



Welcome to Nursery 2021

Our aim is to help you and your child make a smooth transition into Appletree Nursery...

Appletree Gardens First School motto; “ENJOY, ACHIEVE, SUCCEED!” is at the heart of our Early Years ethos...

Our dedicated team work enthusiastically to ensure all children **ENJOY** each and every day.

We are passionate about providing a rich and varied environment and curriculum to enable all children to **ACHIEVE** the very best they can.

We are committed to developing confident, successful learners who **SUCCEED** in everything they do.

Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum (EYFS)

The Foundation Stage Curriculum is divided into seven areas of learning. All areas of learning and development are important and interconnected and activities often cover more than one area of learning. Staff have worked hard to develop a curriculum that is progressive, inclusive and engaging for all learners. We follow half-termly topics to ignite children's curiosity and enthusiasm for learning. Within our topics we provide a range of well planned, exciting, stimulating and challenging activities, for high quality play, both inside and outside.

At Appletree, we have fantastic opportunities for the children to play and explore through nature in our Early Years Nature Zone, during weekly Forest School sessions. The children have opportunities to build on their active learning through self chosen activities such as making mud pies in the mud kitchen or printing with flowers. The children become better critical thinkers by using tools for a purpose, building dens, using gross motor skills for swinging or using our rope bridges. We recognise the benefits outdoor learning has on children's well-being and mental health and best of all, the part it plays in building resilience and helping children develop a 'have a go' attitude.

Play is a natural activity for all children and it helps them to develop intellectually, physically, socially and emotionally and is a key way in which children learn with enjoyment and challenge throughout the Foundation Stage. Staff carefully plan and organise enabling environments for the children to develop their own learning journey and pursue their interests. In addition to this, children participate in small group activities which focus on developing specific skills and knowledge.

At Appletree we provide a safe, secure and nurturing environment in which children can learn through discovery and develop their skills and interests while being supported by staff and their peers. Our consistent routines and caring, supportive staff help the children to settle quickly and become independent learners. We look forward to welcoming you all into Amazing Appletree this year.



Creative



Reading

A taste of Appletree Nursery ...



Forest School



Literacy



Maths



Friendship

Loose parts



Sharing

Teamwork

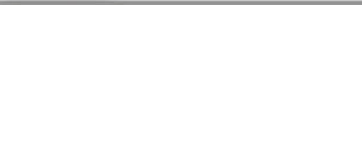
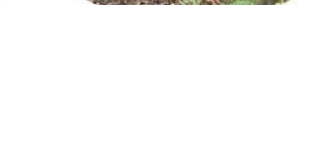
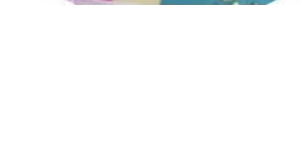


Cooking



Gardening

Discovering



Meet the Team

Nursery Teacher – Miss Jane Tucker



Hello everyone, I am the nursery teacher and I'm very excited for you to join our nursery. I absolutely love teaching in the foundation stage and I am also a Forest School leader, so expect lots of fun outdoors too! EYFS is the beginning of your child's learning journey and I promise you they will continue to have the best possible start.

In my spare time, my son and I just love to explore nature by walking in the woods, camping, playing on the beach, building dens, cycling along the coast and we fancy ourselves as master chefs too!

Nursery Teaching Assistant - Mrs Clare Taylor



Hello everyone! I have worked extensively throughout the school supporting teaching and learning over the last 14 years. Nursery is the place I feel most at home. I feel privileged to work with the youngest children as they begin their school journey and thoroughly enjoy being invited to share their view of the world. They never fail to brighten my day.

I am a mum to 4 grown up daughters, all of whom attended Appletree Gardens. I love all kinds of crafts, baking and gardening. I live locally so if you see me out and about in Whitley Bay please say hello.

PPA Teacher Miss Beth Brown



I've worked with lots of different age groups in lots of different schools but I found my home when I joined Appletree. I enjoy working with early years children because they have such fantastic imaginations and I enjoy listening to, and facilitating, their ideas. At home I like to cook, read and play with my cat. I enjoy learning about lots of different things and trying food from different countries. I love to travel and my favourite place I've ever been to was Cuba.

Nursery Session Times

All children aged 3 are entitled to 15 hours free childcare. This is covered in our school Nursery. Please note that children should attend either all morning sessions or all afternoon sessions. These hours should not be shared with another childcare provider.

