

Gatley Primary School



Frequently Asked Questions for parents of new Nursery Starters

What information will you need from me?

The school uses ParentMail to communicate with all of our families. You will be sent a login for ParentMail during the admissions process, and the school will request some information via this messaging service. This will include general /emergency contact details, information regarding medical conditions and permissions. Some form of ID will be required. Please see the 'Welcome to Gatley Primary School' section of our school website under the Parents tab for additional instructions on registering with ParentMail. Nearer the time, we will be speaking with yourselves to gather more personal information about your child, including any worries, concerns or questions you may have.

When will my child start school?

Transition is an essential part of starting school and aims to offer a variety of experiences and opportunities in order to prepare the children as best as possible to begin their journey in Nursery. The transition process will commence in July.

Who will my child's new teacher be?

You will find out who your child's teacher is at the start of the induction process in July and will have opportunities for you and your child to meet them again throughout our transition activities.

What will their classroom look like?

The learning environment, both outdoor and indoor, is split into 6 key skill independent learning areas which encourage children to actively develop, practise, reflect and extend their key and core skills.

What will my child need to bring with them?

Children are advised to bring suitable outdoor clothing. A change of clothing in a bag is advisable, which can be left at school. All clothing should be clearly labelled with your child's name. Your child will only need a packed lunch if they are spending the full day with us.

Does my child need to wear a school uniform?

School uniform is not compulsory for nursery aged children, although most children choose to wear it. All clothing should be clearly labelled with your child's name. The school uniform policy is available on the website and branded items can be purchased through:

1. Monkhouse's in Cheadle Hulme: please click on the following link for a message from Monkhouse Schoolwear: <https://www.monkhouse.com/parent-guide>
2. Debonair Schoolwear in Wythenshawe: see <http://debonairschoolwear.co.uk/>

As stated within the school's policy on our website, Nursery children must **not wear earrings** or any other jewellery whilst attending Nursery. This is to ensure the safety of your children whilst they are with us and to ensure they are able to join in with the rich experiences we provide here at Gatley Primary School.

What are the times of the Nursery day?

Morning sessions are from 8:45am until 11:45am

Afternoon sessions are from 12:30pm until 3:30pm

If the children are attending Nursery for a full day, they will also access provision over lunchtime. This will be charged at £4.50 per lunchtime session.

Where will I drop them off and pick them up from?

You will need to drop your child off at the Nursery entrance to school which is located to the right hand side of the car park on the right of the main school entrance.

How will the Nursery sessions and hours be allocated?

At Gatley Primary we offer 15 hours provision for your child each week, and work flexibly to allocate this based on your requests. You will shortly receive a letter which will allow you the opportunity to request your 15 hours which can be split over 5 sessions (morning and afternoon). Once allocated, your sessions will remain the same throughout the academic year.

I qualify for 30 hours provision, how can I 'top up' my hours for my child?

If the school have the capacity to offer additional hours once we have allocated places within the 15 hours, the school will write to parents to communicate availability. Upon receiving your nursery acceptance form, you will have been asked to provide your code if you are eligible to have additional hours. Within this process, you will be asked to provide your National Insurance number and the D.O.B of the person who made the 30 hours claim, this is to ensure the claim can be submitted in a timely manner to the Local Authority.

In instances where demand for additional hours is high, the school will use an over-subscription criteria to award hours.

The categories are as follows:

1. Child lives in catchment of school, both parents work between the hours of 8:45am – 3:30pm and the child has a sibling in the school.
2. Child lives in catchment of school and both parents work between the hours of 8:45am – 3:30pm
3. Child lives in catchment of school, both parents work and the child has a sibling in the school.
4. Child lives in catchment of school and both parents work
5. Both parents work between the hours of 8:45am – 3:30pm and child has a sibling in the school
6. Both parents work and the child has a sibling in the school
7. Child lives in catchment
8. Child has a sibling in the school

Do they need a packed lunch?

Yes, but only if your child is spending the full day with us. It is expected that those children attending for half day provision will eat lunch before or after attending school. Please be aware that when children remain with us between sessions over lunchtime, there will be a supervision fee of £4.50 per lunchtime chargeable, billed directly to parents each term.

What before and after school care is available?

The school works with a number of providers who accommodate extended day provision. These are run as separate organisations and therefore, are chargeable to parents. Gatley Childcare Limited works from the school site and Elm Road Breakfast and After School Club runs a pick up/drop off service to our school. Further information for both of these settings is available on the school website through the following link:

<https://www.gatleyprimary.com/parents/breakfast-and-after-school-club>

What will the transition period look like?

The transition process will consist of a number of different opportunities and experiences for you and your child. In July you will have the opportunity to meet your child's teacher during the Induction evening and again within the classroom environment alongside your child. After this session, your child will be invited for a session by themselves, alongside their new friends. In September, your child would start with their allocated 15 hour sessions, and work up gradually to spending their full time provision (if applicable) the following week. The school will contact you in due course in order to detail exactly what these times and days will look like, before the end of the Summer term.

When will we be able to come and visit school and meet my child's new teacher?

As part of your child's transition to school we will be organising sessions where you will have to opportunity to meet the Nursery team in July.

Transition meetings will also be arranged during the first few days of the new school year. This will provide you with an opportunity to meet the Nursery team of staff on a more one to one basis, to gather important information about your child and for you to ask any questions that you may have.

Will a member of staff be able to help my child with dressing/toileting?

One of our school values supports the development of independence in children. Children who attend our school are encouraged to be as independent as they can be and this starts with personal hygiene. These routines and habits will developed with staff as part of the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum. It is always advisable to spend some time during the summer months practising with your child how to get dressed, put on their own coats and shoes and developing their toilet routines. More information will be provided on the school website to support school readiness.