



VALENCE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Nursery Prospectus 2023-24





We are very excited to welcome your child to our school at the beginning of their school journey. At Valence Primary, we are understanding, respectful and have a positive attitude towards life. We aspire to achieve well at school and beyond.

Vision

At Valence Primary, we believe in an enriched and progressive curriculum that is engaging and inclusive. The children and their learning are at the core of all that we do. Our curriculum is designed to take into consideration our children's varied backgrounds, interests and cultural experiences. We believe in providing a curriculum that builds cultural capital, expands life's opportunities, and enables social equality.

Curriculum Intent

At Valence Primary, our curriculum is built around PRAISE.

Pride
Respect
Achievement
Independence
Success
Enjoyment

Our curriculum is language rich with reading at its core. It is based on our values and promotes positive emotional and physical health. We provide experiences and opportunities that broaden children's cultural capital, such as inviting in special visitors, and we support the mindset that children can succeed through a positive attitude, effort, and resilience.



Principal Aims of Nursery

- For your child to have the best start to their primary education, developing their skills through enjoyable and meaningful learning experiences.
- To provide a secure environment in which your child will be happy and become confident and independent.
- To develop new relationships and secure friendships for your child, and to be able to approach adults within our school and other children in a warm and happy atmosphere.
- For your child to enjoy playing and cooperation with others, socialising, learning to share and take turns.



Early Years Curriculum

The Early Years Curriculum stage is Nursery and Reception. We plan using the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum, which focuses on seven areas of learning:

1. Personal, Social and Emotional Development
2. Communication and Language
3. Physical Development (Fine Motor and Gross Motor Skills)
4. Literacy (Reading and Writing)
5. Mathematics
6. Understanding the World
7. Expressive Arts and Design

We will provide more detailed information about our curriculum each half term, and we also hold regular parent events. In addition, children also have access to school library books.



The Induction Process

We understand that joining the school nursery is a big step in your child's development and our nursery staff will support your child fully with this transition. Not all children will start together as this helps each child to settle in and get to know keyworkers.

We appreciate that it is not always easy to leave your child, especially if you are anxious, but we find the best way to settle children into nursery is to meet you and your child to plan a happy start. We will write to you with further information much nearer the time.

Families arrive and leave from the same gate. If you wish to talk to a member of staff about anything, then please wait until they have seen the children out, so they can give you their full attention. If there is someone else picking up your child, then please make sure that you have informed the staff. We have a password system so that we can recognise agreed carers.

Session Times:

8:30 to 11:30 am at St. George's Road or Bonham Road

12:30 to 3:30 pm at St. George's Road or Bonham Road

8:30 to 3:30 pm at St. George's Road or Bonham Road - limited spaces, further details upon request.



Parental Engagement

We have various informal opportunities throughout the year for you to get involved, for example a Summer Sing, Family Fridays, local trips, and opportunities to celebrate children's achievements. There is a parents' meeting in the Spring Term. You will also receive a formal written report in July. In addition to newsletters and Parent mail, regular updates are sent via Class Dojo which all families are encouraged to join.

We welcome and encourage parents to be key partners in the education of their child. If at any time, you have a query, we will be more than happy to talk. We always welcome your ideas too, so please share them.



Attendance, Punctuality, and Illness

Good attendance has a positive impact on progress.

Should your child be unwell or unable to attend school, please text the school office on the first day of your child's absence on 0203 006 9888. If your child is absent for more than one day, please let us know each day to update us. If you are in any doubt, please call our office or speak to staff at your entry point.

Where possible, please keep all appointments to outside of school times. Holidays during term time will not be authorised unless there are very exceptional circumstances for which written evidence will be requested. On such occasions, please complete a request for absence form, available from the school office. You will be notified if the absence is authorised or not.

We encourage punctuality as children can become distressed when joining a class late or if left waiting whilst classmates are collected. However, if you are late and the doors are closed then please bring/or collect your child from the main school office.

Attendance and punctuality are recorded on each end of school year report.

Medical and Accidents

Please ensure that you inform us of all medical information including allergies. We do not administer any form of medicine unless your child's medication has been prescribed by a doctor and must be administered during the school day. In these circumstances, treatment should be discussed with the school office and a medical disclaimer must be completed. Please do not send medicine in with your child.

Unfortunately, however careful we are, accidents happen; we have a set protocol. Should your child need medical treatment from a doctor, you will be notified immediately. This is why we always request that you leave a minimum of two telephone numbers for emergency contact. If your contact details change, please inform us immediately so that we can always contact you in the event of an emergency. Please note, should your child need an ambulance, the 999 call will be made first.

