



Cloverlea
Primary School



Learning



Caring



Believing



Achieving



Cloverlea Early Years Prospectus

<https://www.cloverlea.org.uk/>

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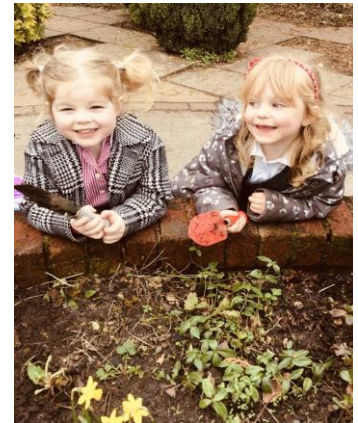
Cloverlea Primary School



Welcome

Our Cloverlea Nursery and Reception classes are part of a happy, secure and caring school, which aims to provide the highest quality education and care. We are an inclusive setting where all children and adults respect each other, and grow together in order to reach their full potential. Our children love to learn, and our dedicated staff provide an inspiring environment where all children learn through play.

We have high expectations of each child's ability to learn, and model expected behaviours to encourage the children to be the best they can be. Alongside our effective partnerships with parents, we aim to provide, a safe, secure and stimulating environment. We believe children learn in an integrated way, and we support this, through child-initiated and play based adult- led activities. These opportunities provide an excellent contribution to each child's early development, stimulating their enthusiasm and imagination, developing a positive attitude to learning.





Our Aims

Using nature based exploration our aims at Cloverlea are to develop communication, language, personal, social and emotional skills. We believe that attending a nature led EYFS (Early Years Foundation Stage) setting such as Cloverlea, can therefore greatly help children to develop their emotional intelligence; build resilience and learn how to take risks in a supportive environment, through activities such as den building, bug hunting, playing with sticks and learning about the value of protecting the environment.

What are the benefits of a nature based setting?

1. Confidence

Nature based schools help children to grow in confidence as a result of the freedom, time and space they are given in their learning. This allows them to demonstrate independence at each individual child's rate.

2. Social Skills

Activities such as sharing tools and participating in play help teach the children to work together as a group, which strengthens their bonds and social ties.

3. Communication

The sensory experiences provided by Cloverlea's extensive outdoor area and nature area helps prompt language development. Improving communication skills has a positive effect on a child's self-esteem and is a crucial part of their development.

4. Motivation and concentration.

High levels of interest lead to high levels of attention. Spending time in the woodland or garden is exciting for a child. It tends to fascinate them which develops a strong will to participate and concentrate over long periods of time.

5. Physical skills

The increase in outdoor activity is bound to have a positive impact on physical stamina but also gross and fine motor skills.



6. Knowledge and understanding

Children develop an interest in the great outdoors and respect for the environment. Encouraging children to develop a relationship with the natural world will help in protecting the environment for generations to come.

7. New perspectives.

Being a nature based EYFS isn't just beneficial to children, it is also beneficial to teachers. Observing their class in a different setting allows staff to gain a new perspective and understanding of their class.

8. Ripple effects.

When children really engage with nature they will take their experiences home to share with friends and family. This will often encourage families to visit their local woodlands/ parks more frequently.

9. Levels the playing field.

Taking children outside of the classroom removes the pressures of academia and allows them to play to their strengths. This is beneficial to children who struggle in the classroom because there is more of an opportunity for them to learn at their own pace.

10. Enjoyable for the children.

Being outdoor in nature is fun! It is educational whilst also allowing children to play, explore and discover. Children who participate in a nature based curriculum are generally observed to be happier.



Our Early Years Charter

Cloverlea



*We are confident
in nature*

We take measured risks when exploring the world around us. We are constantly learning and developing our knowledge of our environment.

*We can work
and play together*

We know that play helps us to learn and have fun. Working and playing together helps us to grow.

*We enjoy talking
about our experiences*

We show confidence by talking about ourselves, others and our experiences. This helps us to feel valued and understood.

*We look after our environment
including everyone and everything in it*

We show care and ownership of our environment. We respect the world we live in and take pride in looking after each other.

*We take pride in the communities
we belong to and celebrate our differences*

We enjoy learning about what makes us special and unique. We celebrate our differences and share our experiences.



Mrs Wilde

Nursery Teacher

EYFS Lead



Mrs Harwood

Nursery Teaching

Assistant



Mr Horan

Reception Teacher



Mrs Blackburn

Reception Teaching

Assistant

Cloverlea Primary School



Teaching children in their formative years is a huge privilege. Being part of each child's learning journey is exciting and I believe that together- with families, we can help shape the children into curious, resilient and lifelong learners.

