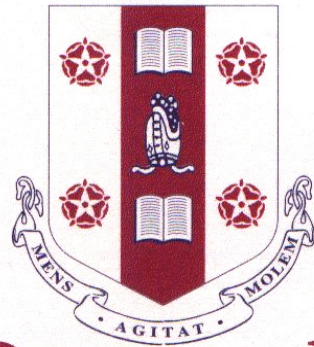


Rossall Nursery



Rossall

Parent Handbook

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Rossall Nursery – Mission Statement

We believe at Rossall Nursery
“Play is never trivial, it is serious and deeply significant, it is Child’s work”

Young children need....

Care:

- Care, love, comfort, security, safety and limits
- To be valued, to develop a positive self-concept
- To have consistent and familiar patterns in their daily life

Adults:

- To interact with familiar adults who stimulate, support, guide and extend young children’s learning

To Communicate:

- To develop warm and caring relationships with adults and friends
- To communicate and extend ideas, feelings and experiences in verbal and non-verbal ways

Time:

- Time to follow their ideas
- Time to return, to repeat and to consolidate experiences
- Time to be quiet, to be alone
- Time to concentrate for long periods
- Time to reflect
- Time and help to resolve conflicts

Continuity:

- All the adults involved in the life of young children to share and communicate their knowledge and expertise, their concerns and expectations with each other
- Smooth transition and continuity of experiences throughout their Nursery life



Stimulating experiences:

- Opportunities
- To be challenged
- To be creative
- To be imaginative
- To explore the familiar and the new

Space:

- Space to be active
- Space to be energetic
- Space to be explore
- Space to create personal worlds
- Space to reflect

To enjoy themselves. To have fun.



Philosophy and Ethos:

The philosophy and ethos of Rossall Nursery School is based upon certain principles. All children who attend are entitled to a curriculum that provides:

- A secure, welcoming, friendly environment where each child feels valued and experiences the joy of learning which is the foundation on which children build the rest of their lives.
- An extension and supplement to the child's early experiences gained at home, seeing parents as partners, who are involved in the education of their children.
- A broad, balanced, differentiated curriculum which advances each child's social, moral, emotional, physical and intellectual development and has equal opportunities for all regardless of age, sex or religion.
- Teaching that stimulates and builds upon a child's curiosity. Building upon relevant first hand experiences that are carefully planned to encourage children to investigate, predict, imagine and create. To allow them opportunities to direct their own learning, make choices and learn by doing through play activities.
- Opportunities for children to develop self-confidence, self-esteem, independence and a respect for the rights of others.
- Opportunities for children to develop their physical capabilities in both fine and gross motor skills.
- Opportunities for children to develop a sense of personal and social responsibility towards themselves and others.
- Opportunities for children to play and talk with their peers and adults. The relationships which children establish are of central importance to their development.
- Opportunities to develop freedom and discipline through which group membership may evolve.
- Assessments to ensure equal opportunities for all and the early identification of special needs so that all individual needs are catered for.
- Opportunities for information to be passed to parents and appropriate information to the Reception class teacher or the feeder primary school.
- Liaison between the local community and relevant services.
- To support the development of the staff's professional skills.
- We work towards the best possible outcomes for our families by working in partnership with other agencies including health visitors, the early year's advisory teacher team, adult training colleges and speech therapists.



Rossall Nursery Learning partnership

Within this setting we will endeavour to:

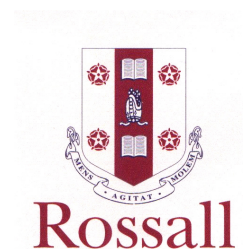
- ★ Encourage your child to do his/her best at all times
- ★ Create a safe yet stimulating environment to promote effective learning
- ★ Encourage the children to care for their surroundings and have respect for others they meet
- ★ Offer a broad range of activities and experiences in line with the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum
- ★ Keep parents and carers regularly informed of their child's progress.

To support this partnership we expect parents to:

- ★ Make sure their child arrives on time and is collected promptly at the end of the session
- ★ Support the setting in upholding high standards of behaviour
- ★ Keep us fully informed of any difficulties or problems their child may be experiencing.

