



ALLENS CROFT
NURSERY SCHOOL

NEWS

Issue #1 September 2026

A very warm welcome to all our children and families as we begin this exciting new nursery year. Whether you are joining us for the first time or returning after the summer break, we are so happy to have you as part of our nursery community.

The first few days have been filled with smiles, curiosity, and lots of exploring. Our little learners have been busy settling in, making new friends, and discovering all the wonderful experiences we have planned.

We believe that nursery is a partnership between home and school, and we look forward to working closely with you to make this a happy, safe, and inspiring place for your child to learn and flourish.

Friendly Reminder: Being On Time

We kindly remind parents and carers of the importance of dropping off and picking up on time.

Keeping to nursery timings helps the children to settle well into their routines and supports the smooth running of the children's day.

If you are running late for any reason, please contact the nursery office as soon as possible.

Late pick up results in the following charges: £15 for every 10 minutes.

If you are later than 9.15am at drop-off, you will be asked to wait in the foyer until 9.30am. Please bear in mind though that your child will be missing their important, structured key person time missing out on planned learning.

Baby Room Expression of Interest form

We are exploring the possibility of opening a baby room within our school nursery. Your feedback will help us to understand the demand and design a provision that meets families' needs.



Please ensure that you **label all** of your child's belongings that come into nursery, inc. coats, clothes, bags, lunchboxes, hats. Thank you. If they aren't named, we can't take responsibility for any missing items.

If your child leaves nursery forgetting to bring something home with them, we politely request you wait until the next nursery day for it to be returned where possible. This helps staff focus on the children and the smooth running of the setting at the end of the session.



For health and safety reasons, children should not wear jewellery to nursery. Small stud earrings only are permitted.

All About Me

If you haven't done so already, please complete an All About Me sheet so we can get to know what is important to you and your child. Copies are in the school office. Thank you.

All about me and my family...

My full name: _____		I like to be called: _____	
My date of birth: _____		My religion is: _____	
I live with: _____	My brothers and sisters are (and their ages): _____	I speak these languages at home: _____	
My grandparents live: _____	I enjoy playing: _____	I live in a Flat/House/other: _____	
I do not have a garden: _____	I need help with: (i.e. sharing, going to the toilet etc.) _____	If I feel sad, please help me by: _____	
I was born: (Full name / grandparents - if grandparents, how many siblings?) _____	I had a 2 year old progress check Yes / No _____	The check was completed: telephone / virtual / in person _____	
Any concerns raised from the check? _____			

Thank you for completing the first chapter in your child's learning journey at All Saints Church Primary School. This important information will be used to help the practitioners in nursery build a positive relationship with your child and to build on the learning that began with you at home. We look forward to working with you as your child's learning journey continues.

SEND Coffee Mornings

Come along to our monthly SEND coffee mornings for a chat and coffee.

The focus for the upcoming sessions are:

Tuesday 13th October – Occupational Therapist

Tuesday 20th October – Birmingham SEND services

All sessions are 9.30am – 12noon



We would welcome any donations of the following to support our curriculum delivery:

- Rice
- Pasta
- Oats
- Recycled materials, such as cardboard boxes



Tapestry

The way we are using Tapestry is changing. Your child's teachers have been busy taking a couple of photos of your children settling in. These will be released on Tapestry shortly. Every 6 months your child will be assessed against developmental milestones. Observations and assessments at these times will be shared with you via Tapestry and you will be invited to a parents' meeting to discuss progress. More information to follow.

Swap Shop

At the end of this month we will be setting up a swap shop clothes rail, a great opportunity for families to exchange good-quality clothing at no cost.

How it works:

Please bring in any donations of clean, good-condition children's clothes, coats and shoes in the next few days. From 30th September, take any items your family can use – even if you are unable to donate.

Thank you for your support.

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 (Lead) | - Sarah Roberts | - Claire Thorns |
| - Stephanie Wheatcroft | - Jason Lee | - Julie McCarthy |
| - Amanda Smith | - Maggie Penny | |

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 2025) 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.**

Healthy Lunchboxes

As a Startwell School, we are committed to promoting healthy eating habits and encouraging children to make nutritious choices every day.

Packed lunches should include the following types of foods everyday:

- A minimum of 1 portion of fruit or vegetables for vitamins and minerals
- A starchy food for energy and concentration e.g. any bread, wrap, chapatti, pasta, rice, noodles, potatoes. Do not bring flavoured dried rice, pasta, and noodle products e.g., packets and pots of instant noodles, pasta, and rice.
- Meat, fish, eggs or another plant-based source of iron and protein e.g. lentils, kidney beans, chickpeas, hummus for cognitive development.
- Dairy or dairy alternative food e.g. cheese, plain unsweetened yoghurt or fromage frais, for growth of bones and teeth.
- We provide milk / water at lunchtime with their meal

We kindly remind you NOT to bring nuts or any nut-based products into Nursery due to allergies; and NO CHOCOLATE.

