

Welcome to Cubs Room at Queen Emma Primary School

Welcome to Cubs Room at Queen Emma Nursery!

We are looking forward to getting to know both you and your children this year and know that our time in Cubs will be filled with lots of stimulating and interesting learning opportunities. We hope this booklet will give you lots of useful information.

Our Cubs Room leader is Mrs Symonds. Mrs Symonds is supported in Cubs Rooms by Miss Dunn, Miss Fletcher, Mrs Fletcher, Mrs Macpherson, Miss Martin and Mrs Cheng.

Our Nursery Administrator is Mrs Dargiene. Mrs Dargiene works from Monday to Friday between 9.00am and 2.30pm. If you have any queries or questions about Nursery please contact Mrs Dargiene on 01223 714305 or email nursery@queenemma.cambs.sch.uk.

Queen Emma Nursery is a place where children learn through play. Play is central to children's learning and is the key way in which young children learn. We aim to provide your child with a rich and stimulating play environment in a safe and secure setting.

Our Nursery operates two rooms. Cubs Room is for our two year old children and Foxes Room is for our three year old children. Children in Cubs Room can attend core hour and extended care sessions. Further information about extended care can be found on the final page of this booklet.

Our Day in Cubs Room

Our morning session runs from 9.00am to 12.00pm and our afternoon session runs from 12.00pm to 3.00pm. Please enter school via the large black playground gate. Please wait by the Nursery outdoor area gate until a member of staff opens the gate at the beginning of your session. If you are late or need to pick up your child outside of our Nursery session times, you will need to enter school via the main entrance and speak to a member of our school office staff.

During their time in Cubs Room, the children will take part in and enjoy a wide range of play based activities. Activities are planned to support and extend children's individual interests and fascinations and to support their developmental needs. Areas of continuous provision, such as a sand area, water area, painting area, malleable area, mark-making and writing area, book area, home corner, construction area and a small world area are permanently available to enhance children's learning opportunities.

At the end of each session, the children come together for a short story or a singing session. Children will also have a mid morning or a mid afternoon snack each day.

Meet the Cubs Room staff



Mrs Symonds—Room Leader



Miss Dunn



Mrs Fletcher



Miss Fletcher



Mrs Macpherson



Miss Martin



Mrs Cheng



Mrs Dargiene

PLAY IS...



Children constantly experiment with ideas, behaviors, emotions, actions, and reactions while playing. Their attempts to know the world are full of learning, but can seem messy, irritating, silly, and even naughty to adults. Before reacting, take a moment and look for the learning.

experimentation



Each member of our Cubs Room staff is a 'key person' and has 'key children' to care for.

Your child's key person will observe your child and complete individual learning journeys on Tapestry. These learning journeys show how your child is developing and is reaching their targets and goals.

You are able to add to your child's learning journey too through the Tapestry APP which you can download to your mobile phone or tablet.



What will my child learn in Cubs?

Welcome to the Early Years Foundation Stage. This is a very important stage as it helps your child get ready for school as well as preparing them for their future learning and successes. From when your child is born up until the age of 5, their early years experience should be happy, active, exciting, fun and secure and support their development, care and learning needs.

Your child will be learning skills, acquiring new knowledge and demonstrating their understanding through 3 'Prime Areas' of learning and development - Personal, Social and Emotional Development, Communication and Language and Physical Development. As children grow, the 'Prime Areas' will help them develop skills in 3 'Specific Areas' - Literacy, Mathematics, Understanding the World and Expressive Arts and Design.

In Cubs Room, we focus on the Prime Areas of learning of the Early Years Foundation Stage. The three Prime Areas are crucial for igniting children's curiosity and enthusiasm for learning and for building their capacity to learn, form positive relationships and thrive.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

involves helping children to develop a positive sense of themselves and others; to form positive relationships and develop respect for others; to develop social skills and learn how to manage feelings; to understand appropriate behaviour in groups and to have confidence in their own abilities.

Communication and Language development

involves giving children opportunities to experience a rich language environment; to develop their confidence and skills in expressing themselves and to speak and listen in a range of situations.

Physical Development

involves providing opportunities for young children to be active and interactive; and to develop their co-ordination, control and movement. Children must also be helped to understand the importance of physical activity and to make healthy choices in relation to food.

How can I help with my child's learning?

All of the fun activities that you do with your child at home are important in supporting their learning and development have a long lasting effect on your child's learning as they progress through school. Even when your child is very young and not yet able to talk, talking to them helps them to learn and understand new words and ideas. If you make the time to do some of the following things with your child it will make a difference to your child's confidence as a young learner.

Sing and tell nursery rhymes.

Have fun!

Plant seeds or bulbs in a pot or garden patch.

On a trip to the supermarket, talk about the different packaging shapes.



