



Early Years Parent Partnership Policy

This policy sets out the schools rules and guidance in relation to the Parent Partnership Policy.

For the purposes of this policy 'School' means EYFS (Incorporating Magic Tree Nursery, Pre-Reception, Reception) Belmont Grosvenor School, Before/After School care and BGS Holiday Club.

Our Ethos

Every child should be happy, secure, valued and confident. At Belmont Grosvenor School and Magic Tree Nursery, our philosophy is to value every child as a unique individual, who enjoys learning and thinking for him or herself. We provide a supportive and secure environment in which every child can flourish and learn at their own pace and in their own individual way. Our role is to stimulate and encourage their development and enjoyment of learning through a variety of different activities in secure indoor and outdoor situations, through play and through structured and creative activities. We encourage the growth of social skills and empathy amongst the children. The relationships which the children develop with each other and with our staff are central to their happiness and lay the best possible foundation for their future.

Introduction

Belmont Grosvenor School and Magic Tree Nursery is a school/nursery that caters for children from 3 months to 5 years. All of the children who enter our Nursery are part of our School community. The Headteacher and Nursery Manager will extend a warm welcome when you visit and will show you our facilities. They will be pleased to answer any of your questions, either about our Nursery, or about the rest of the school. A great deal of further information about the school is available on our web site, including a list of the whole school's policies, including those that apply specifically to the Early Years Department.

As an integral part of the school, the Nursery children, from the age of 2, make full use of the School's facilities, such as the swimming pool and Stables hall although they have separate learning environments and outdoor play areas of their own. The Reception children share the playground with year 1 and 2. Belmont Grosvenor School and Magic Tree Nursery is registered with Ofsted as an early year's provider. We participate in the Government's 15- 30 hours Free Education Entitlement for children. Throughout the year all our children from MTN to year 6 make full use of our wider learning environment.

The Early Years department accepts children from 3 months to the end of Reception.

Seedlings and Saplings sessions

Morning Session 8am to 12noon or extended to 1pm

Afternoon session 1pm to 5pm or extended to 6pm

School day session 8.30am to 3.30pm

Full day session 8am to 6pm

Tree Tops sessions

Morning Session 8am to 12noon or extended to 1pm

Afternoon session 1pm to 5pm or extended to 6pm

School day session 8.30am to 3.30pm

Full day session 8am to 6pm

Pre Reception sessions

Morning Session 8.30am to 12noon or extended to 1pm

Afternoon session 1pm to 3.30pm

School day session 8.30am to 3.30pm

Pre Reception children coming in earlier join morning school care and staying on later will join the after school club.

Reception classes

School day 8.30am to 3.30pm

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NEXT REVIEW DATE: August 2027

Reception children coming in earlier join before school club and staying on later will join the after school club.

Equal Opportunities Policy

We welcome children from a diverse range of backgrounds and pride ourselves on being an inclusive community where there is complete equality of opportunity and everyone is valued for being him or herself. Copies of the school's Equal Opportunities Policy are on our web site and can be sent to parents on request.

The School is committed to equal opportunities for all regardless of their sex, sexual orientation, belief and religion, race, pregnancy and maternity, marriage and civil partnership, gender reassignment, disability and age. Parents of children with a disability that might require reasonable adjustments to be made throughout the entrance procedure or during their school career should make arrangements to discuss this with the Headteacher. Parents have the right to confidentiality through the Data Protection Act.

OUR EARLY YEARS CURRICULUM

At Belmont Grosvenor and Magic Tree Nursery we offer a broad and balanced Early Years curriculum for our pupils, which is based on the Early Years Statutory framework and the Development Matters non-statutory framework. All children are given equal access and opportunities to develop their knowledge and skills in:

- Personal, social and emotional development
- Communication, language
- Physical development
- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the World
- Expressive Arts and Design

All children learn through play with a mixture of child initiated and adult led learning opportunities. Learning takes place both indoors and outdoors.