We also expect the children to:

- ★ Take good care of equipment, books and the environment
- ★ Be friendly, helpful, polite and courteous towards others
- ★ Have a positive attitude towards new experiences and learning
- ★ Be truthful and show respect towards the needs of others.



Nursery Organisation

Members of Staff and contact details:

Head of Infants & Nursery: Mrs Caroline Jordin – contact number 774228

Nursery Manager/Teacher: Mrs Alison Trippier – contact number 774228
(BA Hons, PGCE, EYPS)

Senior Nursery Supervisor: Mrs Annette Murray (Btec, HND)

Nursery Supervisor: Mrs Linda Walker (NVQ Level 3)

Senior Nursery Assistant: Miss Nicola Webber (NVQ Level 3)

Nursery Assistants: Miss Vicki Horn (NVQ Level 3, Foundation Degree)
Miss Anne-Marie Wright (NVQ Level 3)
Mrs Mary Butler (NVQ Level 2)

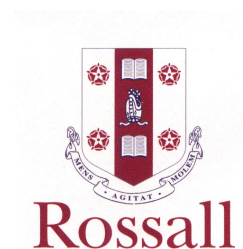
Secretary: Mrs Justine Morris – contact number 774222

Registrar: Mrs Michelle Metcalfe – contact number 774260

Parent Liaison/Finance Officer: Miss Kirstie Allen – contact number 774233

Nursery address:

Rossall Infant and Nursery School
Broadway
Fleetwood
Lancashire
FY7 8JW



Sessions:

Rossall Nursery caters for a maximum of ninety four children, with no more than twenty four children being under the age of two. Your child will be allocated to a specific group. In all groups a maximum of sixteen children may attend each session. In order for your child to receive the maximum benefit from our structured activities we ask that you do a minimum of three sessions.

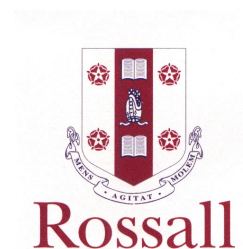
Mornings: 8:15am to 1:15pm including lunch
Afternoons: 1:00pm to 5:30pm with pick up from 3:10pm

Group organisation:

Each group has the same opportunities to engage in first hand experiences which are planned to work towards the Early Learning Goals in the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum. Staff constantly assess and monitor progress to ensure that the children have a wide, balanced curriculum to meet their needs, interests and develop their skills in all the areas of learning and stages of development. This constant assessment will also help us to ensure your child is placed in the correct group.

We operate under strict staffing ratios. For two year olds there will be one adult for every four children. For three and four year olds there will be one adult for every eight children. Each group will always have a minimum of two members of staff regardless of the number of children.

The groups are organised and run by a Nursery Supervisor with the support of a Nursery Assistant. Your child's Nursery Supervisor is your initial point of contact for any concerns or issues you may wish to raise.



Admission to our nursery:

Nursery school education is a partnership between the family and the school. We are committed to working in partnership with parents to provide a secure, stimulating environment where children are encouraged to learn through planned, purposeful activities. Activities encourage children to have fun, socialise and learn through direct involvement by exploring, experimenting and trying out their ideas without fear of failing.

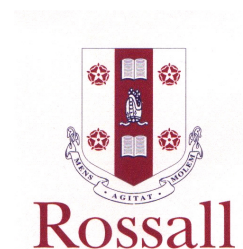
Children start nursery from the age of two years by completing a registration/acceptance form, which is returned along with a copy of your child's birth certificate and two passport sized photographs. This will then secure your place at nursery. When we have received all the paperwork the nursery manager will contact you to arrange a taster day and a possible start date.

When your child starts nursery each parent is asked to complete an initial parent liaison booklet. This is an important first step in us getting to know your child. Please keep us updated with any changes.

We ask that each child does a minimum of three sessions. We strive to accommodate you with the days required but this is dependent on numbers. You may increase your child's nursery sessions, but it does depend on space available. This may be an add hoc day that you require for personal reasons. Please see the nursery manager for the relevant forms. We ask for one month's notice for permanent changes to sessions.

One month's written notice is required for withdrawal from the nursery.

We hope that you and your child will be very happy with us at the nursery. If at any time you have any problems, concerns or queries, please do not hesitate to talk to any member of staff. Appointments are not always necessary as our door is always open.



