WEOLEY CASTLE NURSERY SCHOOL , PRE-SCHOOL & EARLY LEARNING HUB
109 WEOLEY CASTLE ROAD
WEOLEY CASTLE
BIRMINGHAM
B29 5QD

Telephone: 0121 427 1058
Fax: 0121 426 5692
E-mail: enquiry@wlycstln.bham.sch.uk
Website: www.weoleycastlenursery.sch.life

Head Teacher: Lesley Harris

Birmingham City Council

Weoley Castle Nursery School Pre-School & Early Learning Hub

Prospectus

2026-2027

Ofsted Outstanding 2010|2011

Ofsted Outstanding Provider 2023|2024 2017|2018 2013|2014

Welcome to Weoley Castle Nursery School, Pre-School & Early Learning Hub

Our Vision

Our aim is to build and sustain a learning community with Weoley Castle Nursery School, our children and families at its heart. A safe, forward thinking, welcoming and nurturing place where emotional well-being is a high priority, kindness and consideration thrive, each individual is included and valued for what they know and can do and everyone is encouraged to develop to their full potential. We wish for each of us a spirit of optimism, curiosity and wonder, an enquiring mind and respect for themselves, others and their world – building brighter futures for everyone.

The High/Scope Approach

High Scope at Weoley is a way of life for adults and children alike. We have developed a learning environment that nurtures creativity and independent learning, a daily routine that creates a safe frame in which to explore, take risks and construct your own knowledge.

Assessment is relevant and informs all planning, it is interesting, honest, open and reflective. Children, staff and families enjoy sharing learning journeys.

Essential to the approach is the genuine and supportive relationships which are established through the interaction model

"At the heart of this development is the High Scope Approach and its emphasis on establishing a strong partnership between children, teachers and family. This approach is highly effective in enabling the children to be co-operative, make choices, present opinions and be reflective."

OfSted March 2009 Good Practice Survey in capturing the user voice
Weoley Castle Nursery School & Children's Centre

2,3 & 4 year old places for September 2026

www.weoleycastlenursery.sch.life

Weoley Castle Preschool is part of the Weoley Castle Nursery school and is based in the heart of Weoley Castle. We are now accepting registrations for 2 and 3 year olds to start September 2025. Our experienced and welcoming staff are waiting to hear from you. Please contact the Preschool for details.



Weoley Castle Nursery School is one of Birmingham's finest and most successful Nursery schools. Rated as Outstanding in all inspections since 2011,the school is now accepting registrations for places starting in September 2025 for children aged 3 and 4. please contact the school or visit the website to register.

Weoley Castle Nursery Preschool

Hopstone Road
Weoley Castle
Birmingham
B29 5QU
Tel: 0121 464 8238

Free places - Flexible hours and our blended offer

15 or 30 hours full or part time

Ofsted Outstanding Provider 2023|2024 2017|2018 2013|2014 2009|2010

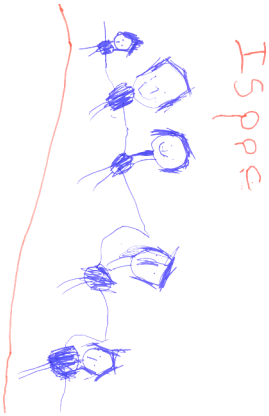
Weoley Castle Nursery School

109 Weoley Castle Road
Weoley Castle
Birmingham
B29 5QD
Tel: 0121 4271058
enquiry@wlycstln.bham.sch.uk
n.grimmitt@wlycstln.bham.sch.uk

Breakfast and After School club

Children of all abilities and from all backgrounds make excellent progress. They become highly confident and enthusiastic young learners. Children quickly acquire exceptionally positive attitudes to their learning. The behaviour of the children is outstanding in a wide range of activities in and around the nursery

Ofsted 2013



"Me, Martha, Katie, Ben and Ellis we are holding hands going for a walk on the path" **Isaac**

The partnerships with parents are excellent. They speak with huge pride about how warmly staff welcome them and ensure that adults and children alike are encouraged to develop their skills.

