



HEREFORD CATHEDRAL  
SCHOOL



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NURSERY



# HEREFORD CATHEDRAL SCHOOL NURSERY

Our Nursery thrives on providing a warm, loving atmosphere for children and their families.

Our high standard of care and quality of learning, ensure that we provide an engaging, creative and exciting environment. We offer rich learning opportunities through both play and our focused teaching, aiming to enhance a child's personal and educational needs. Through providing a broad and imaginative curriculum, we develop each child in all areas of the Early Years Foundation Stage.

- Term time and holiday care, starting from the beginning of the term in which your child turns 3
- A term time educational setting, with learning built around the Early Years Foundation Stage
- Castle Hill Holiday Club for additional care during school holidays
- Childcare available 8am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, 46 weeks of the year





## OUR NURSERY TEAM

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Our highly qualified Nursery Leader is supported by a team of Early Years professionals who work across the Pre-Prep and Nursery.

The Nursery is fortunate to have a team of friendly and passionate staff who share a wealth of experience and qualifications to support each child and ensure they reach their full potential during their time with us.

### SPECIALIST TEACHING

Throughout the week, the children are also taught by a variety of specialist staff in French, Music and Movement.

The Nursery day starts at 8.30am and ends at 3.30pm.

Many parents also choose to take advantage of our breakfast club which runs from 8am and after school care (until 5.30pm).



Our Nursery is part of Hereford Cathedral Junior School, which means that we benefit from the facilities and expertise you might not generally find at a standalone Nursery.

### OUTSTANDING FACILITIES

Our Nursery benefits from a modern, well-equipped setting with a safe and secure outdoor play area. The children also enjoy using our Junior School facilities – our school hall, our sports hall, our Reception classrooms, our Head’s walled garden – and enjoy lunch in the dining hall each day.

### SEAMLESS TRANSITION

The vast majority of our Nursery children progress to our Reception class where they benefit from already having formed relationships with their peers and the Junior School teachers. They even know the Head. They feel familiar with our Reception classrooms and play spaces and comfortable in their surroundings.

Throughout the year, the Nursery staff work closely with our Reception teachers and the children enjoy joining in with some exciting school events: the Pre-Prep Christmas Party, the Easter Bonnet Parade and Egg Hunt, Pre-Prep Sports Day and the Pre-Prep Summer Concert.



**A DELIGHTFUL  
PLACE TO START  
EXPLORING LIFE'S  
POSSIBILITIES**

**GOOD SCHOOLS GUIDE**

## OUR DAILY ROUTINE

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We take pride in providing carefully planned and structured activities built around each child's individual interests.

We offer rich learning opportunities through both play and our focused teaching, aiming to enhance a child's personal and educational learning. Through providing a broad and imaginative curriculum, we develop each child in all areas of the Early Years Foundation Stage.

### MORNINGS

Mornings at the Nursery are carefully planned around each child's interests and stage of development within the seven areas of the Early Years Foundation Stage.

Throughout the morning children are given opportunities for child-initiated play, in small and large groups and carrying out tasks. During circle times we focus on sounds, numbers, stories, rhymes and discussions around our weekly topic.



### LUNCHES

We offer nutritious lunches, freshly cooked on the premises which we eat together in the school dining hall. There is always a choice of meals including hot and cold options.

The weekly menu can be viewed on the school website. If you prefer, you may send in a packed lunch for your child.

## AFTERNOON ACTIVITIES

Each afternoon we take part in a range of activities in school and out in the community.

**Outdoor Explorers:** We regularly spend time outdoors. These are fun-filled sessions of enriched outdoor learning and discovery.

**Library visits:** We spend time visiting our local library, giving us the opportunity to build on our love of books.

**Sports activities:** During our Sports Hall visits we enjoy activities which build on our physical development through sport, games, music and movement.

**Reception visits:** Visits to the Junior School give the children the chance to familiarise themselves with the Reception classrooms, outdoor space and teachers.

**Weekly walks:** We love to explore our local community and discover environmental changes. We visit the Duck Pond, Castle Green, Bishops Meadow, High Town and the Cathedral. This develops each child's social skills, safety awareness and allows them to experience their local City.





## NURSERY FEES

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**Our fee structure is simple and easy to follow so you can tailor your week to suit you and your child.**

Costs are broken down into half-day sessions. You can choose how many sessions your child attends each week. We suggest a minimum of 4-6 sessions in order for your child to feel settled and get the most out of nursery life.

Children may join our Nursery from the beginning of the term in which they turn three. Local Authority Nursery Education Funding (NEF), which covers the cost of 15 hours of Nursery education, is available for all children from the beginning of the term after they turn three. See also FAQs on page 12.

**The week is split into 10 half day sessions. A morning session runs from 8.30am-12.30pm (and includes lunchtime); an afternoon session runs from 12.30-3.30pm.**

Our charge for children who are not yet in receipt of NEF is £20.50 per half day. The cost to parents for children after the term in which they turn three and are in receipt of NEF is as below. From Spring 2022, costs per session are:

| HALF-DAY SESSIONS | COST PER SESSION (with NEF) |
|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| Sessions 1-4      | £0                          |
| Sessions 5-8      | £28.75                      |
| Sessions 9-10     | £21.00                      |

We accept childcare vouchers. Some, such as Computershare and Fideliti are available from your employer. Alternatively, we also accept tax-free childcare vouchers (see [www.gov.uk/tax-free-childcare](http://www.gov.uk/tax-free-childcare)).

Our charges are fully inclusive of any additional extras such as outings, trips, class parties, events and specialist teaching.



Parents may pay monthly or termly in advance. Please get in touch with the School if you would like more information about our fees.

