or both of them are temporarily away from the workplace on statutory sick pay.
- one parent is employed and one parent has substantial caring responsibilities based on specific benefits received for caring.
- one parent is employed and one parent is disabled or incapacitated based on specific benefits.
- Children who have a special guardianship order or are in foster care may also be eligible for 30 hours.

30 hours free childcare can be claimed by eligible families alongside tax credits, universal credit, tax-free childcare and other schemes to help pay for any additional childcare.

## THE CURRICULUM

### Playing and Learning

Playing and learning inside and outdoors is at the core of everything we do in Early Years. Prior to the children starting with us we have a comprehensive transition programme including setting visits to any previous nursery provision they may have attended and home visits to ensure that we are fully prepared to support and extend each child's next steps in learning. Information collected during transition and from observations when the child starts nursery or reception class then informs each child's baseline assessment, which allows us to plan next steps.

We offer the children a broad, ambitious curriculum that enables children to become confident and enthusiastic learners. This curriculum builds on what children know and can do to ensure they have the skills and knowledge for their future learning.

The curriculum is split into prime and specific areas with the youngest children focusing on the prime areas of learning first.

Prime Areas - Personal, Social and Emotional Development, Physical Development, Communication & Language.

Specific Areas - Literacy, Mathematics, Understanding the World, Expressive Art and Design





## PRIME AREAS

**Personal, Social and Emotional Development,  
Physical Development, Communication & Lan-**

### **PSED**

3-4 year olds in Nursery will be learning to:

- Show more confidence in new social situations
- Play with other children expanding their ideas
- Help find solutions to conflicts and rivalries
- Talk about their feelings and begin to understand how others might be feeling
- Increasingly follow rules understanding why they are important

Children in Reception will be learning to:

- Show an understanding of their own feelings and those of others, and begin to regulate their behaviour
- Set and work towards simple goals, being able to wait for what they want and control their immediate impulses when appropriate
- Give focused attention to what the teacher says, responding appropriately even when engaged in activity, and show an ability to follow instructions involving several ideas or actions.
- Work and play cooperatively and take turns with others;
- Form positive attachments to adults and friendships with peers, show sensitivity to own and to others' needs.
- Be confident to try new activities and show independence, resilience and perseverance in the face of challenge
- Explain the reasons for rules, know right from wrong and try to behave ac-



### **Commu- nication and Language**

3-4 year olds in Nursery will be learning to:

- Listen to longer stories and remember much of what happens
- Use a wider range of vocabulary
- Understand questions or instructions with two parts
- Understand why questions
- Know many rhymes and songs and be able to tell a long story
- Use longer sentences of 4 to 6 words
- Use talk to organise themselves and their play

Children in Reception will be learning to:

- Listen attentively and respond to what they hear with relevant questions, comments and actions when being read to and during whole class discussions and small group interactions;
- Make comments about what they have heard and ask questions to clarify their understanding;
- Hold conversation when engaged in back-and-forth exchanges with their teacher and peers.
- Participate in small group, class and one-to-one discussions, offering their own ideas, using recently introduced vocabulary
- Offer explanations for why things might happen, making use of recent vocabulary gained from stories, non fiction, rhymes and poems
- Express their ideas and feelings about their experiences using full sent

### **Physical Development**

3-4 year olds in Nursery will be learning to:

- Develop their movement, balancing, riding and ball skills
- Remember sequences and patterns of movements which are related to music and rhythm
- Use one-handed tools and equipment e.g. scissors and pencils
- Eat independently and use a knife and fork
- Be increasingly independent getting dressed and undressed, using the toilet, brushing teeth and washing and drying hands
- Make healthy choices about food, drink, activity and toothbrushing

Children in Reception will be learning to:

- Negotiate space and obstacles safely, with consideration for themselves and others;
- Demonstrate strength, balance and coordination when playing;
- Move energetically, such as running, jumping, dancing, hopping, skipping and climbing
- Hold a pencil effectively in preparation for fluent writing using the tripod grip in almost all cases
- Use a range of small tools, including scissors, paint brushes and cutlery;
- Begin to show accuracy and care when drawing.