Please ensure tomatoes and grapes are cut in half lengthways to prevent a choking hazard.

 Packed Lunch Food Ideas  		
Green Foods = Ok all of the time	Amber Foods = Occasional	Red Foods = Never, please do not have these in your Lunchbox
Fruit and Vegetables - Vegetable Sticks - Salad (e.g. Lettuce, tomato, cucumber,) - Fresh Fruit (whole, slices, fruit salad) - Dried Fruit (not include processed fruit snacks) - Tinned Fruit in juice Carbohydrates - Bread - Other breads - Pitto, Bagel, English Muffin, Chapatti, Roti, Tortilla Wrap - Homemade pasta (e.g. pasta salad, leftover pasta) - Homemade cous cous salad - Plain Crackers, plain crispbreads, plain rice cakes Protein - Cold Cooked Meat - plain, unprocessed - Tinned Fish - Egg - Houmous - Bean Salad Dairy and dairy alternatives - Cheese, cheese spread, cream cheese - Plain unsweetened yoghurt or fromage frais	Limit to no more than once a week: - Processed meats e.g ham, salami Remember an Ice Pack! Ideas for Sandwich/ Wrap Fillings - Tuna and sweetcorn / cucumber - Mixed bean and salad - Hummus, grated cheese and tomato - Egg and cucumber - Tikka Chicken and salad Drinks - Plain tap water - Plain milk	Savoury Foods - Chips / Fries - Hot or Cold Takeaway Food - Crisps (including mini cheddars, baked crisps & vegetable crisps) - Instant/ flavoured rice/pasta/noodles/cous cous - Pastries and Pasties - Cheese and onion slice, Sausage Roll, Samosa etc - Pizza slice – takeaway or shop bought - Dairylea Lunchables - Dairylea Dunkers Sweet Foods - Chocolate Bars - Chocolate spread - Jam - Flavoured yoghurts and mousse - Sweets - All biscuits and cereal bars - Cakes - Processed fruit snacks (including fruit winders, fruit bars) - Jelly pots/ fruit pots in syrup/ sweetened rice Pudding



Lunchboxes

On arrival, please ensure your child's named lunch box is put on the lunchbox trolley (if it is in a school bag, the lunchbox needs to come out of that bag).

Toilets

On arrival, if your child needs the toilet, please use the toilets in the foyer area. Parents are not allowed to go in with their children in the nursery room toilets as we have a duty to keep all children safe. Thank you.

October half-term Playscheme

We are excited to announce our October half-term holiday playscheme packed with fun and creativity for children to enjoy. Staffed by our team at Nursery, children can enjoy arts and crafts, messy play, music and movement, stories, outside play and themed activities.

Dates: Monday 26th October – Friday 30th October

Further details to follow

Places are limited



Medical Tracker

A reminder that we use Medical Tracker for recording and managing children's accidents, incidents and medication use. Please ensure you check your emails regularly for notifications. If you have any questions or have any difficulty accessing the system, please speak to Amanda or Steph.

NHS Carpark

Just a reminder that only **blue badge holders can use the NHS car park (parking in the designated bays)**. In recent weeks we have seen an increase in general parents use, increasing the risk of accidents to our families and children. Please park on the side roads appropriately. Thank you for your cooperation.

MyHappyMind

With our 3-4 year old children, we use a programme called MyHappyMind to support our children's wellbeing, resilience and emotional development. At the end of each term you will be receiving a leaflet about the module completed and how to support at home. To access the materials, go to <http://myhappymind.org/parent-resources> and enter your name, email and authentication code – mhm170



