Welcome to Chapel Hill Nursery

Vision Statement

'We create an exceptional childhood experience in a supportive atmosphere, guided by our school values of Ambition, Commitment, Kindness, Honesty and Respect.'

Our approach is to create a warm and friendly environment where your children feel happy and secure. At Chapel Hill Nursery, the aim of the 'Early Years Foundation Stage' is to ensure that all children are given the opportunity to reach their full potential educationally, emotionally and physically.



Our well-trained and experienced staff will oversee your child's developmental journey and will keep you involved, every step of the way.

We cannot wait to meet you and your children and welcome you to the Chapel Hill family.

About Us

Chapel Hill Nursery caters for children aged from birth to 4 years, across four rooms;



Little Acorns - Birth to 2 year old

Mighty Oaks - 1 to 2 years old

Forest Room - Rising 3's

Woodland Room - Rising 4's

Our team of friendly staff have a passion for working with children and are ready to forge excellent relationships with both children and parents. We plan for, and deliver, exciting and engaging playful learning opportunities to suit the needs of all pupils. Our curriculum covers the seven areas of learning as set out in the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework. Our high expectations and desire to help all children to achieve their best, helps prepare our children for the next stage of their education.

Our day care is open from 7.30am - 6.30pm on Mondays to Fridays for 50 weeks of the year (closed 1 week in August and between Christmas and New Year).

Our nursery is open from 8.30am – 2.50pm. All nursery places are offered with a term-time only option. If you require wraparound care (breakfast club – 7.30am-8.30am or tea time club – 3.00pm – 6.30pm) this is a provision provided by the school and subject to availability.

Our nursery rooms are all purpose-built with plenty of space for babies and children to explore. Cots and beds are provided for sleep time.

Little Acorns (the baby room)

Our baby room is run on the staff to child ratio 1:3. The room is designated for babies under the age of one, however, babies can remain in this room for longer to suit their developmental needs.
The babies in Little Acorns have the opportunity to engage in sensory play, exploration play and music time, along with many other activities.
Your child's key person and the room leader will work with you to establish routines to ensure a smooth transition to our nursery. This includes milk routines, weaning, sleep times and other requirements.
Feedback is given at the end of each session on collection of your child.

Mighty Oaks (the toddler room)

Our toddler room is run on the staff to child ratio 1:3. Babies move to the toddler room around their first birthday and/or when suited for their developmental needs. A smooth transition is ensured through communication with parents and between nursery staff.
Exciting and engaging activities are planned in line with the children's developmental needs and cover the seven areas of learning.
Your key person and the room leader will work with you to establish routines to ensure a smooth transition to our nursery. This includes milk routines, sleep times and other requirements.
Feedback is given at the end of each session on collection of your child.

Rising 3s and 4s

In the Rising 3s and 4s rooms, the clear structure of the day prepares children for their time in school. We start our day with circle time where we sing songs and share stories, amongst many other activities. We play and explore both inside the classroom and in our garden area, where the children have lots of opportunities to choose what to play as well as being involved in directed activities. Our focus on communication and language skills helps children access all areas of the curriculum and prepares them for the transition to school.







We place great emphasis on the importance of snack times and lunchtimes, where the children are encouraged to have conversations with their friends and with the staff. Independence is promoted by allowing children to select drinks and food and in serving themselves. Mealtimes are the perfect opportunity for children to learn their table manners and develop their fine motor skills through using cutlery.









Throughout the day, we relish any opportunity to share stories with the children. Our staff are readily on hand to read with the children and act out stories, role play as characters from a story and create artwork based on a story, amongst many other activities. A love of books is a key priority at Chapel Hill Nursery and lays the foundations for a successful education.

Partnership with Parents and Carers

At Chapel Hill Nursery, our staff are on hand to support parents in providing children with the best possible start. It is our belief that a shared approach and clear communication is the best way to support a child in their critical early years.

Our room leaders, supported by their colleagues, are on hand at the start and end of every session to communicate with parents. If a longer discussion is required, we kindly ask that parents arrange a phone conversation or meeting with the relevant staff.

We understand the importance of providing you with plenty of updates about your child's progress. For babies and toddlers, staff will provide detailed feedback each day so you are aware of feed times, sleeps and other important information.

Parents Evenings

Parents evenings will be held for Rising 3s and 4s in both the Autumn term and the Spring term each academic year. This provides parents with an opportunity to discuss their child's progress and review their next step targets.

Two-Year Checks

All two-year olds will receive a two-year check report, evidencing their progress and their next steps, against the prime areas of learning.

Next Step Reports

All children who attend Chapel Hill Nursery will receive next step reports twice a year to evidence their progress and their next steps. Rising 3s will receive a two-year check in place of one of the Next Step reports.
Babies, toddlers and Rising 3s reports will focus on the prime areas of learning.
Rising 4s reports provide details on the seven areas of learning.



Wow Tokens

We love to hear about the children's achievements at home. We welcome parents to send in 'Wow Tokens' so we can celebrate your child's successes. Nursery staff will provide parents with 'Wow Tokens.' When returned to nursery, we will share these celebratory moments in our nursery rooms.

Learning Journeys

Children's progress is recorded through Learning Journeys. A combination of photographs, video clips and children's own work documents their progress and provides parents with lasting memories. Learning Journeys will be available to view at parents' evenings and will be sent home as keep sakes once completed.