## SPECIFIC AREAS

### *Specific Areas - Literacy and Mathematics*



**We enjoy listening to, retelling and reading stories.**

#### **Mathematics**

**3-4 year olds in Nursery will be learning to:**

- Recognise quantities of up to 3 objects without counting
- Link numerals and amounts up to 5
- Recite numbers past 5
- Record using own symbols, marks and numerals
- Compare quantities using 'more than' and 'fewer than'
- Talk about and explore 2D and 3D shapes using shape names, sides, corners, straight, flat and round
- Understand and use positional language using words like 'in front of, behind, next to'
- Make comparisons between objects relating to size, length, weight and capacity
- Talk about and identify patterns

**Children in Reception will be learning to:**

- Have a deep understanding of number to 10, including the composition of each number
- Subitise (recognise quantities without counting) up to 5
- Automatically recall (without reference to rhymes, counting or other aids) number bonds up to 5 (including subtraction facts) and some number bonds to 10, including double facts
- Verbally count beyond 20, recognising the pattern of the counting system
- Compare quantities up to 10 in different contexts, recognising when one quantity is greater than, less than or the same as the other quantity;
- Explore and represent patterns within numbers up to 10, including evens and odds, double facts and how quantities can be distributed equally

#### **Reading and Writing**

**3-4 year olds in Nursery will be learning to:**

- Understand the key concepts about print i.e. that print has meaning and has different purposes, that we read from left to right and top to bottom, the names of different parts of a book and page sequencing
- Develop their phonological awareness
- Engage in extended conversations about stories, learning new vocabulary
- Write some or all of their name
- Write some letters accurately in their early writing

**Children in Reception will be learning to:**

- Say a sound for each letter in the alphabet and at least 10 digraphs;
- Read words consistent with their phonic knowledge by sound-blending;
- Read aloud simple sentences and books that are consistent with their phonic knowledge, including some common exception words
- Demonstrate understanding of what has been read to them by retelling stories and narratives using their own words and recently introduced vocabulary
- Anticipate, where appropriate key events in stories
- Use and understand recently introduced vocabulary during discussions about stories, non-fiction, rhymes and poems and during role-play
- Write recognisable letters, most of which are correctly formed
- Spell words by identifying sounds in them and representing the sounds with a letter or letters
- Write simple phrases and sentences that can be read by others.





## SPECIFIC AREAS

### *Understanding the World and Expressive Art and Design*

#### **Understanding the World**

##### 3-4 year olds in Nursery will be learning to:

- Begin to make sense of their own life-story and family's history
- Show an interest in different occupations
- Explore how things work
- Understand the key features of the life-cycle of a plant and animal
- Talk about the differences between different materials and the changes they notice
- Continue to develop positive attitudes about the differences between people
- Know that there are different countries in the world and talk about the differences they have experienced or seen in photos

##### Children in Reception will be learning to:

- Describe their immediate environment using knowledge from observation, discussion, stories, non-fiction texts and maps
- Know some similarities and differences between different religious and cultural communities in this country, drawing on their experiences and what has been read in class
- Explain some similarities and differences between life in this country and life in other countries, drawing on knowledge from stories, non-fiction texts and when appropriate maps
- Explore the natural world around them, making observations and drawing pictures of animals and plants
- Know some similarities and differences between the natural world around them and contrasting environments, drawing on their experiences and what has been read in class
- Understand some important processes and changes in the natural world around them, including the seasons and changing states of matter
- Talk about the lives of the people around them and their roles in society;
- Know some similarities and differences between things in the past and now, drawing on their experiences and what has been read in class

#### **Expressive Art and Design**

##### 3-4 year olds in Nursery will be learning to:

- Begin to develop complex and imaginative stories with small world and construction equipment
- Develop their own ideas and decide which materials to use to express them
- Join different materials and explore different textures
- Draw with increasing complexity and detail
- Explore colour and colour mixing
- Remember and sing entire songs matching pitch and melody
- Play instruments with increasing control to express their feelings and ideas

##### Children in Reception will be learning to:

- Safely use and explore a variety of materials, tools and techniques, experimenting with colour, design, texture, form and function
- Share their creations, explaining the process they have used
- Make use of props and materials when role playing characters in narratives and stories
- Invent, adapt and recount narratives and stories with peers and their teacher;
- Sing a range of well-known nursery rhymes and songs
- Perform songs, rhymes, poems and stories with others, and when appropriate try to move in time with music





### Sharing the learning with our families.

We welcome parents/carers in to Nursery and Reception at the beginning of each session and offer other opportunities for you to come into school to share in our learning activities.

We use the school newsletter and half termly class newsletters to share with you what the children have been learning in class.