Ofsted 2013



"That's Me and Madison we are playing cars and writing on the whiteboard"
Lucy

Wrap Around Care

Weoley Castle Nursery School • Preschool & Early Learning Hub • & Community Childcare

At Weoley Castle Nursery School & Children's Centre we offer provision from 7.30 am-4.00 pm.

Breakfast Club

Afterschool Club

Wrap Around Care

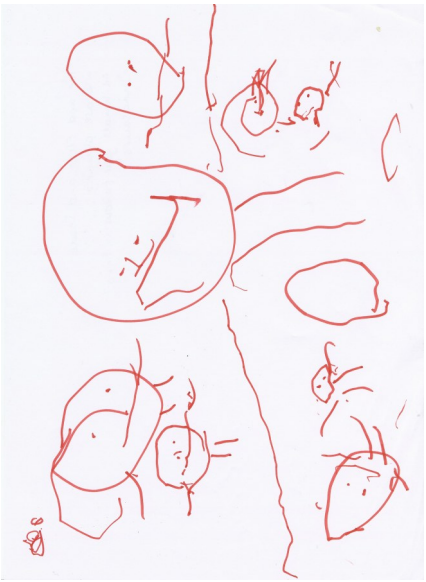
Stay and Play sessions

Prices start from just £6.00 per hour

Outstanding Staff and a Safe, Caring Environment for your child.

Contact us - 0121 427 1058

The vibrant and exciting areas indoors and outside stimulate the children's interest and imagination. Excellent use is made of Acorn Wood to stimulate an interest in the environment.
Ofsted 2013



"Me and Ellis and Isaac we are play-ing . . .Dinosaurs"
Ben

Staff have an in-depth understanding of the ways that children of this age learn. They continually review and adapt the way they work and meet the children's diverse learning and behavioural needs in an exemplary manner.
Ofsted 2013

The records the nursery keeps of children's progress, in the form of Learning Journeys, are exemplary. Families say their much older children still regularly refer to these as a vivid record of their very enjoyable early learning. As part of a family learning project some parents and children also produce beautiful scrapbooks and photo books of their shared leaning experiences.
Ofsted 2013

Early Years Healthy Settings

Silver Eco-Schools Silver Award

creative partnerships

International School Award 2012-2015

Sure Start Children's Centres

ey tc early years teaching centres

Our Board of Governors welcome you and hope your time with us is a happy experience for your whole family.

Our Chair of Governors is

Ms Natalie Evans

"The leadership team has maintained the outstanding quality of education in the school since the last inspection. In fact, the school has built further on its many strengths and provides children with an exceptionally positive early experience of education. You and your team ensure that the standard of teaching and learning is top notch and the level of care is second to none. Consequently, children settle in quickly, make excellent progress and are happy and safe at school. There is no doubt that this school nurtures children, builds their confidence and gives them exactly what they need to help their learning now and in later years. "

OFSTED - HMI 2018

"Weoley Castle Nursery School has a very special place in the community, and rightly so. It is a school where children settle very quickly and are confident to leave their parents and carers. This is because of the nurturing and caring staff who ensure that relationships are of the highest quality. This enables children to thrive both educationally and in their personal development. When their time at Weoley Castle ends, they are fully prepared for the move to primary school. "

OFSTED - HMI 2024

WELCOME TO
WEOLEY CASTLE NURSERY SCHOOL

Session Times

We provide services 7.30 - 4:00 (Monday ,Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday)
Part Time early learning 8:50 - 3:00 Mon & Tues, 8:50 - 11:30 Wed OR
12:20 - 3:00 Wed, 8:50 - 3:00 Thursday & Friday. If you require anything different to this do please enquire.

