

## Snack Time

Snack time is a brilliant opportunity to teach children about healthy eating and promote good hygiene by washing hands.

Each day your child will be provided with a healthy snack of fresh or dried fruit and water. We ask that children bring a water bottle to keep in the setting during the session. This helps to keep them hydrated, particularly as we promote being active as part of the curriculum.

## Uniform

We support the children to understand the importance of taking pride in their appearance and ask that children wear a uniform.

This consists of a white polo shirt and a navy cardigan or jumper, grey or black skirt/tights or trousers and plain black school shoes. If you need information about where you can purchase the uniform, please speak to a member of staff. For health and safety reasons we do not allow earrings or other jewelry, except a watch.



## Preparing Your Child For School

At this stage of a child's life, developing independence is a crucial aspect of their self-esteem and well-being. Children want to be independent and often get frustrated if they can't do things for themselves. Children will be encouraged to put on their coats and attempt to zip them up, to wash and dry their hands and help to tidy away resources during transition times. We ask that where possible, children are toilet trained and able to access the toilet independently. For more information please see: Toilet & Intimate Care Policy

Please could you help us by providing your child with many opportunities to carry out tasks independently? This will really help to develop their skills and prepare them for school. For more information please see: Ready for school or Ready for Nursery.

## Absence from school

We follow the Department for Education (DfE) guidelines regarding attendance procedures. Please ensure regular communication with school regarding any absences.

If your child is ill we would appreciate if you could ring before 8.50 am to inform school of the reason for absence. This allows the academy office to complete attendance registers and ensure your child is safe.

Please be aware that for an illness such as sickness and diarrhoea, children must be kept away from school for 48 hours. This is to prevent illness spreading within the setting. For more information about our school please see: Attendance Policy



Co-op Academy  
Nightingale

# New Starter Information

We are delighted that you have chosen our academy for your child's start to education.

It will be an absolute privilege to work with you in partnership as your child embarks on this exciting new chapter of their life.

For  
Parents  
and  
Carers

## Welcome to Co-op Academy Nightingale

At Co-op Academy Nightingale we promote Co-op Ways of Being which are a set of values that we demonstrate each day by creating an environment that celebrates difference, supports children to feel responsible, valued, empowered and trusted to do the right thing. We believe that if they can uphold these values, it will give them the tools to be successful in the future.

### Parental Engagement

At Co-op Academy Nightingale, we work in partnership with parents to meet the needs of every child and ensure they get the best possible start to their education.

We communicate with parents via our weekly peek at the week.

During the academic year we will have different stay and play events where you will be invited into the academy to share experiences with your child.

### Visits and Trips

During the academic year, we will organise a range of experiences that will enhance the curriculum. These may take place in the form of a visitor into the academy, a trip or local walk.

### Behaviour

Our aim is to ensure children settle into school life and that they feel safe, happy and content. We use positive reinforcement to support their personal and social development. From time to time we understand that children may struggle to regulate their behaviour. In these instances, we will support your child to regulate (co-regulation) and they will be supported to reflect on this and take appropriate action. For more information please see: Behaviour Policy.

## Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) Curriculum

We take pride in ensuring our Early Years Curriculum supports our youngest children to develop the building blocks for successful learning. We take the time to really get to know your child so that we can build on their knowledge and skills, take account of their interests and provide them with a broad and balanced curriculum that includes a wide range of rich learning experiences.

The EYFS curriculum is organised into seven areas of learning;

- Personal, Social and Emotional;
- Physical development;
- Communication and language;
- Literacy;
- Mathematics;
- Understanding the World;
- Expressive Arts and Design.

Each area of learning has a set of Early Learning Goals which establish expectations for children to achieve by the end of the foundation stage (reception class).

Staff will observe and interact with your child in order to assess their learning and development and plan any next steps. We welcome your contributions to the assessment process and will share more information on how we can work together to provide the best support for your child.

Do  
what  
matters  
most

Be  
yourself,  
always

Show  
you care

Succeed  
together

## How will my child learn?

The EYFS Curriculum has a programme of inspiring topics which immerse young children in new and exciting learning experiences. These topics are well planned and executed in an exciting stimulating way that provokes curiosity, sparks enthusiasm and inspires all children to learn! We also consider how different experiences and opportunities develop the whole child socially, emotionally, physically and intellectually. Some activities will be teacher led and others will be child initiated. This balance enables children to learn with adults and also to learn from their peers.

We aim to ensure children keep up, not catch up, enabling them to get off to a flying start and ensuring a high-quality experience for all children so that they know more and remember more. We see every child as unique and take the time to really get to know them as individuals; their interests, where they like to learn, how they learn, what fires their enthusiasm.

Both the indoor and outdoor environments are carefully planned to reflect the curriculum and to lure children to engage in activities that will support their next steps of development. The environment is organised to ensure resources are easily accessible and allow children to develop their independence and learn key skills such as sharing, tidying and co-operating.