Working in Early Years is so special. I find it very rewarding watching the children's faces light up when they learn something or build the courage to try something new. I enjoy spending time with the children, caring for them, watching them make new friends and supporting their learning- building their confidence to be the best versions of themselves.

Teaching in the Foundation Stage is extremely rewarding. It is a pleasure to see the children's confidence and independence develop throughout their time in Reception. I am looking forward to building new relationships with the children and their families and the learning adventures that we will go on together.

I love working in Early Years and find it thoroughly rewarding watching the children flourish, learn and grow. Listening to their imaginative play always makes me smile. I enjoy nurturing and caring for them whilst always encouraging them to be the best they can be!



What is the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)?

The EYFS is a distinct and important phase in education. It places an equal priority on supporting children's social and emotional development, and their learning. The early years are the crucial time for developing children's enjoyment of learning, their engagement and motivation. It's an important time for children to develop their ability to persist and show determination.

This is the stage in your child's life that gets them ready and prepares them for school, as well as for their future learning and successes. The EYFS was created to ensure your child's first 5 years are happy, active, exciting, fun and secure, as well as to support their development, care and learning needs.

All nurseries, pre-schools, reception classes and childminders who are registered to deliver the EYFS must follow a legal document called the Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage.

For further information:

<http://www.foundationyears.org.uk/eyfs-statutory-framework/>

How your child will be learning:

Your child will be learning skills, acquiring knowledge and demonstrating their understanding through 7 areas of learning and development.

Children should mostly develop the **3 prime areas** first:

- Communication and language
- Physical development
- Personal, social and emotional development

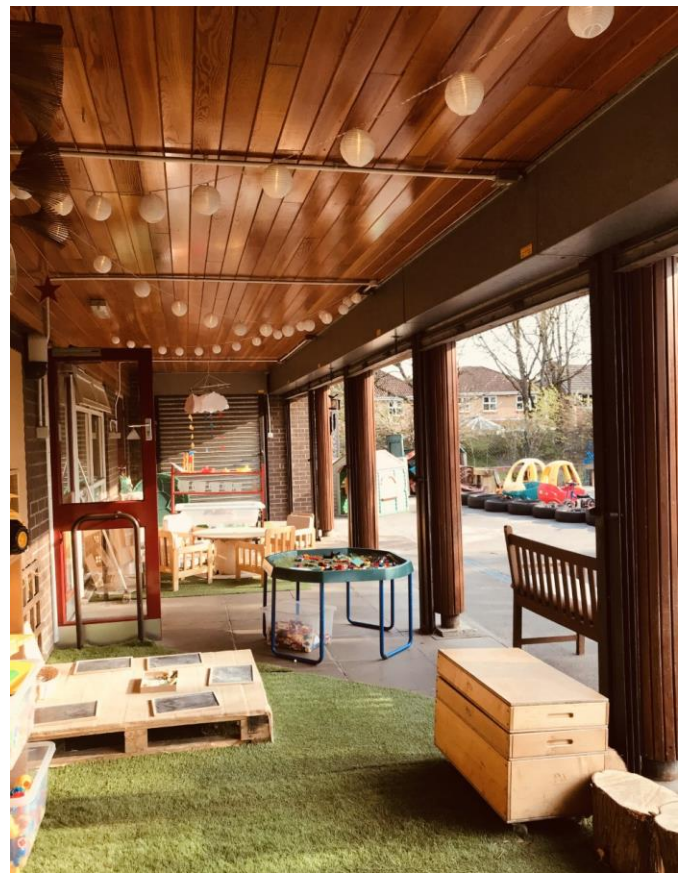
These prime areas are those most essential for your child's healthy development and future learning.

As children grow, the prime areas will help them to develop skills in **4 specific areas**:

- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the World
- Expressive Arts and Design



At Cloverlea we believe in the holistic development of the learner through play, supported risk-taking and nature connection. Our curriculum works to support self-esteem, confidence, and communication, attitudes to learning and emotional development. We are extremely privileged to be able to take a large part of our learning outdoors which helps us to have a deeper connection with nature.





Learning Topics.