Breakfast Club: 7.30 am - 8:50 am
After School Club: 3:00 pm - 4.00 pm

Holiday Play schemes are available locally and 'top up' sessions for Nursery education children
(There is a charge for these additional sessions. Please see Grant or Christy-Ann in the office)
Holiday dates for the year: Autumn term begins Monday 1st September 2025

	Close	Open
Half-Term	Friday October 23rd	Monday November 2nd
Christmas	Friday December 18th	Monday January 4th
Half-Term	Friday February 12th	Monday February 22nd
Easter	Thursday March 25th	Monday April 12th
Half-Term	Friday May 28th	Monday June 7th
Summer	Wednesday July 21th	Thursday September 2nd

Staff Team

Lesley Harris	Head Teacher
Katy Wood	Deputy Head Teacher
Lisa Collins	AHT and DLP Co-ordinator
Olivia Plant	Teacher & Curriculum Coordinator
Katherine Ellis	Teacher & Inclusion Coordinator
Sarah Evans	Teacher and DLP outreach
Janine Lakin	Teacher
Sheridan Selvey	Key Worker
Trish Bradbury	Key Worker
Hayley Kay	Welfare Manager & Senior Key Worker
Sarah Ross	Senior Key Worker
Christie-Ann Tierney	Admin Assistant
Nicola Grimmitt	Deputy Manager Preschool
Jessica Haponik	Senior Key Worker
Lisa Swain	Senior Key Worker
Shelley Whittaker	Key Worker
Jodie Broadhurst	Key Worker
Margaret Moriarty	Senior Key Worker
Deb Farrant	Senior Teaching Assistant
Jodie Preston	Key worker (A)
Fauzia Parveen	Key Worker
Aileen Sheilds	Key Worker
Carol Badger	Key worker
Greg Harris	Sites and Facilities Manager
Karen Daly	Building Services Supervisor
Penny Wright	Key Worker
Louise Watson	Key Worker
Grant Harris	Office Manager
Rebeca-Daniela Dragusin	Key Worker
Katie O'Neill	Key Worker
Faye Chubb	Key Worker
Tina Malcolm	Key Worker
Lucy Harvey	Key Worker (A)



"I'm doing writing . . .that's what I like doing"

Priya

Children feel safe and very happy, and know that there is always someone to comfort them if they feel sad. They learn to work together as a team

Ofsted 2011



"It's Me and Mommy . . . We're going to Nursery . . . I like the books . . . The Little Moon book . . . Cause it's special"

Aurora

All groups have outstanding access to all that the provision offers and they achieve equally well. Links with parents, the community and local schools are excellent, resulting in additional experiences for children and very good transition arrangements

Ofsted 2011

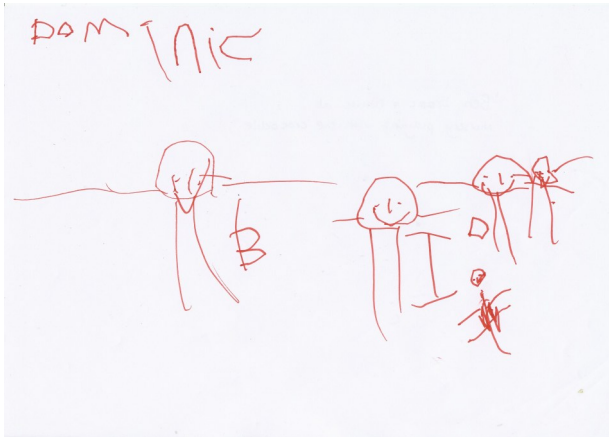
"It's Me and Katie we are holding hands . . . She plays dogs with Me and Isaac"

Martha



Teamwork among the staff is exemplary and this contributes very significantly to the outstanding learning that takes place

Ofsted 2011



"Ben, Isaac and Dominic at Nursery playing with the crocodile"

Dominic

"The school works closely with a range of different organisations in order to provide appropriate support to children and, when needs be, their families. This help is appreciated by parents, and helps to strengthen the bond of trust between home and school. "
OfSted HMI 2018

There will be 5 additional training days throughout the year when staff undertake essential professional development to continue to improve our school and make our service to you all even better. We will notify you of these days as soon as they have been agreed.

