



**GRANGE CE PRIMARY
SCHOOL**

NURSERY

**INFORMATION
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ADMISSIONS

Grange School Nursery class opened in September 1996 and as Grange School is an LEA School we follow the "County Admissions Policy for Entrance into Nursery Schools and Nursery Classes in Cumbria".

Currently Children enter into a Nursery Class in the term **after** their 3rd birthday, in either September, January or April, and remain there until they move up into a Reception Class in a School of their parents' choice.

There is no charge to parents for placements at this Nursery.

SESSIONS

The Nursery currently provides places for 26 part-time pupils for 5 morning sessions only. Each session is three hours long and the times from 9.00 am to 12.00 noon.

STAFFING

The Nursery is staffed at all times by a qualified teacher and a Nursery Teaching Assistant. Mrs Helen Hill is the Nursery teacher and holds a B. Ed Honours degree in Early Years Education, with Mrs. Nicola Melling working alongside her.

Application for a place at the Nursery

If you wish to apply for a place in the Nursery Class, please fill in the County Council Form SA13 which is available online:-

<http://www.cumbria.gov.uk/childrensservices/schoolsandlearning/lss/nursery/nursery15-16.asp>

Please return this to the School, or contact us and we can email the form to you.

If you require any further advice about admission to an LEA Nursery you should contact:

Tel: 01228 221582

Email: school.admissions@cumbria.gov.uk

School Admissions and Appeals
Children and Families Services
Cumbria County Council
Cumbria House
117 Botchergate
Carlisle
CA1 1RD

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Transport Assistance

In some circumstances assistance with transport costs will be provided. The transport policy is explained in an information sheet which can be obtained either from the School or from the Information Unit.

Accreditation Award

In July 2001 Grange Nursery achieved an accredited award from Cumbria Early Years and Childcare Partnership called the "Kitemark". This was achieved through taking part in a research project called the Effective Early Learning Project from the University of Worcester. We will continue to use some of the research methods to ensure the high quality of provision is maintained.

Home Visits

Why a Home Visit?

Each child is offered a home visit during the first few weeks of the Autumn Term. This allows staff to meet you and your child in your home where you feel most comfortable and where we can get to know one another in a relaxed way. The staff will talk to you about what happens at the Nursery and answer any queries you may have.

The admission to Nursery in the first few weeks will be staggered to allow each child the opportunity to become familiar within a small group of children. Parents are welcome to stay with their child until they are happy and settled.

Aims

What are our aims?

- 1. To provide rich opportunities for developing the whole curriculum, through first hand experiences and play and develop early communication, literacy and numeracy skills.**
- 2. To nurture a positive attitude to learning, ensuring that each child develops independence, a sense of responsibility, self confidence and self-esteem.**
- 3. To liaise with parents and carers as fully as possible in order to encourage mutual trust and respect, so that we can work together in the best possible interests of the children.**
- 4. To ensure that the curriculum meets the diverse needs of the developing child socially, emotionally, intellectually and physically, providing equal opportunities for all children according to their individual needs.**
- 5. To provide a secure, happy, caring and stimulating environment where children can meet to socialise, talk and learn with other children and adults.**
- 6. To ensure liaison and continuity between :**
 - Pre-School settings and the local community**
 - Key Stage 1 and 2**
 - Feeder Schools**
 - Outside agencies that support the teaching and learning**



7. To help children integrate into the routines of School life

Provision

At Grange Nursery we provide an early years curriculum which is planned, monitored and evaluated by trained staff. This is referred to as the Foundation Stage Curriculum

The curriculum is based on broad areas of experience. Each pupil is always considered as an individual and their particular strengths are catered for at an individual level. The staff observe the children as they play and use this information to plan suitable experiences for the children. Many of the experiences offered will help children achieve the Early Learning Goals for children entering compulsory education at five years of age and will build towards the National Curriculum Programmes of Study.

THE FOUNDATION STAGE

The Curriculum is based on six areas of learning. These are:-

1. Personal, Social and Emotional Development

This includes the learning of social skills, the development of good manners and the ability to respect and relate to other pupils of their peer group. Children will be encouraged to share, take turns and display behaviour which is acceptable to others.

2. Communication, Language and Literacy

This incorporates the important aspects of language development including children's developing competence in talking and listening and in becoming readers and writers.

Opportunities will be made for stories, discussions, listening, songs, rhymes and poetry. Children will be encouraged to draw and begin to write with a range of writing implements.

3. Mathematical Development

We will aim to incorporate mathematical opportunities into many everyday situations and encourage the children to use mathematical language in their play. Equipment will be provided to encourage children to sort, match, order and count, use shapes and describe spatial relationships. They will be introduced through play to early weighing and measuring activities and be encouraged to join in number rhymes and songs.