We approach each new half term with a topic and ideas based on this, to cover the 7 curriculum areas. We use our experiences of child development and the children's interests and needs to ensure we provide a relevant and appropriate curriculum. This long term planning is based around the seasons and other events in the calendar such as celebrations and festivals. We then follow the children's interests and change topics as we get to know them, as they develop and from what we observe.

| Term | Topic |
|----------|---|
| Autumn 1 | <i>Amazing Me!</i> Children will explore what makes them unique, their similarities and differences as well as their family trees and where they're from. |
| Autumn 2 | <i>Snow and Ice and All Things Nice</i> We'll be exploring and learning about all the key events during this festive time of year. |
| Spring 1 | <i>The Great Explorers!</i> We'll be nature explorers this term by bird watching and spotting the signs of Spring. We will also be finding out about the Arctic and Antarctica. We may even become space explorers! |
| Spring 2 | <i>All Things Bright and Beautiful</i> As Easter signifies growth and birth, we'll be learning and observing the growth of animals and plants. |
| Summer 1 | <i>Going Places</i> We'll be acknowledging and discovering the people and vehicles that help us in our everyday life. |
| Summer 2 | <i>All Creatures Great and Small</i> From farm animals, dinosaurs and wild animals to mini beasts! |

Above is an example of our current topics, by following us on our Class Dojo pages and the school website you will see the types of activities your child will be taking part in.



How do I know how my child is getting on?

It is important that both EYFS staff and parents work together, sharing information about the child, what they have done at home and in the nursery/school setting. There are various assessment steps throughout the EYFS but practitioners will continually be assessing and building on your child's skills.

When your child starts in our setting, observations will be made to ascertain where your child is at their stage of development. As your child journeys through EYFS with us we will record observations on our 'I-track' assessment system that you will be able to access and comment on.

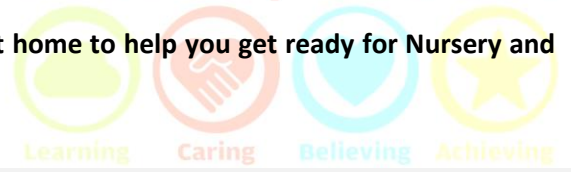
Throughout your time at Cloverlea you will be able to see what experiences and learning is taking place through our school Twitter (@Cloverlea1917), school website and Class DoJo.

How can I help as a parent?

Parents are essential partners in children's early learning. Both the home and the early years setting can each do a great deal to support your child. We will achieve even more when we work co-operatively together in a respectful partnership.

As a parent or guardian we will encourage you to record 'Wow moments' that your child does with you so that we can all share in your child's love for learning. These 'Wow moments', together with our I-track observations will help us build a full picture of your child's development.





Getting ready to start Early Years.

It is nearly time to start EYFS! Here are some things you can practice at home to help you get ready for Nursery and Reception.

Self-Care and Independence

- I can wash and dry my hands.
- I can wipe my nose.
- I can put on/fasten my coat and shoes.
- I can use the toilet.
- I am learning to dress/undress – this will help me change for PE in Reception.
- I am happy to be away from my parents or carers. I know they will be back soon.

Playing with Others

- I join in games and activities with other people.
- I can share and take turns.

Eating and Drinking

- I can use a spoon, knife and fork. (Reception)
- I can open my lunch box as well as wrappers and packaging.
- I can drink from a water bottle, carton or open cup.

Speaking and Listening

- I can talk about my ideas, needs and feelings.
- I can ask a grown-up for help.
- I can follow simple instructions.

Numbers

- I can count a small number of items.
- I like singing number rhymes or songs.
- I am learning to recognise and say numbers to ten.
- I am learning to recognise, count and say numbers to 20 (Reception)

Literacy

- I can recognise/read my name.
- I can hold a pencil to draw.
- I am learning to write my name. (Reception)
- I enjoy listening to stories and rhymes.



School Uniform



Nursery

<https://www.myembroiderysupplies.co.uk/product-category/uniform/cloverlea-primary/>

Nursery children are required to wear the red school cardigan or jumper (found on the above link) with a white or red polo shirt that can be bought from most supermarket or school clothing shop. They can wear grey or black trousers/joggers, skirts or leggings - which ever they feel most comfortable to move about in and are able to easily pull up and down when toileting.

Nursery will be taking part in PE lessons each week but do not need a PE kit.

A red school book bag can be purchased from the above website. These bags will be used to send home children's learning, letters, water bottles etc.

We request that footwear be sensible and appropriate for school activities.

Please name all garments. There is a lost property box and unclaimed/unnamed property will be disposed of at the end of each term.



Nursery change of clothes bag.

Nursery children are required to have a named pump bag with a spare change of clothes in case of any toileting accidents or mishaps. Please include:

- 2 changes of underwear
- A pair of socks
- Spare trousers/leggings
- A t-shirt/top

These pump bags will be kept on your child's cloakroom peg during term time and will be sent home each holiday.



