



# WELCOME TO LITTLE ACORNS



# LET'S MEET THE EYFS TEAM!



Mrs Leech – EYFS Manager  
Nursery class teacher



Miss Wakefield – Reception Teacher



Miss Pickup – Little Acorns Teacher

Teaching Assistants:



Mrs Cooper



Miss Basford



Miss Holmes



Miss Davis

# OTHER ADULTS I WILL MEET AROUND SCHOOL



Mrs Frost – Finance Manager



Miss Wright  
Head Teacher



Mrs Bradbury-Smith - SENDCO



Mr Sykes  
Deputy Head



Mrs Bottomley  
Admin



Mrs Pickston  
Out of Hours Manager

## Welcome to our school!

We are looking forward to sharing your child's time at Willaston with you!

Parent/School Partnership  
Communication is key!



## **WORKING TOGETHER LEARNING TOGETHER**

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Our school vision and values are at the core of everything we do.

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We aspire for every member of our Willaston family to... 'BE PROUD'.

### **Our promise to our families**

- High expectations of each other and children in our care
- A rich curriculum which allows children to play to their strengths and develop life- long skills
- Highly qualified staff who are ambitious and passionate about the role they play in pursuit of excellence for the children in their care
- Memorable and inspirational learning experiences for all children
- Effective partnership working

Our EYFS classes will nurture and help your child to grow and develop the skills needed to learn and flourish. Most of all they will have fun!

# EARLY YEARS CURRICULUM

- The EYFS was introduced in 2008 and is how the Government and professionals working with young children describe the important stage in a child's life between birth and age 5.
- The EYFS has been updated several times over the years, to take account of current research into how young children learn and develop, and government policy related to children and families. The most recent version of the EYFS came into force on 1 September 2021- and was updated in January 2024. There are further updates coming into place in September 2025
- Children learn and develop rapidly from the moment they are born.
- Their brains develop rapidly in the early years and create vital foundations for learning throughout life.
- Research confirms that the experiences that a child has in the early years has a significant impact on their future life chances and that high quality early years care and education makes the biggest difference to every child.
- The EYFS provides a framework that..... 'sets the standards that all early years providers must meet to ensure that children learn and develop well and are kept healthy and safe. It promotes teaching and learning to ensure children's 'school readiness' and gives children the broad range of knowledge and skills that provide the right foundation for good progress through school and life'. (EYFS 2021)

# EARLY YEARS CURRICULUM

- Activities in the EYFS are carefully planned and organised in order to provide a range of learning experiences.
- Planning is carried out using a **topic-based approach**, following the children's interests and responding to specific events.
- There are 7 Areas of Learning in the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS), which activities are planned around:

## PRIME AREAS

### Personal, Social and Emotional Development

- Self regulation
- Managing self
- Building relationships

### Physical Development

- Gross motor skills
- Fine motor skills

### Communication and Language

- Listening, attention and understanding
- Speaking

## SPECIFIC AREAS

### Literacy

- Comprehension
- Word reading
- Writing

### Mathematics

- number
- numerical patterns

### Understanding the World

- Past & present
- People, culture & communities
- Natural world

### Expressive Arts and Design

- Creating with materials
- Being imaginative & expressive

# STARTING LITTLE ACORNS...



- Starting time – 8.45am – please be in the EYFS outdoor area for 8.45am we will greet your child at the classroom door.
- Morning session collection times 12.45, after lunch. For collection from these sessions please come to the large wooden gate to the outdoor area and we will bring your child out to you.
- Afternoon pick up time – 3.15pm – please wait in the EYFS outdoor area and we will bring your child out to you.
- Wrap around care with Willaston Worms will be provided in our nursery classroom. Drop off time for breakfast club is from 7.30am and pick up is up to 6.00pm
- Drop off for breakfast club is at the front office.
- Collection from the afterschool club is from the nursery door up to 4.30pm, after 4.30pm collection is from the main office door – please ring the bell.

# OUR CLASSROOM



# OUR OUTDOOR AREA



# TAPESTRY – LEARNING JOURNAL

This will form a unique record of your child's learning and development. It will contain samples of work, photographs and staff observations.

**We also regularly add class updates to tapestry and the school website.**



**Parents can contribute photographs and comments at home too – this helps us to gain a broader picture of your child.**

**You have all been sent an activation email – please click on the link in the email to activate your account.**

When your child leaves, we can export a PDF copy of your child's journal and a ZIP file including photos and videos for you

[Click here](#) for a link to some video tutorials on how to use tapestry.