Morning session:
8.30am – 11.30am

Afternoon session:
12.30pm – 3.30pm

Additional Fee Paying Sessions

In addition to this, we offer fee paying sessions mornings and afternoons to cater for your childcare needs. These additional sessions will be delivered in Appletree Gardens Out of School Care. Please note these times do not cover the lunchtime period and should your child need to stay for this time an additional cost will be incurred.

Session Times:

Monday - Friday - Session Charge £9.00

9:00 am - 12:00 pm OR 12:30 pm - 3:30 pm

Lunch Time Care Cost - Session Charge £4.00

Children eligible for 30 hours

At Appletree Gardens First School the 30 hour provision is teacher led within our Nursery. Those eligible are entitled to an additional 3 hours of childcare per day on top of their daily 3 hour nursery sessions.

All 30 hour children have their formal teaching session in the morning for example phonics, maths, Talk4Writing, Jigsaw etc. In the afternoon, the children remain in the same familiar nursery setting and build on these skills. It has been wonderful to see these children become mentors for the afternoon children; taking their learning to a greater depth.

Lunch:

- Lunchtime will be a separate session in our 'Wraparound' provision (located in Appletree Annex) and the children have access to a secure garden to play in after their lunch
- Children will be collected from and taken to nursery by the Wraparound staff
- **There will be a small daily charge of £4 for this session**
- Children must bring a healthy packed lunch (no nuts, chocolate, sweets or fizzy drinks please)

Out Of School Club Childcare Provision

At Appletree Gardens First School, we are committed to working closely with our families to ensure we can help cater for all of their childcare needs. We offer:



Breakfast Club and Afterschool Club

Wraparound Care

Holiday Clubs

2 Year Old Provision - funded and fee paying places



This provision operates in Appletree Gardens Annex attached to the school.

For details of the services on offer **please see separate leaflet in your Nursery pack** or contact our childcare manager, Susanne, on 0191 2523546 or 07532 261368.

Information About Nursery

Children start Nursery with a wide and varied range of starting points and skills but there are certain things that will really help your child get off to a great start with their learning. Some of these things are being able to:

- Use the toilet independently
- Share and take turns
- Sit and listen in a group for a short amount of time
- Take off and put on their coat
- Separate from yourself or a carer without becoming upset

This is not an exhaustive list but the more independence your child has in terms of basic self-care skills, the more they can focus on their learning across the curriculum, feeling comfortable and secure in themselves.

Organisation

Nursery provides two large, bright airy rooms which are interconnecting. The toilet area has a disabled toilet and children can access this area at all times as they need. We have a large outdoor area in a mature garden which has a safety surface and grass. Nursery has its own entrance which is separate from the school and the outside gate is locked after the children come in to ensure security.

Outdoor Learning and Forest School

Our outdoor area is in a mature garden and has a safety surface. We have a static wooden climbing frame and a range of safe, sturdy play equipment. We also have a garden shed which stores our small world play, balls, buckets, large blocks and gardening tools. The children have supervised access to resources and are also encouraged to follow their fascinations and instigate their own play which the staff support and extend. We have a developed 'Nature Zone' which we access for Forest School activities, exploring natural materials, investigating and wondering. We play outside in the nursery garden every day, 'come rain or shine', and always in the snow! High quality waterproof trousers and coats are provided. Children will need to keep a spare pair of wellies in school. These need to be named. In the summer a sun hat should be worn but please put sunscreen on your child BEFORE coming to nursery.

Communication with Parents

In nursery we have electronic Learning Journeys, on a programme called Seesaw, to chronicle the children's learning. We encourage all parents to sign up to Seesaw as it is the perfect way for them to see what their child is doing in nursery. We use it to communicate about events in school and ways you can support at home. It is also useful for parents to share photos and information about their child from home which helps us to really tailor our provision and curriculum around the needs and interests of our children.

Collecting Children

Please arrive promptly to collect your child as lateness causes distress. If you are unavoidably late please phone the school office, who will inform us and we can support the child until you arrive. Only a responsible adult known to school can collect a child. Please inform nursery staff if someone different is bringing or collecting your child. This will be recorded on the white board next to the door for daily record.

