



Mossley Nursery School



SESSION TIMES:

RED CLASS 9.00 am – 1.30 pm

GREEN CLASS 9.00 am – 11.30 am

BLUE CLASS 12.30 pm – 3.00 pm

Welcome

- Mossley Nursery School is a purpose built Nursery School ran by The Education Authority.
- We as early years' practitioners recognise that you, the parents, are the children's first educators and are involved in settling them into the nursery. We aim to build a trusting relationship with parents and carers in order to ensure the child will feel secure.
- We have a team of qualified teachers and nursery assistants. With our specialist training we can ensure that the quality and depth of experiences meet your child's needs, thus providing an extension of the stimulation, care and experiences within the home.
- This booklet is to provide you with useful information prior to your child starting nursery. Please keep this booklet in a safe place and enjoy looking at it with your child to help to familiarise them prior to their new venture.





School Aim

Our aim within Mossley Nursery is that each child is accepted and encouraged to be a unique individual. We aim to build upon the experiences within the home and the learning developed prior to entering nursery. Building strong relationships with our parents and carers is important to us in enabling us to create a safe, secure, stimulating and happy environment in which all children can develop to their full potential.



Transition and Settling-In

- Following our Information Session for Parents, we invite you to make an appointment to meet the class teacher with your child,
- Children attend with a parent or carer for their first play session at nursery in August/September.
- During the month of September, the children will attend in smaller groups for shorter sessions. This allows the children and the staff to get to know each other and ensure a smooth transition into nursery. Whereas children have had one to one adult attention at home and may have attended daycare or playgroup, nursery school is an environment where the children will be encouraged to develop more independence. The staffing ratio is 1:13 and the staff will help the children to be less reliant on an adult and to cope with being a member of a larger group. This is a very important time for the children and although it can mean a few weeks of disruption for parents your co-operation and support are greatly appreciated.

Involving Parents and Carers

In Mossley Nursery School we have a commitment to involving parents and carers in nursery life.

In recent years parents have been involved in a range of activities and partnerships including:

- Open Events
- Stay and Play Sessions
- Fund Raising Events for both school funds and registered charities
- Supporting children at performances and charity sporting events
- Attending information sessions
- Sharing information about their jobs for topic work.

We hope to plan and provide the same range of events during this year and we are also open to new ideas!



Principles of Nursery Education

The policy, practice, and provision within Mossley Nursery School are based on the following principles:

- Education is concerned with the whole child.
- Parents are valued as their children's first educators and are viewed as active partners in the continuing process of education.
- For young children, play is their right and is an essential and rich part of the learning process. Play is a child's work.
- Acceptance, love, approval, encouragement and security are vital to the development of the young child.
- The child's past experiences, individual attributes and abilities should be recognised, accepted and built upon.
- High quality interaction with skilled and knowledgeable adults is crucial to the child's learning.



Nursery Curriculum

Your child will be learning through play. Play is a proven way for young children to learn and develop.

Our planned curriculum is in line with the Department of Education's Curricular Guidance for Pre-School. Learning is carefully planned within the six areas of learning.

- **Personal, Social and Emotional Development**
- **Language Development**
- **Physical Development and Movement**
- **The Arts**
- **Early Mathematical Experiences**
- **The World Around Us**

Through engaging with and observing the children at play, the staff carry out a planned programme of observations in order to assess the child's engagement, help to develop skills and also to plan, based on their ideas and interest. The children are encouraged to express themselves and develop a curious mind. They will learn how to relate well to others and form healthy relationships with their peers and adults. They will also learn how to share and play co-operatively with others. The curriculum will also allow for hands-on multi-sensory experiences to stimulate the children's ideas. The provision of messy play, paint and creative experiences such as paint, sand, water, dough and natural materials encourage the children to be expressive and creative. All creativity is valued. The emphasis is not on 'what' they have produced, but on the learning process and enjoyment.



Books, stories and rhymes contribute to developing language skills. Communication is key to learning in the early years. Having clear speech is VITAL to your child's development. If you have any concerns, please see your child's teacher.





Healthy Eating and Nursery Fund

A snack consisting of mainly fruit and a drink is provided during an informal snack-time.

Mossley Nursery School is registered with the Food Standards Agency as a food preparation business. We are subject to hygiene checks by Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council.

A carton of milk is available for each child every day.

We are ran by the Education Authority. The nursery education your child receives is free. However, all children attending are required to contribute to Nursery Fund. This supplies your child with many things that our school budget is unable to provide.

Positive Behaviour and '5 Golden Rules'

As with lots of skills that the children are developing at this age, behaving appropriately is one that we will be focussing on when entering the nursery.