Settling In and Getting To Know Us:

Coming to nursery can be a worrying time for both you and your child. Please do not worry, we settle children into nursery in small groups. On their taster session, you may stay with your child for a short time and if you wish we will phone you later on in the session to assure you that your child is settled. It is important that the children get to know us and are happy in the nursery environment.

Each child has a coat hook and tray with their name on. Please check your child's tray regularly. Planned events and activities are displayed on the notice boards – please read every day. Weekly newsletters are issued to keep you up to date on school events. Your child will also be given a parent liaison book. This is to inform you of anything that has happened during the day and any forthcoming events. It may not be necessary to write in these books everyday. You may also wish to write any comments or messages for your class teacher in here. Please bring this book to nursery everyday. Timetables are placed on each classroom door so you are aware of the different activities happening each day.

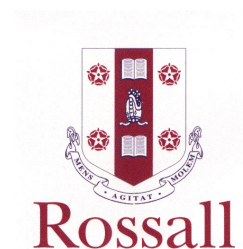
The main aim of the nursery is:

“To provide a happy, secure stimulating environment where all children can develop at their appropriate level socially, emotionally, intellectually and physically.”

The nursery places importance on enabling children to acquire the essential skills, concepts, attitudes and knowledge through the provision of first hand play experiences. Activities are structured to enable the children to become motivated, independent, thinking, caring members of our society.

Transition Policy:

Children at Rossall Nursery will benefit from close links with Rossall Infant School, particularly the Reception class. The Head of Infant and Nursery has considerable input into the Nursery development. Nursery children have the opportunity to visit the Infant School and Reception class, accompanied by Nursery staff, for appropriate activities. Staff will be in regular contact to ensure a happy and effective transition from Nursery to primary school.



Curriculum:

At Rossall Nursery School, the curriculum is carefully planned to work towards the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum and the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme.

Activities and experiences for the two and four year olds are planned within the areas of learning as specified in the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum.

The six areas of learning are:

- Communication, Language and Literacy.
- Problem Solving, Reasoning and Numeracy.
- Knowledge and Understanding of the World.
- Creative Development.
- Personal, Social and Emotional Development.
- Physical Development.

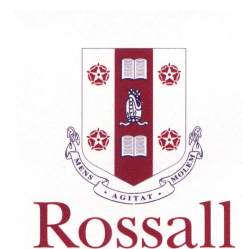
Meeting individual needs of all children lies at the heart of the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum. We deliver personalised learning, development and care, to help all children to get the best possible start in life.

All children are encouraged to participate in a wide range of activities to extend and build upon their existing skills, interests and knowledge through themes that are meaningful and interesting to the children. It is also important that the children have fun, enjoy coming to nursery and gain a thirst for learning.

In addition, the Early Years Foundation Curriculum is planned in conjunction with the Primary Years Programme for the three and four year olds. It focuses on the total growth of the developing child, encompassing social, physical, emotional and cultural needs in addition to academic development. This is taught through six transdisciplinary themes which provide a relevant, engaging, challenging and significant educational framework for all children.

The themes are:

- Who we are
- Where we are in place and time
- How we express ourselves
- How the world works
- How we organise ourselves
- Sharing the planet



The Nursery Daily Routine:

8.15am Free choice – The children are offered a free choice of play all day from a wide range of activities available in the classroom.

9.00am Circle time – This is a quiet time where the children sing songs, listen to stories and rhymes and talk about things of interest. The children may bring in items of interest from home to show the other children.

9.15am -12.15pm Focused activities – This is a special activity each morning in connection with a theme in which the children participate on a 1:1 basis with an adult. The daily activity is followed by tidy up time where the children are encouraged to help!

10.00am Snack time – A selection of fruit is available to choose from and a drink of fresh milk or water. The older children are encouraged to help prepare snacks and pour their own drinks. Please ensure staff are aware of any special dietary requirements.

10.30 -11.00am Outdoor play – The children have several play choices similar to those available indoors but with the enhancement of larger equipment, such as tricycles, climbing frames, slides etc...

12.15pm Lunchtime – We all sit down together in the Hall where a hot meal is provided for the children. The children are encouraged to try all foods and the adults help to develop good table manners.