Reception

<https://www.myembroiderysupplies.co.uk/product-category/uniform/cloverlea-primary/>

Reception children are required to wear the green school cardigan or jumper (found on the above link) with a white or red polo shirt that can be bought from most supermarket or school clothing shop. They can wear grey trousers, shorts, skirts or pinafore dress which ever they feel most comfortable in.

For P.E., the Reception children will require pumps or trainers, a red t-shirt with school logo and green school shorts (indoor kit). Please note the Reception children will need an outdoor kit (red logoed sweatshirt and black jogging bottoms. The children will come into school wearing their PE kit when it is their designated PE day.

We request that footwear be sensible and appropriate for school activities. Any bags that are brought must be moderate in size as we do not have the space to store large rucksacks (book bags from the above website if possible).

Please name all garments. There is a lost property box and unclaimed property will be disposed of at the end of each term.



Morning Snack Time

Every morning the children will receive a healthy snack from our free fruit scheme so there will be no need to send in separate snacks for break time. The children will also be given the opportunity to have a drink of milk or water with their snack.

If you would like your child to have milk, please complete the online form at www.coolmilk.com, there is a leaflet, with further information, in your pack.

Lunchtime

Nursery

If your child has a full time Nursery place or is in Nursery for full days, they will need to have a packed lunch provided from home. When approaching the nursery door, there will be a lunchbox trolley for your child to put their lunchbox on. The children will be given help to open packets and boxes if needed. Please provide a bottle of water to accompany their packed lunch. This water bottle will be available throughout the day for your child to access and will be refilled once it become empty. The nursery children will eat their packed lunches in the Nursery classroom with their teacher, Mrs. Wilde and our lunchtime assistant.

<https://www.nhs.uk/change4life/recipes/healthier-lunchboxes> See for lunch box ideas.

Reception

You may already be aware, from 1st September 2014, free school meals became available for all pupils in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. This widely announced government initiative is fully funded and covers all children of this age nationally. A separate letter will be sent home which will allow you to select whether you would like your child to have a free school meal or whether you would prefer to provide a packed lunch from home.



Water Bottles



All children are to bring a named school water bottle into school each day, the Nursery and Reception children will use these bottles in the classroom. These water bottles can be purchased from the school office for £2.00 or 60p for a replacement lid.

Children who have a packed lunch do not need to bring an additional drink at lunchtime as they can use these water bottles and we will refill them if they become empty.

Coats

Every day we go outside regardless of the weather, so we please ask parents to send their child with a named coat that they can put on independently.

In the summer months children will require a sun hat and will need sun cream applied prior to school. In winter months named gloves and a hat will be needed but we request no scarves.





Cloverlea Primary School



Cars in the School Drive / Arrangements at the School Gate

As part of our healthy and active school culture, walking to and from school is encouraged wherever possible. When dropping off and picking up children by car, parents are asked to park responsibly and to be mindful and respectful towards our neighbours. Please park on one side only of Green Lane North and observe the no-parking zig-zag area.

The staff car park is gated and only used by staff, visiting support staff, visiting medical staff who need quick and safe access in and out of the school.

Parents are asked to work with Governors to minimise the risk to pupils at the main gate at the beginning and end of the school day. It is essential that the school gate and pathway are kept as clear as possible to ensure all pupils have a hazard free exit from school. Please use the paved area inside the gate.

Medical Information

School should be kept informed of any medical conditions that may affect a child's performance in school.

In general, children requiring asthma inhalers are encouraged to take responsibility for their own treatment and must have their inhaler in school. The inhalers should be labelled and given to the class teacher. In the case of Nursery and Reception children, please speak to a member of staff.

For more information on medical conditions and on administering medicines please see the School Prospectus.



Changes and Absences

Please keep school informed of any changes in your child's situation that would affect our internal records, i.e. name, address, contact telephone numbers at home and at work in order that we can keep our records up to date. We must have a daytime contact number in case of emergency. Please put all changes in your child's circumstances in a letter to the school office.

If your child is going to be absent from Nursery or school please let us know on 0161 980-8338.





Nursery Classroom

Cloverlea

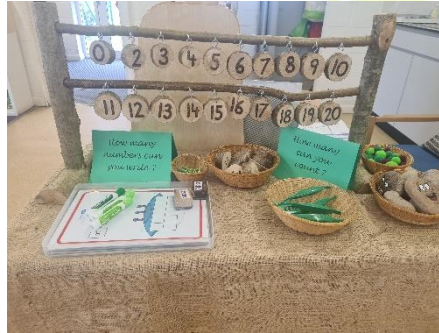
Primary School





Cloverlea Primary School

Reception Classroom





Cloverlea

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