## How is the data kept safe?

- ▶ A password is required to access Tapestry, remember the stronger the password you set, the more secure your account is
- ▶ You are linked manually to your child/children so you can only view observations for them
- ▶ We don't need to store any of the data entered onto Tapestry, they store it for us on secure cloud servers within the EU
- ▶ Data is stored separately for each school
- ▶ Tapestry's developers and support personnel require our permission to access our Tapestry account
- ▶ For more information about Tapestry security you can go on their website <https://tapestry.info/security.html>



## Memos

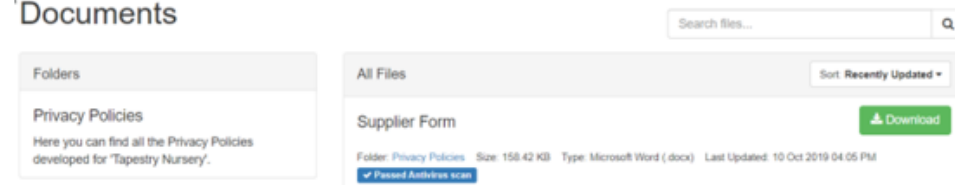
- ▶ Memos allow us to share messages with you such as reminders and newsletters
- ▶ They are separate to observations
- ▶ You will also be able to add comments and like memos



## Documents

- ▶ This feature allows us to upload our documents and share them with you
- ▶ It's only available on the browser version of Tapestry
- ▶ We can organise the documents into folders
- ▶ We'll use this for things like: resources and ideas you can use at home, any presentations like this one we have shared etc

### Documents



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**Full set of change of clothes in a named bag** –  
i.e. a drawstring bag or small rucksack. This can be left in  
school on their peg and we will send it home if it has been  
used.

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Named water bottle

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Sunhat in warm weather

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Waterproof coat and Wellies

All in one puddle suit

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Lunch box if having a packed lunch

# WHAT WILL MY CHILD NEED TO BRING TO SCHOOL



# DAILY TIMETABLE

Here is a typical timetable of the day in Little Acorns:

- Welcome activities and registration
- Story time / circle time activities
- Child initiated learning: both indoors and outdoors
- **Rolling Snack Time**
- Small group time (adult led activity)
- Tidy up time / story and songs
- **LUNCH**
- Morning nursery session ends
- Registration and circle time on carpet
- Child initiated learning: both indoors and outdoors
- **Rolling Snack Time**
- Small group time (adult led activity)
- Story time
- HOME TIME



# WEEKLY EVENTS



- Monday – shake awake in the hall
- Thursday - Sports Coaches PE
- Wednesday – Forest School
- Friday – Spanish / Library time

Thursdays – wear PE clothes

Wednesdays – outdoor learning clothes

# EARLY YEARS CURRICULUM

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- There are 7 Areas of Learning in the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS), which activities are planned around:
  - **Personal, Social and Emotional Development**
  - **Physical Development**
  - **Communication and Language**
  - **Literacy**
  - **Mathematics**
  - **Understanding the World**
  - **Expressive Arts and Design**
- Visit our class page on the school website for more information about the EYFS curriculum - [Little Acorns Class Page](#)
- [Parents guide to EYFS - Click on this link](#)



## Nursery Rhymes and Songs - A to Z

All of our nursery rhymes and songs arranged in alphabetical order.

- Nursery rhymes are often a child's first experience with words.
- Songs and nursery rhymes help children to learn new vocabulary and numbers.
- Recalling a favourite learnt song or rhyme helps to improve a child's memory, their concentration and thinking skills
- Singing rhymes in groups can promote social interaction and teamwork among young children creating a sense of community and belonging.
- Nursery rhymes, children can explore different emotions and scenarios in a safe and controlled environment
- When actions are linked to words in the nursery rhyme, it helps boost motor skills and improves rhythm and movement.



# TOPICS

- **WONDERFUL ME**
- **TRADITIONAL TALES**
- **SEASONS**
- **JUNGLE ANIMALS**
- **PEOPLE WHO HELP US / SUPERHEROES**
- **FARMS / LIFE CYCLES**
- **UNDER THE SEA**



Special events – Nativity production, class trips, local walks, Chinese New Year celebrations, dress up days, visitors in to school.