Parent/carer workshops

Healthy cooking workshop Wednesday 7th October 9.15am

Toilet training workshops Tuesday 20th October 9.15am

Thursday 7th January 9.15am

Monday 19th April 9.15am

Gardening workshops 10th, 11, 13th and 14th May 9.15am

Join in a key group time

16th November 9.15am Jason and Sahlia/Munya

17th November 9.15am Maggie and Julie

19th November 9.15am Jason and Sahlia/Munya

20th November 9.15am Maggie and Julie

23rd November 9.15am Kelly and Sadiyah

24th November 9.15am Claire

26th November 9.15am Kelly and Sadiyah

27th November 9.15am Claire

Maths in every day contexts at home Friday 15th January 9.15am

Join in a key group time

1st February 1.10pm Jason and Sahlia/Munya

2nd February 1.10pm Maggie and Julie

4th February 1.10pm Jason and Sahlia/Munya

5th February 1.10pm Maggie and Julie

8th February 1.10pm Kelly and Sadiyah

9th February 1.10pm Claire

11th February 1.10pm Kelly and Sadiyah and Claire

Little readers and writers Thursday 11th March 9.15am

Working with clay Tuesday 15th June 9.15am

Loose parts play Monday 5th July 9.15am

All the above sessions will be with your child. You will need to book onto these in the school office.

Coffee and Connect (all parents invited) Wednesday 4th November 2026 9.15am



*Teacher training dates – Nursery **closed** to all children*

Monday 2nd November 2026

Friday 12th February 2027

Wednesday 3rd March 2027

Wednesday 21st July 2027

FSM Eligibility

You may be aware that there have been some recent changes to the criteria for FSM. If you have any queries regarding FSM eligibility and how to check or apply please speak to our Nursery Office.

We are aware that there are some FSM checkers online, however we here at Allens Croft Nursery School use a Birmingham City Council system.

Therefore we asking all parents to come and speak to us first, but if you are inputting personal data into an online checker please be careful and ensure that **Allens Croft Nursery School** is listed before submitting.

Interested in becoming a Governor?

Our co-opted governor vacancies are now live on BFMNS and also our website. If you, or somebody else you may know is interested, please signpost them to

<https://bfmns.sch.life> – Vacancies

School Fees

All fee paying parents, please ensure you are paying your fees in advance in line with your contract.

Mobile phones and wearable technology

A gentle reminder to all parents and carers that mobile phones and wearable technology should not be used whilst on the school site. This includes making or taking calls, sending messages, or accessing devices during pick up or drop off. We ask that all adults model this expectation for children and help us to maintain a safe environment. Thank you for your continued support and cooperation.



School Dinners

Just a reminder that if your child has a school dinner, please ensure you pay for these a week in advance otherwise a lunch will not be ordered. Any changes you wish to make regarding school lunches, needs to be shared with the office.



Breakfast and After School Club

A reminder to families that our Breakfast Club (8-9am) and After-School Club (3-5pm) are available to support parents and carers with childcare around the school day. Breakfast Club provides children with a positive start to the day, with a range of breakfast options and time to socialise. Our After-School Club offers a safe, enjoyable environment where children can relax, play and take part in a variety of activities at the end of the school day. Places are available and can be booked through the school office. Please contact the office or see Amanda if you would like further information about timings, costs or how to book.



ALLENS CROFT

- NURSERY SCHOOL -

OUR ATTENDANCE VALUES ARE: BELONGING - CONNECTEDNESS - CURIOSITY

Key messages ...

Good attendance is everybody's responsibility. We all have a part to play:

Governing Body—Head Teacher
—Attendance Lead—Office Staff
—Nursery Practitioners—Parents

Attendance culture aim: for children and parents/carers to feel seen, heard and understood, creating a sense of belonging.

**Regular and punctual school attendance is important.
HIGH LEVELS OF ATTENDANCE
= IMPROVED ATTAINMENT
AND OUTCOMES FOR
CHILDREN**

Your child's attendance for Summer is:

Traffic light system of attendance:

Green = 90%

Amber = 80%

Red = 65% or below

We'd like you to know ...

*Every child has a right to an education
(UNICEF Article 28)*

Schools have a duty to ensure on our roll are safe and well. When a child does not attend their allocated session, schools must know why not.

We do not fine parents for absences / missed sessions as children in our nursery schools are non-statutory school age. We help families to get used to good attendance habits in readiness for school.

Good attendance benefits a child because:

- They can build friendships well
- They have routine and structure which supports emotional well-being
- They build strong relationships with adults
- They can access their learning entitlements regularly
- They learn boundaries and social norms
- They become better ready for school

You can help us by calling us when your child is ill. If you don't call nursery, we will call you to find out why. We have a responsibility to do this.

Open Evening Event at Allens Croft Nursery School

Please accept our warm invitation to come and view
our Nursery provision on:

Tuesday 20th October 2026

We are opening our doors at

3.30pm until 4.30pm

If you are looking for a place for your child please come
and have a look around.

Nursery intake January 2027 and April 2027

2, 3 and 4 year old, 15 and 30 hours funded places available.
Breakfast (8-9am) and After School (3-5pm)