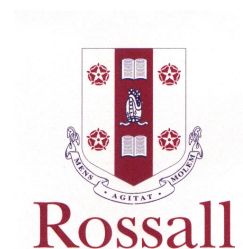
1.00pm Outdoor play

1.30pm – 5.15pm Focused activities and/or **timetabled activities** such as physical education, soft play, music or library.

3.30pm Outdoor play

4.00pm Snack time - The children are provided with a light snack and a drink.

5.15pm Circle time



Lending Library:

All pre-school aged children have access to the library on a weekly basis. With the help of their class teacher they are able to select a book for a period of one week. Children may also select an educational game to take home, which requires a parent or carer to sign out.

We also operate a story bag home loan scheme for the children and a library for parents and carers. Please ask a member of staff for more information.

Extra Curricular Activities:

Ballet with Lorraine Hill - available weekly to all pre-school aged children for an additional charge.

Jo Jingles with Joanne Bradley-Johnson – available to all Nursery children for an additional charge of £40 for 10 sessions.

Swimming with Beverley Baines – available weekly to all three and four year olds. Lessons are held in Rossall School pool for an additional charge.

We also offer:

Messy days once a month

Music and movement sessions

Soft-play equipment

A Paddling Pool for hot sunny days!

Physical Education lessons (for pre-school only)

French (for pre-school only)

Music lessons with a qualified music teacher (for pre-school only)

Access to laptops, an interactive whiteboard and a computer suite.

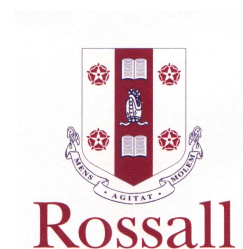
A Nursery Nativity

A safe and secure outdoor play area

A 'Secret Garden'

A traffic free campus for bike rides and walks around school

Day trips and outings (for pre-school only)



Assessment

Informal:

Throughout your child's time at the nursery, your child's class teacher will complete regular observations, to inform future planning. They will also note any significant achievements or incidents.

Formal:

Occasionally more formal assessments are completed to assess more specific skills, usually during more focused activities.

In addition, your child's class teacher will complete on-going assessments with identified skills to provide information for your child's progress through the developmental stages within the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum.

We also complete a 'Learning Journey' on each child. This file builds into a unique record of your child's time at the nursery and includes:

- Observation forms.
- Photographs.
- Certificates of achievement.
- Formal Assessments.
- Initial Parent Liaison Booklets.
- A selection of your child's early creative masterpieces.

All our record keeping is available for parents to see at any time.

Parents' Evening / Reports:

Parents' evenings are held in the Michaelmas and Summer terms. Teachers will inform you on the progress your child is making and how settled they are within the nursery routine. It is also an opportunity to look around the classroom and at any activity books your child may have.

Two nursery reports are sent out, one mid-year and the other at the end of the Summer Term.



Coming To and Going From School:

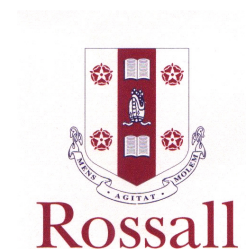
Children must be brought and collected by a responsible adult, over 16 years old. Except where there is a reasonable excuse, we require written permission from the parents where children are to be picked up by another adult. In each classroom we have an 'All About Me' display wall and we ask for a picture of the family, which includes any person who may at any time collect your child.

If you do not let us know or we do not know the person, then we will not let your child leave nursery and will contact the first person on their emergency contact form if we cannot get in touch with you. If your child is not collected we will contact you or your named emergency contact. A member of staff will stay with your child until they are collected.

The front door has a keypad lock and will be closed at all times. Please ring the bell for attention.

At the beginning of the session the children should be taken to their classrooms where they are welcomed by the staff. This helps us to provide a secure and welcoming environment for the children. Registration takes place at 9am for the morning session and 1:30pm for the afternoon session.

If your child is going to be late for school or will be picked up early we kindly ask that you let us know prior to the day, so we can inform you where we will be in case we are not in the classroom. Please inform us in writing of any intended holidays or phone us if your child is ill, so we know not to expect your child that day or week.



Administration of medicines.