Head lice are a common hazard in school settings, especially with younger children. Please check your child's hair regularly and let us know if you find any so that we can discreetly send out a letter asking close contacts to check their children.



Snacks

Nursery children are entitled to free fruit and milk every day. Children who do not drink milk may have water.

PLEASE INFORM US OF ANY ALLERGIES OR DIETARY REQUIREMENTS YOUR CHILD HAS ON OUR EMERGENCY CONTACT FORM.





Curriculum Activities

Phonics: Nursery teach Phase 1 Phonics which concentrates on listening attentively, hearing and making particular sounds, rhythm and rhyme. We will begin Phase 2 i.e., the correspondence between a letter and its sound, with children who are assessed as ready for this step.

Children will practise reading and writing their first name and numerals. We encourage families to try this at home. Capital letter for the first letter only e.g. **V**alence

In mathematics, children will work on fluent counting, reading numerals and subitising i.e., recognising quantity in small groups of objects such as 3 counters or 2 teddies.

A typical day will include a balance of adult-directed activity and child-initiated play. Every day, children will have group time with their keyworker as well as stories, songs and rhymes.



Local visits, trips, and visitors

As part of our learning, we will take children to different parts of the school, to the park or to the shops. These visits are carefully planned and well supervised. Parent support is welcomed. You will be asked to give your permission as part of our induction process when your child joins Valence.

Behaviour

We are a Rights Respecting School. Our children understand the importance of a respectful learning environment for all. In the nursery, we teach the children our rules and routines and reward them for making good choices.





Uniform

Uniform can be purchased from Premier Schoolwear (please see details below). We also keep a wide selection of free pre-loved uniform. Please ask in the office if you are interested. Further information can be found on our website. Nursery children can wear comfortable grey jogging bottoms as an alternative to skirts or trousers.

The children are encouraged to explore the outdoor classroom spaces daily. Please dress your child suitably for all weather and a wide variety of activities. Children may become 'messy', as their learning is expected to be hands-on and creative.

Please ensure all items have your child's first and last name and avoid shoes with laces if your child cannot tie laces. Jewellery should be small stud earrings only.

Premier Schoolwear

Tel: 01708 377 699

Website: www.premierschoolwear.co.uk

Preparing Your Child for Nursery

The following points will help your child to flourish in Nursery.

1. Spend time talking to your child about their new school, Nursery staff and friends. Encourage them to look forward to this new stage of their life.
2. Encourage your child to take care of their own toileting needs and to go to the toilet by themselves, to flush the toilet and to wash their hands afterwards. It is very important that your child can do this independently.
3. Encourage your child to dress and undress, especially zips and buttons and putting on footwear. Buy clothes with easy fastenings such as Velcro and avoid shoes with laces.
4. Expect your child to help to put away toys and to tidy. Encourage your child to share with other children.
5. Practise speaking and listening skills through telling and retelling stories, playing games and in general conversation. These are essential life skills.
6. Share a real book together every day. Encourage your child to talk about the pictures or retell the story and encourage them to handle books with care. Reading is at the heart of our curriculum, and we foster a love of reading for life.
7. Encourage your child to recognise their name, a range of colours and to count things whenever they can. Children at this age enjoy making marks, this should be encouraged as it is their first step towards writing. Talk to your child the marks they make.
8. Finally, please join the library as they have a wide selection of children's books. Every summer, Dagenham Library runs a reading challenge that your child will enjoy completing with you.



Reception Admissions

During the autumn term, you will need to apply for your child's Reception place. The information is provided and will be sent home from school with your child. All school applications are made online. Places are allocated by Barking and Dagenham Local Authority, not by individual schools.

Please be aware that just because your child has a place at Nursery, this does not guarantee them a place in Reception the following year.

If you have any questions about this process, the school Attendance Manager will be able to direct you to the relevant information.

Please contact us if you have any questions and remember to check our website regularly.

www.valenceprimaryschool.com

Nursery Staff and Contact Details

Nursery Staff

Head Teacher

Mr R. November

Early Years Lead

Mrs L. Williams

Bonham Road Site Teacher

Mrs S. Parker (Bonham Road site)

St. George's Site Teacher

Ms R. Aktar

St. George's Site Nursery Manager

Mrs T. Geeves

Support Staff

Miss J. Bishop, Mrs J. Gooding and Mrs S. Cawston (Bonham Road)

Miss M. Kiff (St. George's Road)

Contact Details

Valence Primary School is split over two sites, the St. George's Road site and the Bonham Road site.

Tel: 020 3006 9888 (When prompted press 1 for St. George's or 2 for Bonham)

Email: office@valenceprimaryschool.com

Web: www.valenceprimaryschool.com