Parents/Carers are also invited to attend Parents' Meetings/Evenings, assemblies, 'Stay and Play' curriculum sessions and other fun events that are arranged throughout the year.

At Forest Gate Academy we use the online learning journal [Tapestry](#).

Tapestry is a way of promoting positive home-school relationships and celebrating children's learning and development.

The Tapestry platform provides a quick way to record written, photographic and video observations of children's learning.

These observations can easily be shared with parents enabling them to view significant achievements and activities that their children achieve at school and it allows parents and carers to share things of interest that their children do outside of school.

Once your child starts school you will receive an email with an activation link. You will then be able to create a password and pin and begin to see observations of your child learning at school and post your own comments and observations.





## PHONICS

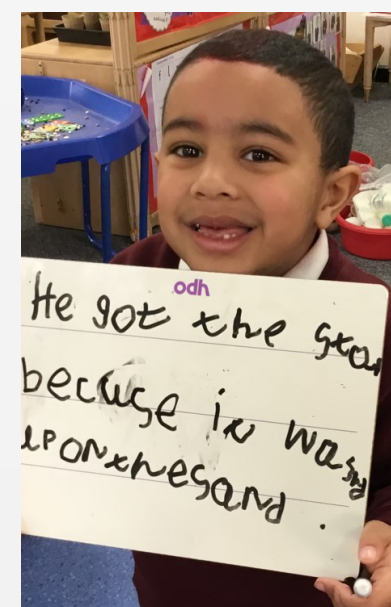
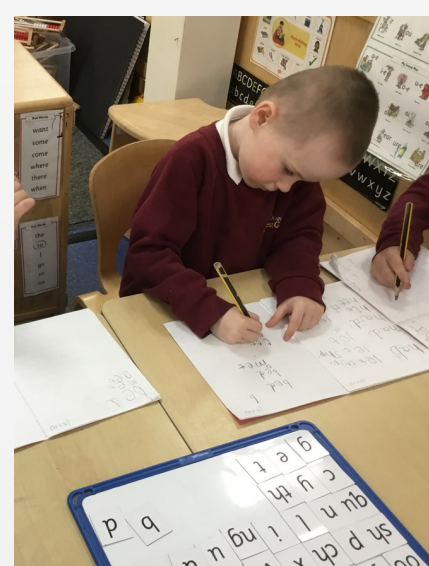
The children take part in a variety of speaking and listening activities to help them develop their phonics skills.

During their time in Nursery, children develop these skills through the following 7 aspects:

- Environmental sounds
- Instrumental sounds
- Body percussion
- Rhythm & rhyme
- Alliteration
- Voice sounds
- Oral blending and segmenting



In Reception class the children are introduced to the 'Read, Write Inc' phonic programme. The children take part in daily phonic sessions and are taught the sounds in English, the letters that represent them and how to form the letters when writing. Phonic reading books are sent home each day so the children can practice and apply the skills they have been taught at home. This systematic programme is also used in Year 1 and Year 2 and gets children off to a flying start with their reading and writing skills.



### **Behaviour Expectations**

It is a primary aim of our school that every member of the school community feels valued and respected, and that each person is treated fairly and well. We are a caring community, whose values are built on mutual trust and respect for all. The school behaviour policy is therefore designed to support the way in which all members of the school can live and work together in a supportive way. It aims to promote an environment where everyone feels happy, safe and secure.

#### **School Values**

At Forest Gate Academy, we have 10 core values that are the building blocks for our school ethos. These values are the principles that drive our behaviour and influence our actions and attitudes. They are essential to our school culture and are our framework for influencing our relationships with ourselves and others.

These values impact on our behaviour, relationships, learning environment, personal wellbeing and attitudes to learning and learning diligence which in turn leads to improvements in academic attainment.

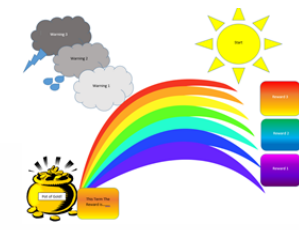
Our 10 school values are:

- Resilience
- Respect
- Aspiration
- Courage
- Independence
- Honesty
- Tolerance
- Curiosity
- Cooperation
- Compassion