We have two registered school nurses on site during term times and most of our staff hold a paediatric first aid certificate. During the school day the School Nurse is available for emergency care. Parents will be contacted if their child falls ill at school so they may be taken home as soon as possible.

Our school doctor has provided us with advice on incubation times for common childhood infections and a copy of this is available for parents. If your child has sickness or diarrhoea we ask that you keep them off nursery for at least 48 hours or until symptoms clear. Your child should not attend nursery if they are not well enough to participate in all Nursery activities.

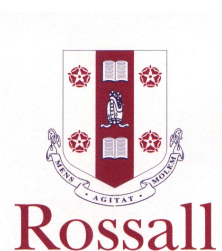
If your child has been prescribed antibiotics and needs a dose during nursery time, you must obtain a 'Medication Form' from a member of staff and complete it. This will be administered by your child's class teacher at the time and the dosage written down. The medicine must be given to your child's class teacher to be locked away or refrigerated as required. We will make every effort to follow parental instructions but reserve the right to refuse a request to administer medicines whilst a child is in our care.

Parents are to inform their child's teacher about any illnesses or conditions and must let staff know of when, how much and why a child has had medication before attending nursery. If your child falls ill at school, we may administer Calpol to your child, after seeking verbal permission from either parent. If no improvement is seen over the next hour we will ask you to collect your child from school.

Although not common, we do have sometimes have children with head lice. This occurs more often on children with clean hair. We will always endeavour to inform you, when incidents occur so you can be vigilant. We require you to treat your child as soon as head lice or their eggs are found, to prevent further spread to other children.

Accidents may never happen, but just in case your child becomes ill or has an accident, it is important to give us an emergency contact number, this means that if we cannot contact you, you have given permission for a designated person that your child knows to act on your behalf.

If your child has a minor accident we will inform you when you collect your child from Nursery and ask you to sign our accident book.



Special Needs Policy:

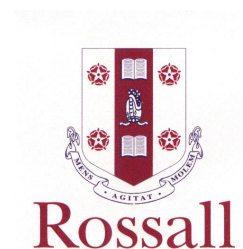
Pupils who are thought to have Special Educational Needs are identified and assessed as early and thoroughly as is possible and necessary. Referral can come from many sources, e.g.

- class teacher request;
- parental request;
- DHA or GP request;
- following diagnostic tests.

Early identification, assessment and provision for any SEN child is very important for the following reasons:

- it can minimise the difficulties that can be encountered when intervention and provision occur;
- it can maximise the likely positive response of the child;
- it can allow for a temporary learning difficulty to be overcome and for future learning to be unaffected;
- if the child's learning difficulty proves less transient when addressed by the School alone, the external agencies can be brought in earlier and very likely with more success.

Pupils will receive support in the classroom and a small number may be withdrawn for short periods for more individual help. We ensure that our pupils' Special Educational Needs are known to other schools to which they may transfer.



Inclusion Policy:

We believe that inclusive practice is the right of every child. Our inclusive environment is a changing environment that needs to be adapted to encompass the individual needs of the children.

Inclusive practice, equality and diversity work towards the development of a harmonious community – a place where children of all abilities can play and learn together. We encourage children to form strong, positive self images, to enable them to grow up to respect and get along with people who may be different to themselves.

Student/Volunteer Policy:

It is agreed that all students and volunteers should not be left unsupervised in the Nursery. Anyone in our setting will need to abide by our policies and complete a Police Clearance Form. All helpers will be given the support and the opportunity to work alongside qualified staff and children. No volunteer or helper must change nappies, wet undergarments or deal with any accident.

Security:

The premises and outside play area are secure and children are not able to leave them unsupervised. All visitors must sign into the 'visitors book' and wear a clearly visible visitors badge.

Children are supervised at all times. In the event of a child being lost, the child's class teacher will immediately contact their line manager, who will then notify security and main school reception. A search party will then be organised immediately. If the child is not found parents will be contacted and the police informed.

Staff must ensure they follow correct procedures for the safe conduct of any outings provided. Appropriate risk assessment documents should be completed beforehand. If a child becomes lost on an outing, the group leader will organise a search party and inform school.



Behaviour Management Policy:

At Rossall we are committed to providing a caring, friendly and safe environment for all of our pupils. We believe that everyone has the right to go about their daily business in the safe knowledge that they will not be interfered with by anybody else.

