



NEWS



Please ensure that you label all of your child's belongings that come into nursery, coats, clothes, bags, lunch boxes. Thank you

- We provide the children with drinks of water at regular intervals and they have independent access to drinking water throughout the day. **Please note that the children do not need to bring a water bottle with them to nursery, unless they have a packed lunch.**

Applications for primary school places for September 2025 closed on 15th January 2025 for children that turn 4 during this academic year. Once you have been informed of the outcome (16.4.20245), please let us know where they have been allocated. Thank you.

Time Keeping - please make sure that you arrive promptly at the correct time for your child's nursery session. This is really important to ensure children can be greeted and settled properly without disrupting learning.

Welcome back to all of our returning children and families and a big welcome to all of you that are new to us. If you have any queries, please speak to us as soon as matters arise.

Important dates for your diary

The last day of this half term is Thursday 13th February. We are closed on Fri 14th Feb for staff Training. We Return from the half-term break on Monday 24th Feb.



'I love you day' — Wednesday 12th February

Children are invited to wear something pink or red, should they wish to do so.

Parent Consultation Evenings - Monday 3rd and Wednesday 5th March 2025 3.30pm -5.00pm

Further details to follow.

Startwell Award

We are undertaking the Startwell award to demonstrate our commitment to healthy eating and lifestyles.

[Welcome to Startwell Birmingham - Startwell 2020](#)

If your child brings a packed lunch to school, please support us by ensure it provides them with the nutrition they need for their busy lives.

[Healthy Lunchboxes an Allergies.pdf](#)

Lots of Socks Campaign—Downs Syndrome Awareness

Believe it or not, socks get people talking!

On Weds 19th March, choose some socks that are going to get noticed!

They might be mismatched socks or your boldest and most colourful, whatever



takes your fancy! We will also be challenging you to grow your own sunflower

Messy Play Items Needed

We are always in need of any donations you can provide for the children's sensory and messy play materials. These include items such as flour, rice, pasta, corn flour, mashed potato, shaving foam, couscous and lentils. All donations are gratefully received and are well-utilised as valuable resources for the children's learning.

For more information regarding our child-centred curriculum, please see our school website and social media pages.

SEN/D Coffee Mornings Spring Term 2025

Thursday 13th February - 09:30 - 12:00

Sensory Boards

Tuesday 11th March - 09:30 - 12:00

Jewellery Making



Tuesday 8th April - 09:30 - 12:00

Decorating Easter Boxes

Positive Behaviour

Workshop

Thank you to everyone that attended our toilet training workshop on 4th February.

Our next workshop will focus on how to support and develop positive behaviour. This will take place on Weds 26th February 2025

Please let our office team know if you would like to attend.

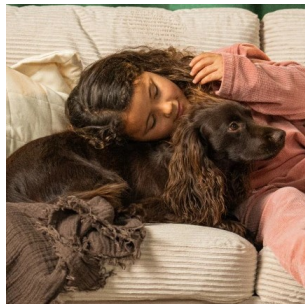
Home/ School Learning

If you have a pet at home or within your family, we would be very grateful if you could upload photographs of it to your child's Tapestry account. The children are really keen to explore, share and compare this aspect of their lives with one another.

If you are new to Allens Croft this term, please consider uploading some images of your family to Tapestry, as this greatly helps your child's key worker/s to form a bond with your child.



If you are unsure of how to upload photos and videos onto Tapestry, please see Stephanie or Amanda.



We were subject to a school Ofsted inspection on 28th and 29th January 2025. We will be pleased to share the outcome of this with you as soon as the report has been finalised and made available to us.

We would like to offer our sincere thanks to every parent and carers that completed the Ofsted online feedback form (Parentview). Many of you took the time to provide them with extensive written feedback, some of which literally reduced us to tears when read aloud by the inspectors.



Further information regarding our curriculum and how this impacts upon your child's learning and development can be found on our Nursery School Website: www.allenscn.sch.life and our social media pages.

Allens Croft Attendance Awards



High levels of attendance at nursery has a huge impact on children's learning and development and is a fundamental part of all of our children fulfilling their potential. Evidence from the DfE shows that the students with the highest attendance throughout their time in school gain the best GCSE and A Level results.

