



Welcome to St Nicholas

Meeting for parents of children starting
school in September 2025.



In this presentation we will...

- ❑ Explain how we plan to give your children the best start to school
- ❑ Outline some of the routines we aim to establish
- ❑ Identify ways we can work together
- ❑ Try not to overload you with too much information!



The Staff

Teachers:

Mrs Hare – Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday

Mrs Coultart - Thursday and Friday

Teaching Assistants:

Miss McGoldrick

Miss Mallocco

Mrs Chiveralls

Midday Supervisory Assistant:

Mrs Cummings every day

SENDCO

Ms Onur

Early Years Staff September 2025



Mrs Hare



Mrs Coultart



Ms Onur



Miss Malocco



Mrs Chiveralls



Miss McGoldrick



Mrs Cummings

Uniform...

- ☐ Grey trousers/dress/ skirt (blue and white Summer Dress in the Summer)
- ☐ Burgundy joggers for all Nursery children
- ☐ White polo shirt
- ☐ Burgundy sweatshirt/cardigan with the school logo
- ☐ White/grey socks
- ☐ Hair tied back
- ☐ No jewelry (plain studded earrings only)
- ☐ Black shoes with Velcro

- ☐ Wellington boots (to leave at school)
- ☐ A water bottle everyday in school
- ☐ A flat bag to carry books in
- ☐ Waterproof coat
- ☐ Sunhat when weather is nice

All named please!

Why is transition so important for your child?

Transition: A process not an event




Each child is different and some may take a little longer to settle

Our transition processes are based on the best interests and needs of your child



We will work with you to help your child to settle and be confident in their new surroundings



Getting to know you and your child

We will do this by:

- ❑ Home visits (*please book these in before you leave today*)
- ❑ Stay and play sessions
- ❑ Information gathered from you and the previous setting
- ❑ Opportunities to ask questions and share concerns



Transition Morning

- ❑ For children and parents new to our school we would like to invite you to visit us in Early Years on
- ❑ **Thursday 10th July** from **9.30 to 10.30am** for new nursery children and **10:30 to 11:30** for new to reception children.
- ❑ Parents are asked to stay to help their children explore the setting and meet staff.
- ❑ Children in our current Nursery setting will have opportunities to spend time in the current Reception Class through-out the rest of the half term.



September Starting Arrangements

- ❓ All children will attend one hour stay and play sessions in the morning on 4th or 5th of September. Parents are asked to stay to help their children explore the setting and ask questions.
- ❓ Children will start school from 8th September, it will be a staggered entry to ensure we can support the children with settling in.
- ❓ You will be sent more information about this next week.

Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)



? In Early Years our children follow the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework (EYFS). The curriculum is broken down into 7 areas of learning.

? Communication and language

? Personal, social and emotional development

? Physical Development

? Literacy

? Maths

? Understanding the World

? Expressive arts and design

? Throughout the year we plan and deliver an engaging curriculum that supports your child's development in all these areas. At the end of your child's reception year we assess against the Early Learning Goals.

Learning in Early Years

- ❑ Early Years is full of excitement and exploration
- ❑ We pride ourselves on being an exciting and engaging place to be - encouraging our children to be independent learners through a range of practical activities
- ❑ We follow a dynamic and child-interest driven curriculum which allows us to be creative with our lessons and let the children lead their own learning
- ❑ Alongside adult-led sessions the children learn through a variety of play and real-life experiences, we call this 'Free Choice Learning'.
- ❑ There are lots of different areas, indoors and outside, for children to explore and develop their learning such a Sand tray, Small world Table, Creative Area, Construction, Investigation Station, Writing Table, Role play corner, Water play, Stage and Music Area and more

Ultimately EYFS is;

- ❑ **Learning through play**
- ❑ **Having fun**
- ❑ **Taking risks**
- ❑ **Being challenged**

Daily Routines



Morning

- ❑ We open the doors at 8.45am
- ❑ Teddy Jobs (Fine Motor activities)
- ❑ Register 8.55am & lunch choices
- ❑ Adult led sessions
- ❑ Free Choice Learning
- ❑ Access to snack, including milk
- ❑ Phonics Lesson
- ❑ Tidy Up time and Prayer
- ❑ Lunchtime

Afternoon

- ❑ Adult led sessions
- ❑ Free Choice Learning
- ❑ End of day prayers and singing or Story time
- ❑ Home Time (Main school gate opens at 3.10pm and we will let your children out of class at 3:15)
- ❑ *Times vary slightly for Nursery age children*

Note Premier Education wraparound care NOT available for Nursery

Once the children are settled they will also have group reading three times a week. Celebration Worship on Friday mornings in the school hall, forest school once a week and PE lesson once a week included in their weekly timetable.