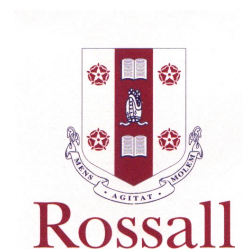
We expect a high standard of behaviour from all our children irrespective of their age and regularly put forward clear guidelines as to what is right and wrong. Examples of good behaviour will be praised by the staff and drawn to the attention of others. Unacceptable behaviour will be dealt with immediately and the incident will be recorded.

The school regards bullying as extremely serious and we have firm guidelines on how to deal with it. We promote good citizenship, where it is made clear that bullying is a form of anti-social behaviour. It is **WRONG** and will not be tolerated. Our reaction to reported incidents will depend much upon detailed circumstances. Students and parents need to have the confidence that any communication with staff with regard to bullying will be dealt with sensitivity and seriously.

Equal Opportunities Policy:

Rossall Nursery intends that all present and prospective pupils shall enjoy equality of opportunity and shall not be disadvantaged by any condition or requirement that cannot be shown justifiable. All aspects of the curriculum will reflect the Nursery's commitment to equal opportunity and will respect the dignity and value of all individuals.

Sensitivity, care and a consistent, positive approach will be taken to eradicate any discriminatory behaviour within the Nursery.



Outside Agencies:

The School supports a multi-disciplinary approach to maximise the educational provision for all pupils. Many agencies and support services are able to help identify and assess pupils' needs and to provide support for those pupils. Such agencies and support services include a wide variety of specialist teachers and other professionals. Once a strategy for procuring support has been agreed all parties should be kept well informed of developments as is appropriate.

Our first concern is your child's welfare. Therefore, there may be occasions when we have to consult other agencies, even before we contact you. Should this be necessary we want to reassure you that any concerns we have about your child will then be discussed with you after we have followed the procedures set out in the Rossall School Child Protection Policy Document.

Achievements:

At Rossall Nursery the staff use positive reinforcement to maintain high standards of behaviour and achievements. If your child has achieved something special at nursery they may receive certificates or stickers.

The certificates or stickers can celebrate a wide range of children's achievements, such as: being kind, sharing completing an activity, joining in with discussion or listening carefully. Each child is different and we recognise this when we choose them for certificates and stickers.

The staff will monitor who has received certificates and stickers to ensure that everyone has a chance to celebrate their learning.



Complaints Procedure:

We welcome comments and suggestions from parents, and take seriously complaints and concerns you may raise. Your complaint or concern will be treated in a confidential manner and with respect. Knowledge of it will be limited to those directly involved.

If at any time you wish to complain your first port of call for any academic issue should be the class nursery co-ordinator. Should the co-ordinator fail to resolve the issue, you should address the Nursery Manager or Head of Infants & Nursery.

If you raise something face-to-face or by telephone, it may be possible to resolve the matter immediately and to your satisfaction. In many cases the person you contact may need to discuss the matter with a colleague and consider it further before responding. You will be given a date by which time you will receive a response.

If you have a complaint or suggestion in writing, we will contact you within five working days, to respond to your concern and how we plan to proceed. Should you wish to contact Ofsted, you may do so by telephone on 0845 601 4771. Our Ofsted registration number is EY346639.

Smoking/Alcohol and Drugs Policy:

At Rossall Nursery we have a no smoking policy to protect the children's health. We would appreciate your support in this matter and respect that you refrain from smoking within the school grounds and inside the buildings.

If on arrival to collect a child from the Nursery, the parent is found to be in an unfit state, the Nursery Manager must be informed. If the manager takes the decision not to allow the child to go home, the parent must be informed of the reason why and the emergency contact will be asked to collect the child. Great sensitivity must be given to all involved, especially the child.

Any member of staff coming into work in an unfit state will be sent home immediately and subject to disciplinary action upon their return.



Jewellery:

Jewellery should not be worn in Nursery, as it can be dangerous. If your child has pierced ears, only stud earrings must be worn. ALL jewellery and earrings must be removed before any physical activity.