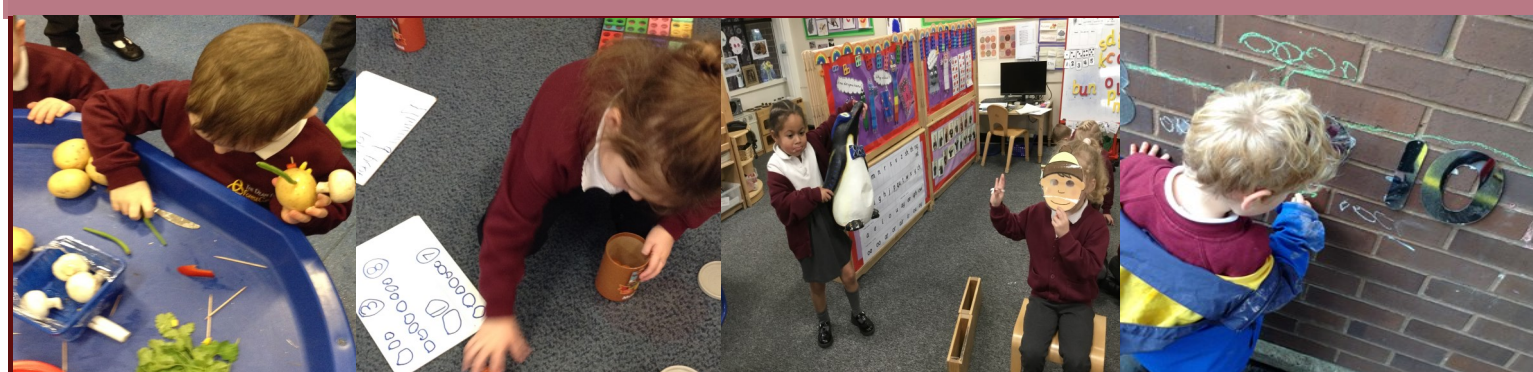


## Rewards System



Our behaviour system is called 'Rainbow Rewards' and focuses on more visual positive rewards for pupils, whilst including clear consequences for children struggling with behaviour choices. Pictured below, is a copy of what will be displayed in each classroom, dependent upon their Key Stage or Phase.

Rewards /Consequences	STAGE	Examples
My name will go in the Class Golden Book- if in 3 times by the end of term I will get a "Golden Reward"	 Pot of Gold	I am consistently showing every positive behaviour below. Exemplary manners and a role model to others.
I will get a raffle ticket for the prize draw	Rainbow Reward 3 	I am working well within a team. I am being kind and considerate to others at all times. I am working extra hard.
I will get a note or postcard home to celebrate.	Rainbow Reward 2 	I am trying really hard. I am completing tasks. I am following the class rules, including at play times. I am showing good manners.
I will get a sticker or 3xdojo points.	Rainbow Reward 1 	I have a positive attitude. I am ready to learn. I am listening to the teacher.
Sunshine 		
I will get a verbal warning and be reminded of our rules.	Weather Warning 1 (Cloud) 	I am stopping my peers from learning. I am not listening. I am not working hard / I am not playing well.
I will miss 5 minutes of my playtime in my class.	Weather Warning 2 (Rain Cloud) 	I have not followed instructions. I am being disruptive in class. I have not told the truth. I have been rude to an adult.
My name will be recorded in the behaviour book. I will miss my playtime. My teacher will speak to my parent/carer.	Weather Warning 3 (Storm Cloud) 	I have refused an adult. I have used bad language. I have hurt someone on purpose. I have consistently made poor choices. I have continued to be disruptive.





## How can you help your child at home?

### Reading

- Reading with your child is vital. Research shows that it's the single most important thing you can do to help your child's education. **In Nursery we send a library book home each week to share together. In Reception Class we also send home a phonic reading book. It is school policy that you listen to your child read their phonic reading book at least 3x week and return it to school each day along with their signed reading diary.**
- Think of ways to make reading fun – you want your child to learn how pleasurable books can be. If you're both enjoying talking about the content of a particular page, linger over it for as long as you like.
- Schedule a regular time for reading – perhaps when you get home from school or just before bed.
- Look for books on topics that you know your child is interested in – maybe dragons, insects, cookery or a certain sport.
- Make sure that your children's books are easily accessible in different rooms around your house.

### Mathematics

- Try to make maths as much fun as possible – games, puzzles and jigsaws are a great way to start.
- It is also important to show how we use maths skills in our everyday lives and to involve your child in this.
- Point out the different 2d and 3d shapes to be found around your home. Ask your children to name and describe these shapes
- Take your child shopping and talk about the quantities of anything you buy.
- Let your child handle money and work out how much things cost.
- Read number story and non-fiction books with your child.