For some children these skills may be well developed at home but can become a challenge when in an unfamiliar class with lots of children of their own age.

The staff work with all children to learn class rules based on keeping all children and staff safe and happy.

Through songs, stories, circle-time and positive praise the children are usually able to master these skills quickly. Staff will speak to parents if a child is finding any difficulty in order to plan targets and strategies to work together.

Our 'Give Me 5' Rules...

- We all help to look after the toys and the nursery and keep it tidy
- We always keep our hands and feet to ourselves
- We move safely both inside and outside the nursery
- We speak nicely, listen to each other and can always ask for help
- We keep ourselves safe, healthy and clean.





Independence skills

When choosing your child's clothes for nursery, please remember that your child will be developing independence. They will need to cope with feeding themselves, toileting and simple dressing skills. Allow your child to have time to practice these skills. It may be quicker if you do things for them, but the achievement of doing things for themselves is much more important.



Pastoral Care and Child Protection

The governors and staff of Mossley Nursery School fully recognise the contribution it makes to safe-guarding the children. All staff and governors believe that our school should provide a caring, positive, safe and stimulating environment which promotes the social, physical and moral development of the child.

Throughout the nursery year, daily contact with your child's teacher enables you to discuss any problems or concerns, which you may have.

In the event that you have a concern regarding your child's safety or well-being you should talk to the child's class teacher or the Principal. You may also discuss this with the Chairperson of the Board of Governors.

A Gateway poster is displayed in hallway which contains contact details.





Attendance and Illness

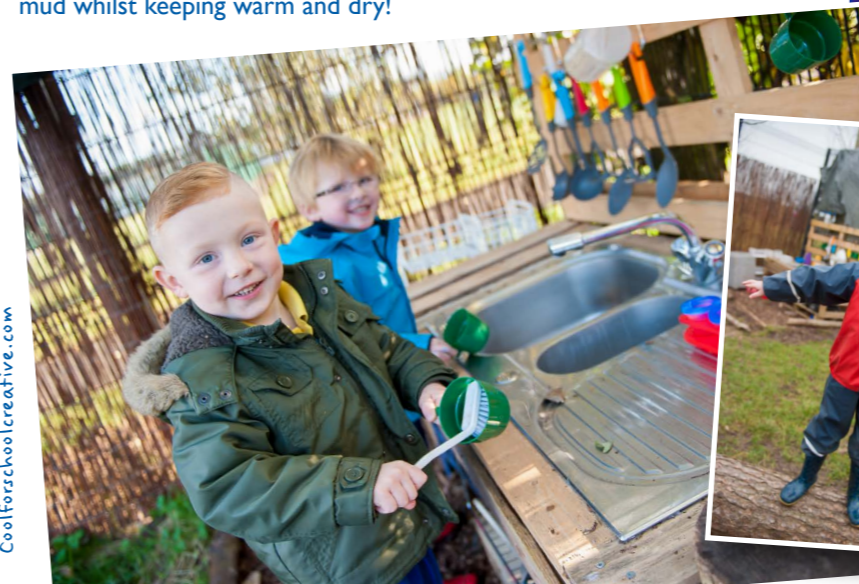
Regular attendance is highly beneficial for your child's confidence, self-esteem, learning and social skills. By attending regularly and punctually your child will feel secure and will help to have a routine.

Children should only come to school when well. Parents should keep their children at home if unwell or infectious. We understand that quite often your child 'wants' to come to see their friends but the nursery is busy and noisy and not the place to be if you are unwell.

Outdoors & Forest School

At Mossley Nursery we have a commitment to quality outdoor education. The Pre-School guidance requires us to access the outdoors as part of our curriculum. We do go outside every day and explore in all types of weather.

We are fortunate to have extensive outdoor grounds and a forest school on site. 'The Wee Wood' is an enclosed wild area where the children will experience a planned programme of outdoor learning opportunities to explore and investigate wildlife, growth, seasonal changes and play within their surroundings. This helps children build self-esteem and confidence and develop strong social skills. During these sessions, where needed, the children will be wearing protective clothing to allow them to embrace the mud whilst keeping warm and dry!



Mossley Nursery School

Hazelburn Road
NEWTOWNABBEY
BT36 5NA
02890835549

www.mossleynurseryschool.com

mossleyns@gmail.com

Principal: *Mrs Julia Henderson*

Chairperson of the Board of Governors: *Lynn Frazer*

The school was inspected in January 2015 by the ETI:

'In the areas inspected, the quality of education provided by this nursery school is outstanding; the quality of pastoral care is also outstanding. The nursery school has demonstrated its capacity for sustained self-improvement'.