# COMMUNICATION & BEHAVIOUR

Communicating with you and involving you:

Tapestry

Parents Evenings

End of year report

School website

Open mornings

We will contact you by text, email, and paper letters- please check bags!

Please make sure your contact details are up to date

- Marble in the jar
- Reward system – email home from Miss Wright if they go on the gold star
- Star of the week



# Mystery Reader

- Children love welcoming their family, friends and relatives into our setting and one of the ways we do this is by arranging 'Mystery Readers.'
- Mystery Reader is the opportunity for a family member/friend to come and surprise the Little Acorns by sharing in reading aloud a favourite story to the class.
- The children get very excited about this part of the week, especially the element of who is visiting today, and it promotes a love for reading.
- There is no obligation to sign up and it is lovely as a staff member to sit with the children and engage in a shared story time - there is never any judgement!





The children can bring in a packed lunch from home or order a school lunch. School lunches can be paid for and ordered online in advance. We start with week 1 in the first week in September. Full details of school lunches are on the school website.



# LUNCHES

**FOOD FESTIVAL**  
By Aspens

# LUNCH TIME

TRADITIONAL  
Week 1

**Spring Summer 2025**  
21/04/25, 12/05/25,  
02/06/25, 23/06/25,  
14/07/25, 04/08/25,  
25/08/25, 15/09/25,  
06/10/25

	 <b>THE MAIN EVENT</b> Vegetables and Salads	 <b>MEAT-FREE MAGIC</b> Veggie Dish	 <b>RAINBOW ALLEY</b> Vegetables and Salads	 <b>BIG TOPPING</b> Filled Jackets	 <b>DESSERT TROLLEY</b>
<b>MONDAY</b>	All Day Breakfast	Margherita Pizza Slice and Wedges	Baked Beans	Beans, Cheese or Tuna Mayo	Toffee Biscuit Bars
<b>TUESDAY</b>	Picnic Style Sausage Roll Lunch	Picnic Style Veggie Sausage Roll Lunch	Crudites	Beans, Cheese or Tuna Mayo	Classic Trifle
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	Roast Pork, New Potatoes and Gravy	Vegetable and Stuffing Loaf with New Potatoes	Carrots and Cabbage	Beans, Cheese or Tuna Mayo	Bananas and Custard
<b>THURSDAY</b>	Tomato and Basil Chicken Pasta Bake	Veggie Noodle Stir Fry	Green Salad	Beans, Cheese or Tuna Mayo	Strawberry and Pineapple Jelly
<b>FRIDAY</b>	Golden Fish Fingers or Salmon Fingers and Chips	Cheesy Bean Wrap with Chips	Peas	Beans, Cheese or Tuna Mayo	Coconut Crisp Bar

DAILY SALAD BOWL,  
FRESHLY BAKED BREAD,  
YOGHURTS AND CUT FRUIT

**AVAILABLE DAILY**

**PASTA TWIRLER**

**AVAILABLE EVERY DAY**

**Topped Pasta**  
Hot Pasta topped with Homemade Tomato Sauce & Cheese

W1

# TRANSITION VISITS

**Nursery open evening stay and play** - **Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> June 3.30 to 4.30pm** (parent and child)

This session is a stay and play session for all our new families.

We then ask you to choose **one** of the following stay and play sessions. These are during the school day so will be with the children already in our nursery class.

**Stay and Play session 1** - **Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> June 1.30pm – 3.00pm** (parent and child to attend together)

**Stay and Play session 2** - **Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> July 9.00- 10.00am** (parent and child to attend together)

**Nursery visit** (without parents staying) - **Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> July 9am – 11am**

**EYFS Teddy Bears Picnic** - **Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> July – 2 pm to 3 pm** on the school field – all new EYFS families invited

**EYFS Drop in session** - **Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2.30pm to 3.30pm** – this is a stay and play session that you can drop in to **with** your child just before the start of term in September.



# FWSA

FRIENDS OF WILLASTON SCHOOL



It is going to be lots of fun and very messy. Apologies in advance for sending home messy and tired children!



Few last notes

- Please ensure paper work is filled in and brought back on your stay and play visit to school
- Your national insurance number is important when applying for funding



**IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS  
PLEASE DO NOT HESITATE TO  
CONTACT US.**

**littleacorns@willastonacademy.co.uk**  
**admin@willastonacademy.co.uk**



Willaston Worms Out of School Club – [outofschoolclub@willastonacademy.co.uk](mailto:outofschoolclub@willastonacademy.co.uk)