To recognise and celebrate good attendance, each half term, we will give attendance certificates to every child who has at least 90% attendance (appointments for children with medical needs and SEND will not impact on this.) We would love to give as many of these out as possible each half term.

We are excited to see how many children will achieve an attendance award at the end of this half term!

BBC Gardeners' World Live Wheelbarrow Competition

The School Wheelbarrow Competition at BBC Gardeners' World Live is a hugely popular feature at the show.

Last year we invited a group of children and their parents to attend the competition and we were all thrilled and delighted that our entry won the Early Years and Primary School category.

We are all excited about entering again in 2025. What this space for more news as our entry takes shape!

[School Wheelbarrow Competition - BBC Gardeners' World Live](#)



SAFEGUARDING

We Take Safeguarding Seriously

Safeguarding is of the Utmost Importance to Us

Our school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the wellbeing of all children and expects our staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

Under procedures laid down by the Education Authority, the Head Teacher is responsible for child protection and has a legal obligation to take appropriate action where non-accidental injury or abuse of any kind is suspected. It is the duty of every adult coming into contact with the children to refer any concerns regarding a child's welfare to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL). Our Designated Safeguarding Leads are:

- David Aldworth
- Amanda Smith
- Sarah Roberts
- Claire Thorns
- Julie McCarthy
- Maggie Penny
- Kelly Penman

If you have any concerns that a child has been harmed, is at risk of harm, or you receive a disclosure, please contact main reception as soon as possible and ask to speak to a designated person named above. Our first priority is your child's welfare and therefore there may be occasions when our concern about your child means that we must consult other agencies even before we contact you. The procedures we follow have been laid down by the Birmingham Safeguarding Children Board. The school may disclose your child's personal data to statutory bodies where we consider it necessary within the requirements of the Data Protection Act.

A copy of our Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy (September 2024) is available on our website: <https://allenscn.sch.life/page/detail/school-policies-documents-and-links>

If anything concerns you or worries you, please report it to us immediately on (0121) 675 0362

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

eSafety is constantly in the news and of growing importance to us all. You may find these websites helpful in supporting your child when using the internet.

www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety

www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents

Please also see our Internet Safety Leaflet: [Allens Croft Nursery School - Letters](#)

MOBILE PHONES

Our e-Safety policy stipulates that mobile phones are not allowed in nursery, this includes staff, visitors and parents. **Please do not to use your phone in the building.**



Children's Safety

Please ensure that you always check your child's bag before leaving it in nursery.

There have been occasions when we have found dangerous items

such as medication within these in the past. Thank you.

Please note that children are only permitted to wear stud earrings in nursery. Other types of jewellery, such as hoop earrings, necklaces and bangles are a hazard as they can easily become caught and result in injury to your child or others.

Dates for Your Diary 2025

Teacher Training Dates – Nursery Closed to all Children

Friday 14th February 2025

Monday 21st July 2025

(These dates may be subject to change)

Nursery is closed on the dates listed below for Term-Time Only Children

Monday 17th February – Friday 21st February 2025

Back to Nursery on Monday 24th February

Monday 11th April – Friday 25th April 2025

Back to Nursery on Monday 28th April

Monday 26th May – Friday 30st May 2025

Back to Nursery on Monday 2nd June

Monday 21st July 2025

Back to Nursery in September 2025 for returning children



Bank Holiday Dates – Nursery Closed to All Children

Wednesday 1st January 2025 – New Year Bank Holiday

Friday 18th April 2025 – Good Friday Bank Holiday

Monday 21st April 2025 – Easter Monday Bank Holiday

Monday 5th May 2025 – May Day Bank Holiday

Monday 26th May 2025 – Spring Bank Holiday

Monday 25th August 2025 – August Bank Holiday

Day Care and Play Scheme will be running during the following Holidays

Places can be booked through the nursery office

Play scheme will run Monday to Thursday unless otherwise advertised

Monday 28th October – Thursday 31st October 2024

Monday 17th February – Thursday 20th February 2025

Monday 14th April – Thursday 17th April 2025

Nursery Shut Down Weeks – Closed to all children

Monday 23rd December – Friday 3rd January 2025

Back to Nursery Monday 6th January 2025

Monday 21st April – Friday 25th April 2025

Back to Nursery Monday 28th April 2025

Induction Dates

Stay and Play Session for Returning and New to Centre Children and their families

Friday 11th July 2025