Toys:

We realise that during the first few weeks, a toy brought from home can help your child settle into nursery. After this initial period, please discourage your child from bringing toys from home. Often toys can get broken or even lost, and this can greatly upset you and your child.

Confidentiality Policy:

We believe that young children and families are entitled to expect that information about health, family circumstances, children's development and behaviour with or observed by early childhood practitioners or helpers will be treated in the strictest confidence.

Confidential information regarding children may need to be passed on to an outside agency where there are concerns.
Children's folders and other sensitive information will be stored in a lockable filing cabinet in the office.

Photographs:

We occasionally take photographs of your child; these are generally for school displays, the weekly newsletter, local newspapers or our website. Please inform us if there are any reasons or occasions when you do not wish photos of your child to be used.

If you wish to see the file containing all policies in full please see the Nursery Manager.



Uniform:

All children must wear the nursery uniform. The uniform has been chosen to suit the practical needs of the children. We have a Summer and a Winter uniform, please ask the Nursery Manager for a full uniform list. Winter uniform is worn from the beginning of September. Summer uniform is worn after the Easter holidays. Exact dates will be placed in the weekly newsletter and on nursery notice boards.

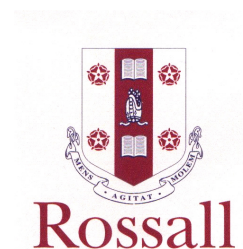
Children's clothing should be clearly marked with the child's name.

During cold weather ensure your child is sent to Nursery in a warm and easy to manage coat with hat, gloves/mittens and scarf. We do go out to play in wet weather so, please ensure that your child's coat is waterproof with a hood and that they have wellington boots. All in one waterproofs are available at the Rossall shop. During the warm Summer months we ask that you provide a sunhat and a high factor sun cream for your child.

We ask that all parents provide a bag of spare clothes for accidents. If your child is in pull-ups we ask that you also provide spare pull-ups, wipes and nappy bags.

Fresh filtered water is always available for the children. However, if you wish to send in a water bottle for your own child you may do so. It must be named and taken home daily to be washed.

Please ensure that all items are clearly named!



How Can You Help Your Child?

- Talk to your child and listen to what he or she has to say.
- Talk about starting nursery, how exciting it will be with lots of new things to do, and lots more friends to make.
- Involve your child in everyday activities e.g. shopping – talk about what you are buying etc.
- Encourage them to go to the toilet independently (flushing the toilet and washing their hands). Please liaise with your child's teacher about toilet training.
- Read a bedtime story and sing traditional nursery rhymes and songs. Join the local library.
- Watch television with your child and encourage him or her to talk with you about the programme.
- To get used to being with others, could your child spend a short time now and then with another member of the family?
- Eat alongside your child and encourage appropriate table manners e.g. using a knife and fork.
- Allow your child to use scissors, pencils, glue etc. (supervised of course). See separate sheet for specific guidance on handwriting.
- Take your child on visits and trips.
- Encourage them to tidy toys away when they have finished playing with them.
- The Speech and Language Therapy service and local Sure Start Children's centres recommend that children should not have a dummy or bottle beyond their first birthday. Prolonged use can lead to problems with dental health, communication, tongue control and speech.



A guide to handwriting:

At Rossall Nursery School we aim to teach simple but flowing letters that move directly on to a flexible joined-up. For this you need exit strokes but no fiddly bits like entry strokes or loops. They will slow down writing. Letters are only part of the story. They are what you write. How you write, in terms of such matters as writing posture and penhold, is just as important. They in turn influence what you write.

Handwriting is a motor skill so you need to get important things right at the start. Children need first to understand the conventions of our writing system. They are:

- Direction: writing goes from left to right (sometimes a problem for left-handers)
- Movement: the correct point of entry and direction of the strokes of the letters.
- Height differentials: ascending and descending letters give words an instantly recognisable shape.
- The two sets of letters: Capital letters and small letters.
- Spacing: both between words and letters.

Getting ready to write:

Children develop graphic and hand skill at different rates, unrelated to intelligence. Everything about handwriting automates and becomes a habit that is difficult to alter, from letter formation to posture or penhold.