4. Knowledge and Understanding of the World

We aim to develop the children's knowledge and understanding of their environments, other people and features of the natural and man-made world. We have a lovely outdoor environment and wildlife garden which we visit regularly. The Nursery staff will exploit the children's natural curiosity and help them use their senses effectively to observe,

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compare, discuss, question and describe.

5. Creative Development

Children will be encouraged to express their feelings through art and craft to experience a variety of creative materials. Opportunities will be provided for children to develop skills through music, drama, movement, songs, rhymes and role play.

6. Physical Development

Opportunities will be provided for children to develop manipulative skills using a wide range of tools, materials and equipment. The larger physical skills relating to the whole body will be developed through musical games, movements, large and small apparatus and use of our fenced off outdoor play area where we have wheeled toys, soft play equipment, balancing beams etc.

PARENTS

What can I do to help my child?

Parents are the first and most important educators of young children. The Nursery Staff hope to work together with you in partnership which will benefit your child. Children will be encouraged to borrow books from the Nursery to share at home with their parents.

Parents can help at home by enjoying stories, rhymes and songs with their children and by talking to them about their experiences at the Nursery. If you would like to help your child at home additional guidelines are available from the Nursery Staff. Parents would be most welcome to help, particularly when we take the children out on visits and walks.

Staff will record individual progress and will talk to parents regularly on an informal basis about their child's progress. Parents will be encouraged to share home achievements and successes with Nursery Staff, so that the full range of their child's developmental progress can be recognised and celebrated.

Parents will receive a report at the end of the Summer Term on their child's progress and there will also be an open session where parents will be invited to come along and discuss progress and other matters related to the education of their child and look at some of the things we do in Nursery.

Transition to School

We aim to make the transition to Reception classes as smooth as possible. The Nursery at Grange School is set up as an integral part of the School and not as a separate entity. We use the Hall for play or P.E. sessions or make use of other facilities that the School has to offer. We join with the reception Class occasionally for activities such as singing, plays, stories etc. In the summer term visits are arranged into your child's Reception Class and if possible the Reception teacher visits the Nursery rroup.

Special Educational Needs

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What if I think my child has special needs?

It is very important that any difficulties which children might be experiencing are identified as early as possible so that their individual needs can be addressed.

At Grange School Nursery all children will have equal access to the full range of educational experiences regardless of racial origins, gender, family grouping, cultural and linguistic backgrounds or abilities.

Please do not hesitate to talk to a member of staff about your child's needs if you feel there is a problem. We liaise with other agencies e.g. Health Visitors, Speech Therapists etc. so we can offer continued support for your child if necessary.

At Grange Nursery we will treat all families and children with respect.

Health and Safety

The staff at Grange Nursery are aware of the current Health and Safety requirements and will take all reasonable care to adhere to these. We strive to keep our First Aid skills and knowledge up to date.

Absent Pupils

If your child is ill or cannot attend Nursery, please telephone the School to let us know.

Generally speaking, if a child is ill enough to require medication, then it would not be appropriate for them to be sent to Nursery. The staff cannot be held responsible for administering medicine other than in special circumstances such as chronic asthma or severe allergic reaction with the parents consent.

Children's Welfare

At Grange Nursery we will promote good behaviour at all times by :-

1. Setting good examples of positive behaviour and good manners and using a variety of rewards and praise.
2. Encouraging every child to share in the responsibility of the Nursery routines and acknowledging efforts.
3. Teaching simple rules to promote their own safety and hygiene, the safety of others, and care of toys and equipment.
4. Supervising children at all times.

All Staff are aware of the local child protection procedures.

What your Child will need in the Nursery Class

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A holdall bag (containing a complete change of clothes).
A box of Tissues
Plimsolls (with name in)
Shoes with easy fastenings
Pair of Wellington Boots (marked with name)
A coat (with name in)
Clothes that are easy for your child to manage themselves and will not spoil if they get messy
2 Passport sized photographs
A voluntary contribution each term towards baking materials and snacks for special occasions.

PTA (The F.R.O.G.s – Friends of Grange School)

At Grange School we have a very supportive PTA who also become involved in providing further resources to help with the financing of Nursery Equipment or materials. We may from time to time have small fundraising events of our own.

If you would like to help please let us know as we would be grateful for your support.

ETHOS

As with all of Grange School we provide a happy, caring atmosphere within the Nursery where children enjoy their time learning interesting things and being allowed to develop individually. If for some reason your child is unhappy then please come and talk to us, first with the Nursery staff or even with the Headteacher.

Our policy is always to do something about this in order to remedy the situation.

Disclaimer

The Governors reserve the right to change information contained in this brochure.

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