Training Day 1 tba
Training Day 2 tba
Training Day 3 tba
Training Day 4 tba
Training Day 5—Monday 20th July 2026

DAILY ROUTINE

A.M.

Greeting Time
Plan-Do-Review
Tidy-up Time
Circle Time
Lunch Time

P.M.

Greeting Time
Small Group Time
Plan-Do-review
Tidy-up Time
Story Time
Home Time

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Our sessions begin with Greeting Time when we all come together to say hello and share news about the day. **It is very important that the children are able to take part and arrive on time.** We understand that some parents work and some families may have older siblings who need to be taken to school as well and to support you in this we have a Breakfast Club from 7.30 am onwards so that you may bring your child to Nursery first.

Home time is 3:00 pm on full days although the door is open from 2:50pm each day and 11:30am on Wednesdays for some children. If you are unable to collect your child yourself you must make sure that you inform the school office and classroom staff of who will be collecting your child. We will not allow your child to go home with anyone other than yourself unless you have informed us otherwise.

If your child is ill and not able to attend, please telephone the Nursery to let us know before 9.30 am. You will find that staff will contact you if your child is absent, particularly if no message has been received from you.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES/INCLUSION

We value all of our children and offer each individual child the opportunities to reach their full potential within our Nursery.

We teach our children to be caring and tolerant of each other and of different cultures and faiths

We cater for children with special and specific needs in this school and we aim to meet their individual needs. We work together with parents and other agencies to ensure that their needs are met

OTHER INFORMATION

Parents are always welcome to come into school and if there is anything you feel you want to know please do not hesitate to ask. There is always a member of staff available to help you. We are always here to listen if you want to talk to us.

Throughout the year you will have many opportunities to take part in your children's learning and development and the children will have to take home activities for you to share together. We have parent and staff consultation sessions and frequently run parent workshops.

We aim to keep you up to date in a variety of ways. We send you newsletters on a regular basis, also information is available on the parent's noticeboard, and website

https://weoleycastlenursery.sch.life

AIMS FOR THE NURSERY

AS A SCHOOL WE AIM TO:-

1. Provide a safe, caring and welcoming environment with high quality learning and teaching experiences
2. Encourage each child's emotional well being and their intellectual, social and physical development
3. Enable children to become independent lifelong learners and good citizens
4. Recognise, welcome and celebrate diversity, valuing individual needs and differences and promoting inclusion
5. Welcome parents and carers as partners in their children's and their own education
6. Play an active part in the local community and involve the local community in the life of the school
7. Continue staff professional development by attending courses and being aware of latest developments in education and sharing this knowledge with colleagues and students.

"The school's procedures for keeping children safe are excellent. All staff have a very clear understanding of their responsibilities and duty of care for children. "

OfSted HMI 2018

LUNCHTIMES

For the last few years we have asked parents/carers to bring their child's food in a lunchbox for their mid-day meal. We continue to seek out options relating to meals and would be happy to review the situation if there was sufficient demand for a cooked meal. Please let us know if this is something you would like us to consider going forward or if you are happy to bring your choice of packed lunch. In warm weather please place an ice pack in their lunchbox.

Parents in receipt of an eligible benefit may be entitled to a free school meal. Please see Christie in the school office for an application form. Proof of entitlement will be required when submitting an application and will be reviewed termly. Unfortunately if you are not able to provide the necessary proof of eligibility we will **not** be able to provide you with a free school meal and payment will be required.

Staff will co-ordinate their lunchtimes so that we can share this time with the children and enjoy together a purposeful, pleasant and sociable learning experience. If you would like to join us, especially in the initial weeks of term, you are very welcome.

****

SNACK MONEY

50p per week
£1 per week for full time children

With this weekly contribution for each child we are able to provide a snack at break times and also to plan cooking activities each week. The money is payable via ParentPay.com using your log-in provided in the office. If your child has any particular likes/dislikes/allergies then please let us know when we come to visit you at home and we will plan experiences to accommodate their individual needs.