Our learning environments within the Early Years offer a stimulating programme of learning. We introduce different learning interests which the children explore through a variety of mediums, including books, art, drama, music, crafts and outdoor learning. We gradually introduce phonics and the basics of literacy are taught daily through a structured reading scheme and rhyme. Numeracy is introduced through different activities, such as counting games, weighing activities and measuring, and is also taught daily. Children are encouraged to participate in dance, music, drama, PE, French and swimming. All children are gradually introduced to the principles of writing, and to the use of computers. By the end of the children's time within the Early Years each child is an enthusiastic and confident learner, ready for the more structured, less play-based, environment of Year 1.

Visits

We organise excursions to the local park, Church, library and farm etc. These are designed to help the children to acquire a basic understanding of our traditions, of the natural world and of the importance of other cultures. Your son's or daughter's school calendar lists the major visits that are due to take place over the coming term/academic year, although some very local visits, which involve no more than an hour out of school, are arranged at shorter notice. We require signed permission slips each time, for even the shortest visits. We will send you a letter well in advance, telling you about every visit and, if appropriate, its cost and whether it involves an extension to the normal length of the school day.

Keeping in touch

We appreciate that sending your child to Nursery/School is a big step and that it is understandable that some parents may worry or feel anxious about their child's well-being and happiness. That is why we invite you and your child to attend settle in sessions at the Nursery before he/she joins us. Once s/he has joined us, you are always welcome to visit the school.

Your child's Classroom Teacher and nursery practitioner is responsible for your child's pastoral care and, with our small learning environments; the key person speedily gets to know every individual child extremely well.

Communication

An online learning journey will be kept and shared with you each time their key person or Teacher has observed them enjoying an activity or demonstrating 'wow' moments in their learning.

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You are able to speak to your child's teacher or key person over the course of the week when you drop off and collect your child, and many worries can be speedily resolved by an informal chat. Otherwise, you are welcome to make an appointment for a longer (or more private) conversation with him/her, or with the Nursery Manager and deputy Nursery Manager and/or the Headteacher of the school. Any concerns will always be treated in complete confidence.

We have a half termly newsletter to provide information about the overarching long-term plan, fortnightly Blazer Post electronic newsletter for parents, which is full of examples of children's work and news about activities and outings. We also encourage children to take home their art work for you to admire and display at home! We have online Tapestry accounts for each individual child which you will receive a secure log in for. This enables you to keep up to date with your child's learning and progression and here you will receive updates on group activities. This is a two-way information sharing tool and parents are encouraged to upload their own observations, photographs and video clips. We send invitations to parents to a number of events during the year, and very much hope to see you at:

- Harvest
- The Nativity Play
- Sports Day
- Open days
- Information mornings and workshops
- Curriculum evenings
- Learning Review Meetings
- Speech Day
- Parent assemblies
- Plus the many and varied PTA events

Learning Review Evenings

We start each academic year with a meeting to which all parents in MTN and Reception are invited, at which we outline the plans for the year. We also hold Learning Review meetings for the whole of the EYFS at which parents have the opportunity to talk to their child's key worker about his/her progress and to raise any worries which they may have twice per year.

Reports

Children are assessed throughout their time through observations, questioning and guiding using the Early Years Statutory framework. Narrative reports, are prepared on each child and sent to parents at the end of the autumn and summer terms.

Early Years Profile

At the end of your child's time in "early years" education, we complete a "profile" on your child, which summarises their learning and development against 17 learning statements, which have been determined by the Government. You will of course, receive your own copy, which we will discuss with you at the time that it is completed. We are required to send your child's EYFSP to the Local Education Authority. The EYFSP will be completed in the final term of the academic year in which the child reaches age five and no later than 30 June in that term.

Complaints

We hope that you will not feel the need to complain and that any difficulty can be sensitively and efficiently handled before it reaches that stage. However, the school's complaints procedures (which apply equally to the Early Years Department) can be found on the website. We will send you copies on request. We undertake to investigate all complaints and to notify you of the outcome of investigation within 28 days. We maintain records of complaints for three years after your child has left our school.

Although the Independent Schools Inspectorate (ISI) is responsible for inspecting the Early Years Department, because it is part of an independent school, parents should be aware that if they are dissatisfied with the outcome of a complaint, they are entitled to make a complaint directly to Ofsted. They can download the Ofsted leaflet: "Complaints to Ofsted about Schools: Guidance for Parents" reference 080113 from www.ofsted.gov.uk