Our nursery administrator, Mrs Osborne, will provide details of your settling in session prior to your child's start date.

What to Bring to Nursery

Each day children require;

- A small, named bag for their belongings
- A refillable bottle for water
- Coats and hats (including a sun hat for sunny days)
- Nappies and wipes (we recommend providing six nappies per day)
- A set of spare clothes (we request more for children who are toilet training)
- Formula or breast milk (to be handed to staff on arrival) and bottles for children in Little Acorns and Mighty Oaks
- A dummy or comforter for children in Little Acorns and Mighty Oaks, if required

All personal items should be clearly labelled with your child's name.

A Wonderful Day at Chapel Hill Nursery – Our Daily Routine for Rising 3s and 4s





Our structured approach to the day prepares children for the transition to school, as well as supporting their personal, social needs and their listening skills.

We start each day with registration time, during which we sing songs, practice the alphabet and share the news and weather.

Children are then given the opportunity to join in with playful learning opportunities which focus on developing their skills, independence and understanding, across the seven areas of learning. Children's next steps are catered for through our range of exciting and engaging activities and through careful delivery by our nursery experts.





Children in our Rising 3s and 4s rooms are provided with a lunch (if they attend for a full day) and all children receive a snack.





All children have access to our outdoor play area where they can partake in activities that relate to our curriculum, as well as explore independently.







Meet Our Team

We employ committed, caring and enthusiastic staff who have a passion for working with children. Our family feel and team approach enables us to provide an environment that is focused on the wellbeing of every child and is centred around their needs.

Staff are all in receipt of an enhanced DBS check.

At Chapel Hill Nursery, each child is provided with a key person to support their development. However, all staff, led by a room leader, are on hand to support your child. We pride ourselves on the relationships that all staff develop with the children. Our room leaders support staff to develop a relationship with you and your family. Our highly experienced room leaders are always on hand to support you and your child.

Curriculum

Our Early Years curriculum aims to give children the breadth of knowledge and experience which will allow them to progress to the next phase of their education confidently, with the skills required to be successful. Planning is carefully sequenced to build on children's prior knowledge and experiences and to give opportunities that deepen their understanding. Children's next steps and interests are built into the planning to provide children with a love of learning right from the word go!









Meal Times

All children are encouraged to eat a variety of nutritious meals. If your child has any special dietary requirements, including allergies, our cooks will ensure that they are catered for. When babies start weaning your key person will discuss with you what your child will require. Their meals will be pureed or mashed accordingly; we will only introduce a new taste to your baby when you confirm you are happy for them to try it. We display our menus on the website and you will be advised with your daily feedback what your child has eaten during the day.

Milk (formula or breast milk) is to be provided by parents for children in Little Acorns or Mighty Oaks. Milk needs to be clearly labelled with the child's names, instructions for use and date of expiration. Staff will meet with you to discuss details of feeds.

Breakfast club: Toast, bagels, cereals, fruit, low-fat yoghurt and drinks will be between 7.30 a.m. and 8.15 a.m.

Nursery Rising 3 & 4s: Lunch will consist of a selection of sandwiches, pasta, seasonal vegetables, fresh and dried fruits and yogurts.

Tea time club: Included in the fee, we will provide your child with a freshly prepared light snack every evening at around 4.15 p.m. Options include beans/spaghetti/jam on toast, toasted cheese/ham sandwiches and chicken/veggie nuggets, pizza, hot dogs.
Yoghurts, fresh fruit, water and sugar-free juice are always available.

Snack: We provide a range of seasonal and dried fruit, milk or water for the children to enjoy.

Day Care 0-24months: Hot meal: spaghetti bolognese, shepherd's pie, chilli, sausage pasta bake, tuna pasta bake, lasagne, curry, sausages & mash, fish fingers, chicken nuggets and cold snack as above.

Uniform

Nursery uniform is required for the Rising 3s and 4s. Children will wear:

- a green polo shirt
- a purple jumper (with 'Chapel Hill' logo)
- purple jogging bottoms
- black shoes or trainers

Uniform can be purchased from the school.

Fees

With so many eligible parents now receiving government childcare funding we issue our invoices termly via our Famly App. The app will show one payment for the whole term that will be split into 3-monthly payments. As the Summer Term is our longest, fees will be split into 4 monthly payments to make the fees due more manageable.

The Day Care and Nursery will be closed for one week over the Christmas holiday and bank holidays.

Free Funded Places - How does it work?

- From **September 2025**, 30 hours childcare support was extended to **eligible working parents** of children from the term AFTER your child turns 9 months to 2 years.
- **ALL** 3 & 4 year olds are entitled to 15 hours per week of free early years education. This starts the term AFTER your child turns 3 years old and runs until they start school.
- 30 hours per week of free early years education is available to **eligible working parents** of 3 & 4 year olds. This also starts the term AFTER your child turns 3 years old and runs until they start school.
- It is the parent's responsibility to apply for childcare funding and ensure you renew your information with HMRC every 3 months. If you do not renew, your funding will cease and you will be fully invoiced.

Please see our website where you will find links to more information.
https://www.chapelhillprimary.essex.sch.uk



We look forward to welcoming you and your child to our Chapel Hill family!