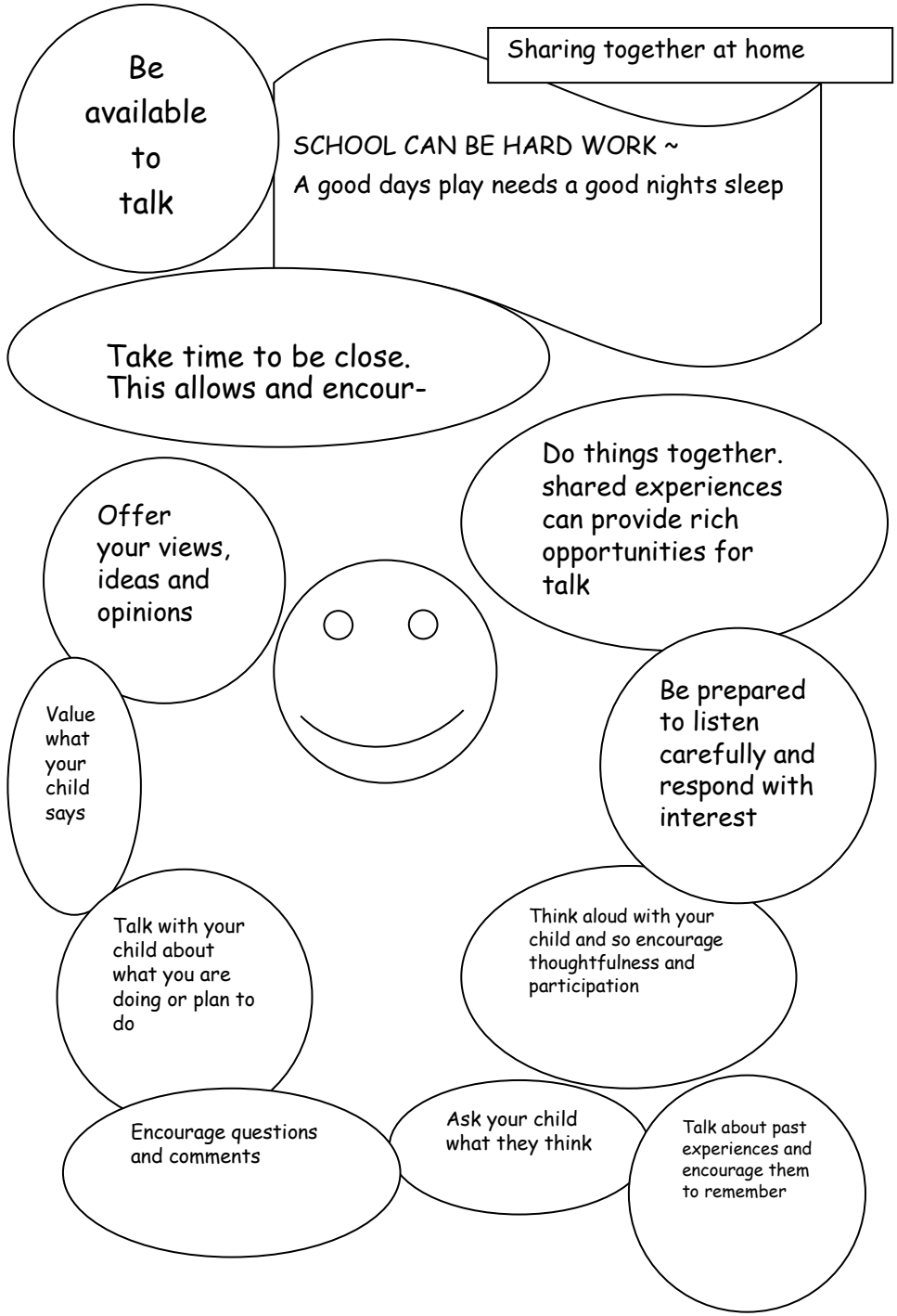
What to wear to school

Please send your child in comfortable clothing and footwear that they can easily manage in terms of going to the toilet and taking on or off such as jumpers, sweatshirts, shoes, tops etc.
Playing is often messy and so we ask that you dress your child in clothing that is inexpensive, easily washable and we are not going to cause a problem if they get a bit carried away with the paint/glue/ water/sand/mud etc. The local stores often have school wear that fits this description and all we ask is that you put their name in their clothes and bring a bag of spares just in case. Thank you

xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

A bag is provided on each child's coat peg, in their family group colour, so that you may leave a change of clothes for your child.