### Extra charges:

**Lunch:** £1.90 per day (alternatively, you may send a packed lunch)

**Breakfast Club (8.00-8.30am):** £3.25 per half-hour session

**After-school Care (3.30-5.30pm):** £4.50 per hour or part thereof.

## EXAMPLES

Millie comes to Nursery on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings (from 8.30-12.30pm) – that is four sessions per week. She is three years old and is therefore in receipt of NEF. Millie's parents pay no nursery fees.

Oliver is with us all day Monday to Friday (8.30-3.30pm). He is three years old and therefore is in receipt of NEF. His parents pay no nursery fees on Monday and Tuesday (sessions 1-4). For Wednesday and Thursday, they pay £57.50 per day and for Friday they pay £42. The total cost for the five day week is £157.





HEREFORD  
CATHEDRAL  
SCHOOL

# Castle Hill HOLIDAY CLUB

The Moat  
←

Hereford Cathedral Junior School's Castle Hill Holiday Club welcomes HCJS Nursery and Pre-Prep pupils for school holiday fun. Price: £36 per day from 8.30am until 3.30pm, with the option to stay until 4.30pm (charges apply). Activities include drama, PE, music, cookery and trips to the park. Adventure awaits!

# CLUB DATES 2023/24



|            | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  |
|------------|----|----|----|----|----|
| SEPT 2023  |    |    |    |    | 1  |
|            | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  |
|            | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
|            | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| OCT 2023   | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
|            | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  |
|            | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
|            | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| NOV 2023   | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
|            | 30 | 31 | 1  | 2  | 3  |
|            | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 |
|            | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| DEC 2023   | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
|            | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 1  |
|            | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  |
|            | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| JAN 2024   | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
|            | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
|            | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  |
|            | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| FEB 2024   | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
|            | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
|            | 29 | 30 | 31 | 1  | 2  |
|            | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  |
| MARCH 2024 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
|            | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
|            | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 1  |
|            | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  |
|            | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
|            | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
|            | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |

|             | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  |
|-------------|----|----|----|----|----|
| APR 2024    | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  |
|             | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 |
|             | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
|             | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| MAY 2024    | 29 | 30 | 1  | 2  | 3  |
|             | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 |
|             | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
|             | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| JUNE 2024   | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |
|             | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  |
|             | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
|             | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| JULY 2024   | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
|             | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  |
|             | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 |
|             | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| AUGUST 2024 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
|             | 29 | 30 | 31 | 1  | 2  |
|             | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  |
|             | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
|             | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
|             | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
|             | 31 |    |    |    |    |

- SCHOOL OPEN (TERM TIME)
- HOLIDAY CLUB OPEN (SCHOOL HOLIDAY)
- SCHOOL & HOLIDAY CLUB CLOSED
- BANK HOLIDAY (SCHOOL & HOLIDAY CLUB CLOSED)



## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

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### When can my child start at the Nursery?

Children may start with us from the beginning of the term in which they turn three, once they are no longer routinely wearing nappies.

| Born between       | Earliest term of entry  |
|--------------------|-------------------------|
| September-December | September (Autumn term) |
| January - April    | January (Spring term)   |
| May - August       | April (Summer term)     |

### How many days are best for my child?

We believe a minimum of 2-3 days per week at Nursery offers your child the best opportunity to access a broad, balanced and enriched curriculum within our Nursery. The sessions you choose may be mornings, afternoons or full days to best suit your needs.

### Does the Nursery provide before and after-school care?

For those parents who require care outside the normal school day, we operate both breakfast and after school clubs. Breakfast club runs from 8.00-8.30am and our after-school club runs from 3.30-5.30pm. Both clubs are open to nursery age children and are charged separately.

### What does my child need to be able to do when she/he starts Nursery?

We understand that each child is unique and that children will start Nursery at different stages of development, but we would like your child to:

- be able to tell us when they need to go to the toilet, although we do expect accidents, especially when they first start Nursery.
- have an awareness of routine and good behaviour.
- be able to feed themselves competently.
- be able to follow simple instructions, such as 'please put the toys away'.

It would be very helpful if your child could practise putting on their coat on their own and have some experience of playing alongside other children. Please be aware that we are not able to cater for children who are routinely wearing nappies.



### **What is the settling in process?**

We want to ensure that each child's transition to the Nursery is a smooth and happy one. To help with this, we use a two-step settling in process before they attend their first full session with us.

The first stage is a Nursery visit. This gives you and your child the opportunity to familiarise yourselves with our environment, routine and Nursery life. Towards the end of this visit we warmly invite parents to discuss with our Nursery Leader any aspirations or worries they may have for their child starting their time in Nursery.

The second step is an hour-long taster session. Children are invited to come in for a taster session. Parents leave the children with us at Nursery for the first time where they will join in with our daily activities and play alongside the other children.

Our weekly Play & Discover sessions for 0-3s and their parents offer the opportunity to familiarise your child with the Nursery environment before starting too.

### **How will I find out how my child is progressing at Nursery?**

We understand how important it is for you to know what your child has been doing at Nursery and the progress they are making. We record the children's learning and progress using an online tool called Tapestry. This gives you instant access to photos, videos and observations of your child in their learning journal.

You are welcome to speak to our staff at drop off and collection each day and you will be invited to parents' evenings in the Autumn and Spring terms. At the end of the year, you will receive a full report. Of course, you are also welcome to make an appointment to see our Nursery Leader at any time should you have any concerns.

We will keep you informed by email of events and important information throughout the year. You will also be able to see photographs of what the children have been doing on our school website and Facebook page.

HEREFORD CATHEDRAL SCHOOL NURSERY

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