

Our Aims

Carden Primary School has a well established Nursery where children feel happy, confident and secure. We provide quality Nursery education in a stimulating, welcoming and safe learning environment. Children and adults can be creative, have fun, play, talk and learn together; developing as happy, confident, independent individuals within our community.

Partnerships with Parents/Carers and Families

We believe the family are the child's first and most important carers and educators. We have an open door policy involving parents & carers at every opportunity and ensuring they are a vital part of our team. We believe your child's happiness and success benefits greatly from a good partnership between home and nursery. Parents/carers are able to contribute to planning and decision making in various ways, and play a fundamental part in the development of services we provide.

The Red Room and the Blue Room

We are a large, well-resourced Nursery with excellent indoor and outdoor facilities. Children are encouraged to access all areas of learning to maximise their Nursery experience. Children move freely throughout both rooms during sessions but have a base in either the Red room or Blue room for group and story times.



Each room base has a Nursery Teacher and an Early Years practitioner and all staff have experience in Early Years Education. In addition we have additional provision for 20 children with speech and language difficulties, and these children are supported by a teacher, nursery nurse and speech therapist.

I CAN Nursery Provision

I CAN Nursery is integrated into the main Nursery and supports children with specific speech and language difficulties. They provide an intensive programme of therapy and support for 20 children (10 in the morning and 10 in the afternoon). These places are strictly allocated by a multi-agency panel that is separate to the Nursery admissions.

Our Nursery and Your Child

Every child in our Nursery is nurtured as an individual. We encourage and support children to reach their potential through a carefully planned and structured curriculum. This is based on national guidance and covers six areas of learning. These are Personal, Social & Emotional Development, Communication, Language & Literacy; Physical development; Maths and Creative development and Understanding development of the World.

Staff extend and develop children's skills and concepts as they play and through planned, focussed activities.

Through a varied programme of interesting and challenging learning experiences, children are sensitively supported in developing vital educational and life-skills such as co-operation, caring and consideration for others, intellectual stimulation, curiosity and independence.

We value every child's achievements and praise their efforts to help develop a positive self-image. We have a strong commitment to equal opportunities and inclusion within the Nursery. We ensure all children receive a broad and balanced curriculum in order to achieve their full potential. Children receive a flexible, sensitive and responsive teaching approach through careful planning and observation that ensures that every child's needs are met.



Key Person

We have a key person approach, where each child is given a dedicated worker who will, as far as possible, attend to that child's needs (including meeting emotional needs, changing nappies and toileting). They key person will establish positive relationships and three-way communication between parents/carers and children.

This person will become your main point of contact and source of information and, we hope, a trusted adult for your child.

Please do feel free to discuss your child with your child's key person at any time. Key persons and all staff feedback to parents/carers are at the end of each session.

Partnerships with Professionals

Carden Nursery and School have a hub Children Centre within the school grounds. The Children's Centre houses "The under Fives Community Team" and here is close liaison between these professionals and nursery staff; working together to enhance your child's experiences in their Early Years.

Other professionals who may be working to support your child or your family may include Social Care Teams, Speech and Language Therapists, the Pre School Special Educational Needs Service (PRESENS) and the Ethnic Minority Achievement (EMAS), Educational physiologists and Occupational Health.

The nursery staff work in partnership with Brighton and Hove Early Years Team and the City Early Years and Childcare team. We work closely with these professionals planning the development of the nursery. If your child has a place in I CAN they have dental and nursing examinations including hearing tests.

Milk and Fruit

All children in the Nursery are entitled to free school milk and a piece of fruit every day. Water is provided for those children who do not drink milk. If your child has a milk allergy, you are welcome to provide a healthy alternative.



Keeping in touch

We like to keep you informed of your child's progress. Staff are available by appointment before and after sessions to discuss any queries you have. It is helpful to hear from you about your child at home, especially if something happened that may affect your child's well-being at school. Every child has a "Special Book" containing photos, pieces of work with comments from staff and your child. You are welcome to take it home during the year and add comments if you wish. However, it is very important that you return them to school so they can be completed. At the end of the year your child will receive a Record of Achievement in the form of a Butterfly Report if they are leaving to go to Reception or a Caterpillar Report if they are staying in Nursery for a further year. Each Nursery entrance has a notice board which provides additional information as well as copies of the weekly Nursery planning. You will also receive regular newsletters.

Regular Attendance

In order for your child to benefit fully from their time at Nursery it is important for them to attend regularly and on time. Please see our booklet "Positive behaviour & Regular Attendance" for full information on attendance and punctuality.

Bringing and Collecting Children

Before the start and finish of any session, please wait on the patio outside by the two entrances. Please come into the Nursery when bringing and collecting your child. We will not let a child leave until we are sure that a nominated adult is present. Please contact us if you are going to be late so that we can reassure your child that you are coming. Children who are late in collection will go to the office ten minutes after their collection time.

Home/Nursery Reading

Children in the Nursery are encouraged to choose a book to take home from our library on a regular basis to share with an adult. Please help your child to change their book at the beginning of the session. You can purchase a school book bag from Nursery staff or from the school office it costs £3.50. We also ask for a £7 contribution towards sundry costs in the nursery for things such as batteries, play dough, ingredients etc.



Children and Adults' Behaviour

At Carden we work in partnership with parents/carers and keep them informed about our systems and policies. In Early Years we know that children's behaviour must be managed in a way that reflects their stage of development and individual needs. Children's behaviour is influenced by their experiences and at home and school. In Nursery and Reception we understand how experiences influence children's behaviour, learning and development and know how to consider these when responding to each child's needs. Please see our booklet "Positive Behaviour & Good Attendance" for more information on our policies and practice.

Keeping Children Safe and Healthy

Please let us know before the session if your child is unwell and unable to attend school.

We are unable to administer medicines in school, but can store asthma inhalers and special medical equipment such as epi-pens. Please keep us up to date with any changes to all contact numbers so that we can contact you quickly if our child appears unwell or has had an accident that we consider requires your presence.

For infectious diseases please use the chart below as a guide to how long your child should stay away so as not to infect others.

Disease	Time after which a child may return to nursery if well enough
Chicken pox	5 days after rash appears or until spots have dried and crusted, whichever is sooner provided child is well
Conjunctivitis	Once treatment has started and symptoms have passed
Diarrhoea and/or vomiting	48 hours after vomiting or diarrhoea has stopped
Impetigo	Must have written clearance from GP
Measles	5 days after rash appears providing child is well
Rubella (German measles)	5 days after rash appears providing child is well
Threadworm	Once treatment has been given

If your child needs medicine during the day, it is probably best to keep him or her at home.

Contact:

School Office: 293677

Nursery: 294935

I CAN: 293672/294357

(Please note that during Nursery sessions staff may not be able to answer the phone. If you can't get through and it is urgent, please call the main school number and they will pass the message on).



helps children
communicate
REGISTERED CHARITY 210031

Carden & I CAN Nursery Brochure



Information for Parents & Carers