Nursery Times

- ❑ 15 Hour children: start at 8.45am and finish at 11.45am
- ❑ 30 Hour children: start at 8.45am and finish at 2.45pm
- ❑ Additional 30 minutes at end of school day can be provided for a cost of £3.50 per session payable on Arbor

Forest School



- ❓ We are lucky to have a lovely fenced woodland area in our school grounds to the children to enjoy. Playing in the woods develops imagination, social and physical skills. The children climb trees, make mud pies and go on bug hunts in every kind of weather.
- ❓ Children must have wellies left in school and bring a waterproof coat in every day.

- ❓ EYFS children have 1 PE lesson a week. They come to school wearing their PE kit on their PE day.
- ❓ PE lessons develop gross motor skills and can consist of balls skills, gymnastics, team games and dance activities.

PE



Lunchtime

At lunchtime we take the children to the hall before the rest of the school so the children can be in a quieter environment. We teach the children how to access everything in the dinning room and support with cutting up their food if needed. The Lunchtime supervisors will take them out to play in the playground after lunch.

School Dinners:

- There are 4 options each day – meat, vegetarian, sandwich, jacket potato.
- A three-week rolling menu is sent home so you discuss the day's selection with the children. Children order their preference in the morning and it's prepared on the premises by Hertfordshire Catering.
- If your child has any food allergies or intolerances, you must inform Herts catering – the Menu and information is found on our school website.

Packed Lunch:

- ❓ Lunch boxes are stored on a trolley in the classroom.
- ❓ We encourage healthy choices. Sweets and fizzy drinks are not permitted and **No Nuts!**
- ❓ Nursery aged children will need to bring a packed lunch into school everyday

How can I support my child at home?



Communicate and talk with your child



Enjoy physical activities together



Have fun exploring maths



Read, tell and make up stories together



Support your child to do things by themselves



Encourage your child to talk and play with others

Tapestry and Learning Journal

In St Nicholas we use Tapestry – a secure online Learning Journal to record photos, observations and comments, in line with the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum, to build up a record of your child's experiences during their time with us. You can also post photos and videos on Tapestry so we can see some of the progress your child is making at home.

We will also collect your child's learning in a learning journal that they will bring home at the end of year.

Working with Parents

We provide many opportunities for parents and carers to take an active part in their child's education. These include:



- ❑ Tapestry
- ❑ WOW moments! Share your children's small achievements at home
- ❑ Learning Together Sessions – come and explore activities in the class with your children
- ❑ Workshops – phonics & reading information for parents
- ❑ Whole school events – school fete, non-uniform days etc
- ❑ Parent consultation meetings



Communication –

building strong relationships between home and school

- ❑ Face-to-face in the playground
- ❑ Telephone conversations/ email
- ❑ Weekly class newsletter – What our topic/book of the week is, what learning focus is and ways of supporting your child at home
- ❑ Weekly whole school newsletters – dates, special events, children's achievements, whole school updates
- ❑ Home-School Reading Records
- ❑ Tapestry
- ❑ The school website



Key Information

- ❑ Attendance matters!
- ❑ Classroom doors open at 8:45am. Statutory registration at 8.55am – No parking outside the school
- ❑ Gates open at 3.10pm and collection is at 3.15pm (*Children leaving before 3.15pm will need to be collected from the front door*). It is vital that you inform us if someone different is collecting your child. If we are unsure your child will remain at school until we can contact you.
- ❑ Holidays are unauthorised during term time.



Sickness and Medication Policy

- ❓ **Children who are unwell** – keep your child off school at least 48 hours after the last attack of vomiting and diarrhea (NHS guidelines) informing the school/setting regarding contagious/infectious illnesses.
- ❓ **Phone** school office before 11am on EVERY day of absence.
- ❓ **Medication** – it is the parents/carers responsibility to inform the school if their child is taking or requires any type of medication. This has to be recorded and stored by the office staff.
- ❓ **Meditracker** – our new system for recording and reporting injury and illness.
- ❓ **Collection for appointments** – please inform the office the day before if you need to take your out of school during the day.

Support for your child



Keeping children safe is everyone's responsibility



Thank you for listening

We are looking forward to
working together and getting to
know you and your children in
September.

**Time for
questions...**