- How children sit depends on appropriate desk and chair height. Where they learn to place their paper (to the side of the hand that writes) ensures that they can see what they are doing without bending over their work. A variety of writing implements allows pupils to find what suits their hand and writing best.
- Size of writing varies from child to child. The correct formation of each letter is more important.
- Penhold is complex. There cannot be exact rules, but it is important that the penhold should not be painful, not slow the writer down, or limit the full range of strokes.
- **Please remember** when encouraging your child to write their own name, the first letter only is a capital, all the rest are lower case, for example, **A**lison, **J**ack etc...



Cleaning Advice:

Despite all the precautions we take, spills and splashes sometimes happen. Below is advice which has proved to be satisfactory:

Stains – paint, water based ink.

- Allow the stains to dry.
- Brush off as much as you can, then rub a liquid detergent into the stained area.
- Gently scrub with a small brush.
- Wash the garment as normal.

Stains – white glue, cromar paint.

- Tackle stains while still wet, if possible.
- Put paper behind to stop stain transferring through fabric.
- Flood the stained area with water and gently brush the stain away.
- Keep the stained area damp at all times.
- Apply a liquid detergent, then wash.



What OFSTED said about us in year 2007:

Our quality and standards of the care are **good**.
Our quality and standards of the education are **good**.

How our Nursery helps children to be healthy:

The children have a good understanding of the importance of hygiene and caring for their own health needs.

The children enjoy regular periods of outdoor physical play ensuring that their large muscles are developing as they enjoy this aspect of the nursery curriculum.

Children have a developing knowledge about foods that are good for them through the five fruit and vegetable policy that the setting supports each day.

How our Nursery protects children from harm or neglect and helps them stay safe:

Children are cared for in a very welcoming and safe indoor environment. This is planned to meet their needs by ensuring play areas are maintained to a high standard.

Resources are readily available for children to make choices from because staff carefully plan the environment to ensure children are stimulated effectively.

Children learn to keep themselves safe because staff are skilled in the way they talk to them about safe procedures and reinforce safe practices as they ask children to pick up toys, not to run and remind them to be careful.

How our Nursery helps children achieve well and enjoy what they do:

Children look forward to coming into nursery and demonstrate good independent learning skills.

Children are developing their confidence as they actively respond in group time contributing their ideas facilitated by the good staff questioning. Children's individual learning needs are ably provided for by good curriculum planning.

Children's desire to learn is stimulated by the exciting range of activities organised.

All the children have their care needs met through the daily routines and the time given by staff to each child to support and encourage their well-being.



How our Nursery helps children make a positive contribution:

Children are valued and respected because staff ensure each child has the opportunity to engage in all aspects of the curriculum.

Children learn the boundaries and guidelines because staff are consistent and are very good role models, having high regard for each other and the children.

The effective partnership with parents contributes significantly to children's well-being. Parents learn about their child's development through discussion and strong links with the key staff.

A full report is available at www.ofsted.gov.uk



What Rossall Nursery parents said about us in year 2009:

“The children seem to do a lot of learning and they are very secure. It’s like a small family!”

“Rossall provides an all round learning environment organised by very caring and professional staff.”

“The nursery is a good foundation for starting full-time school. I have no problem in speaking to any member of staff, as we have found everyone very approachable.”

“Our son has been immensely happy for 95% of his time at Rossall. I am very grateful for the care given by all the nursery staff.”

“I am very impressed with the standards and quality of learning.”

“I like the good quality of care and the interest shown in the children.”

“The nursery has excellent facilities, a friendly atmosphere and the staff are professional and caring.”

“The nursery is really well equipped and has a stimulating environment.”

“Our daughter thoroughly enjoys all aspects of the nursery. She has become more confident within herself and has made many friends. The teachers and assistants are always very helpful and constantly keep everyone up to date with their child’s progress.”

“I couldn’t be happier with the level of care that my son receives – It’s excellent!”

“We are very pleased with the care and education that Rossall provides for our son. All the staff are wonderful and obviously take their time to understand every child individually. We really couldn’t praise it more highly!”

“Our son has thoroughly enjoyed his time at Rossall and has come on in leaps and bounds. The Nursery provides a safe and happy environment with plenty of activities and lots of variety.”

“We like the changing and varied range of activities available when children arrive in the morning, it is very stimulating for the children. Staff are always friendly and seem creative and caring.”