Could you ensure that their name is on each item. We understand that naming items can be very time consuming but if you could help us by doing so, it would be much appreciated.



Early Years Foundation Stage Principles are grouped together into four themes:

Learning & Development
*****
Children develop and learn in different ways and at different rates and all areas of learning and development are equally important and inter-connected

A unique child
*****
Every child is a competent learner from birth who can be resilient, capable, confident and self-assured



Enabling Environments
*****
The environment plays a key part in supporting and extending children's development and learning. The environment enables their experiences to respond to their individual needs and there is a strong relationship between home and school. We value all people and we value learning.

Positive Relationships
*****
Children learn to be strong and independent from a base of loving and secure relationships with parents and with a key person at nursery. This supports a child's sense of belonging and is sensitive and responsive to a child's own efforts and independence. These relationships are consistent in setting clear boundaries and making sure each child feels included and valued

Before your child joins us we like to:
~ invite you to a parents welcome meeting
~ invite you to come and share some time with us
~ visit you and your child at home
~ arrange your 'first day' when you and your child will join us here at school

Our aim is to ensure that each child is happy, secure and thriving in a warm, stimulating environment with sensitive, caring and capable people. With this all in place, each child will flourish in their own individual way, their confidence will grow and they will enjoy their learning.

LEAVING YOUR CHILD

It can be upsetting for both of you
We understand
You know your child and we rely on you to tell us what you feel is best for them
If you need to stay, please do

If you feel it is best to go it often helps to try to leave confidently with a smile (we know this is not easy)
Always tell your child when you will be back
Try not to be late
Leave your child for a short time at first and then gradually extend the time
Make sure your child knows if someone different is picking them up

There is no need to worry – together we'll work it out!

WELCOME TO WEOLEY CASTLE NURSERY SCHOOL

During the Foundation Stage your child will be working towards the Early Learning Goals and Good Levels of Development

These 'goals' and the 'steps' children take to achieve them are part of the framework for the early years foundation stage which are a set of standards for learning, development and care from birth to five. These are:-

1. Communication and Language
2, Physical Development
3. Personal, Social and Emotional Development
4. Literacy
5. Mathematics
6. Understanding the World
7. Expressive Arts & Design

We observe and seek to understand from their play and interactions how our children are learning and developing and we capture some of these as part of our Learning Journals online system. We invite you to be a part of this learning journey by providing us with an up to date e-mail address at the start of their year so that we can enable you to have a log in and see our learning opportunities and upload those captured at home. Please speak with your child's key worker.

"The early years are critical in children's development . . . . . we cannot afford to get things wrong . . . . . the foundation stage is about developing key learning skills"

Margaret Hodge, MP

The Curriculum

Playing, listening and talking

are at the centre of our early years curriculum

- Children have access to a wide range of play activities
- Play activities are carefully planned to help children develop and grow and to involve them in co-operation with adults and other children
- Staff join in children's play to help them to develop knowledge, skills, understanding and independence
- Children are constantly encouraged and given opportunities to talk, listen, observe and become involved
- Children's work is valued, discussed and displayed
- Activities are organised to cover a range of areas of learning

"You have designed a curriculum and approach that targets each child's particular needs. From the moment children arrive in the morning they are immersed in language-rich activities. Adults use jolly encouragement and purposeful questions that prompt children to talk, sing, explain and discuss. Whether watering plants in the outdoor herb garden, making letter shapes from modelling clay or enjoying a story, rhyme or song, children have plenty of reasons to use their voices and explore the sounds and meanings of words. " OfSted HMI 2018