Clothing

The nursery uniform is not compulsory, but many parents buy the Nursery sweatshirt with the school logo as they wear well and save the child's own clothing during messy play. ***Please note, the current colour is being phased out this year, inline with the navy and green t-shirt the rest of the school wear from September 2022.*** Please do not send your child to nursery in their best clothes; many of our most exciting activities are very messy or wet! Clothing needs to be comfortable, simple and easily washable - tracksuit bottoms and leggings are ideal for children to manage themselves. Send your child in suitable footwear every day which they are able to put on and take off by themselves (no laces)! Flip-flops, strappy sandals or shoes with heels are neither safe nor practical. Please note that wearing jewellery can be dangerous when children are playing and this includes necklaces and earrings, even studs.

Milk

Free milk is provided for all children under the age of 5. If your child does not like milk they can have a drink of water. Please provide your child with a named water bottle. Fruit is available every day through the 5 a day scheme and is very popular.

Toileting

Children will be toilet trained before starting nursery but we know that this skill takes longer for others to learn. If there are accidents your child will be changed - we have some spare clothing, but please make sure you return all nursery clothes promptly once they are washed. Clothes which are easy to manage support independence - please don't put your child in tight skirts, jeans with a button, belts or dungarees. If your child is not toilet trained please see the nursery staff and each child will be supported in a planned way as they learn to use the toilet.

What if you think your child may not be ready?

As we have said above, all children have different starting points when they begin Nursery but if you feel that your child may not be ready or you want to discuss anything further then feel free to contact the school. You can arrange to meet a member of the Early Years Team and we can discuss strategies that would help your child move towards being 'school ready'.

Nursery Admissions

The nursery intake is staggered during the first weeks of the autumn term. Several factors will influence this including 30hrs children and date of birth. Admission is gradual and parents are initially encouraged to stay with their child until they are settled. This also allows parents to get to know nursery staff during these first important weeks.

Attendance and Illness

We expect your child to attend nursery every day. However, if they are ill please do not bring them to nursery. This is to avoid the spread of infection. Sickness and/or diarrhoea need an absence of 24 hours from when the child was last ill. If your child becomes ill during a session parents will be requested to collect their child or a designated emergency contact will be made. When a child is absent please inform the school of the reason as soon as possible. Only medicine prescribed by a doctor, this includes inhalers, may be administered in nursery and you must sign a consent form.

Safeguarding and Child Protection

The safety and protection of children, staff, parents / carers and visitors to Appletree is paramount. Every adult in school and within our school community, has a duty of care to the children in Appletree. We have systems in place to protect our children and work closely with North Tyneside Children's Services 'Front Door' service. We are also part of 'Operation Encompass' a national initiative to support children living in households with Domestic Abuse. If you have any queries or concerns about a child's welfare or safety do not hesitate to contact school or NT Front Door on 0345 2000 109.

Parent Helpers

We like to encourage parents to come into nursery to help wherever possible. This might include playing games with the children, reading stories or helping with a craft activity. If you have any other skills you think may be useful please let us know! If you would like to help on a regular basis you will need DBS clearance which can be obtained through school. This is not necessary to help on trips. We are always grateful for any parental support on trips!



APPLETREE GARDENS OUT OF SCHOOL CARE

Breakfast Club

Monday - Friday between
7.45am - 9.00am
Breakfast included
Session Charge
£5.25



After School Club

Monday - Friday
between
3.30 pm - 5.30 pm
Session Charge
3.30pm - 4.30 pm
£6.00
3.30pm - 5.30pm
£9.00



HOW TO BOOK

Pre-Registration required. Booking is essential as places are limited.

To book or for further information contact us at:

susanne.cross@appletreegfs.org.uk

Telephone: 0191 2523546 opt 3

Mobile No 07853201570

Alternatively you can come and see us in the Appletree Annex,
Appletree Gardens First School

HOLIDAY CLUB

Runs Mon-Fri throughout all school holidays plus teacher training days.

Full Day Care

7.45 am - 5.30 pm

Session Charge

£23.00

Half Day Care

Session Charge

£14.00



Children must bring a packed lunch with them.

Wraparound Care

Fee Paying sessions for 2/3 Year olds

Monday - Friday between:

9.00 am - 12.00 pm

12.30-3.30 pm

Session Charge - £9.00

9.00am - 3.30 -£20.00

Lunch Time Care for Nursery Children

11.45 am - 12.30pm

Session charge - £4.00

Children to bring a packed lunch.

Little Pips also offers funded and Fee Paying places for 2 Year (Criteria to be met)