Talk about the numbers, colours, words and letters you see when you are out and about.

Talk to your child at every opportunity.

Use the weather - shadows, rain puddles, snow, wind, mist and sun to extend your child's vocabulary.

Share a book together.

Cook or bake together.



What does my child need in Cubs?



Children attending Cubs do not need to wear school uniform. Instead, they should wear practical clothing that is suitable for both indoor and outdoor activities. It is useful if children can wear clothes that are easy for them to put on and off themselves, such as jogging bottoms and shoes with velcro straps. This all helps to develop important independent skills.



We spend a lot of time outside in Cubs Room outside so please make sure your child is fully equipped with clothing for all weathers. This will include a coat, hat and gloves during colder times and a sun hat during warmer weather. Please apply sun cream to your child before they come to nursery in the morning if necessary.



During warmer weather, children must have their shoulders covered. Sandals must fasten securely over a child's foot and around the ankle. Flip flops or Crocs are not suitable footwear during the summer months.



Your child will need a named water bottle in school. These should be brought to school and taken home again everyday. Water bottles will be refilled regularly throughout your child's session.



Children also need to bring in a healthy snack - a piece of fruit or vegetable that they can eat midway through their morning or afternoon session. Please can children bring their snack to school in a named container.



Your child's school shoes should be clean and comfortable. The children will wear these shoes all day, both inside and outside. If the weather is very wet, muddy or snowy, children may wear boots or wellingtons and bring shoes to change into once they come into the classroom. Thank you!

If your child is still in nappies or training pants we ask that an additional bag is kept on your child's peg with any necessary supplies.

Please could all children have a spare change of clothes in Nursery too. These can be kept in a bag on your child's peg.

Please make sure that all items of clothing are clearly named -



Speaking and Listening in Cubs Room



Communication and Language is a key area of our work in Cubs Room. Studies have shown that children who are read to and spoken with a great deal during early childhood will have larger vocabularies and a better understanding of and use of grammar than those who aren't. Here are some of the ways that you can help at home and how we nurture your child's language development in Foxes Room.

Talk, Talk, Talk - we love to narrate our day as it is happening! "We're going on a walk now. Can you hear the wind blowing in the trees? Can you hear the Autumn leaves crunching under your feet?"

Read, Read, Read - we love to read and act out stories in Cubs Room. We start with simple board books and move onto picture books, poems and rhymes too.

Enjoy Music Together - we love music and movement sessions. Singing songs help us learn about the word around us and the rhythm of language.

Tell Stories - We like to make up elaborate stories with characters, adventure and happy endings too!

Screen Time - Some educational programmes can be beneficial to children, however, when they are watching a screen, children are often not interacting with or responding to others.

Go Out and About - Our Muddy Monday walks, a trip to the park or a trip to the zoo open up whole new worlds of words for us to learn!

Games to Play at Home

*Sing **Nursery Rhymes**

*Play **I Spy** - rather than spying items beginning with individual letters, ask children to spy things that are a certain colour or encourage your child to ask questions to identify an object

*Make a **Memory Game** - draw shapes, animals or household objects on paper plates. Place them face down on the floor - can your child find the matching pairs?

***DIY Telephone** - make a telephone with two plastic cups and some string. Share messages with each other.

***Musical Statues** - a great game to develop listening and attention skills

Lots more great ideas can be found here...

<https://hungrylittleminds.campaign.gov.uk/>

Phase 1 Phonics

In school, we use a program called 'Success For All Phonics' to help children acquire and use important phonic skills. This learning begins in Nursery.

The first part of our phonic programme focuses on the development of speaking and listening skills. The emphasis is getting children tuned into the sounds around them. This early phonic work helps children to listen to sounds around them, remember sounds and to develop vocabulary and language comprehension.

Activities may include going on a listening walk, drumming on different objects outside and comparing sounds, playing a sound lotto game or making shakers. We may play instruments alongside a story or practice making loud and quiet sounds. We will sing lots of songs and action rhymes and enjoy listening to lots of different types of music.



The Leader in Me

Here at the Queens' Federation, the 'Seven Habits of Effective People' are an integral part of our school curriculum. Our aim is to develop skills that will promote learning for life and develop leaders of the future. Children's academic achievements, self-confidence, resilience and potential will also be supported and developed. Through the consistent use of the 7 habits we can inspire the children to be the best they can be, even when they are not seen!

7 Habits

Habit 1: Be Proactive - *I am responsible for my own learning and actions.*

- Have a 'can do' attitude and try our best in everything we do.
- Stop, think and make good choices.
- Take responsibility for our actions and outcomes.



Habit 2: Begin with the End in Mind - *I aim high and understand the importance of learning for life.*

- Set a goal.
- Make a plan on how to achieve that goal.
- Persevere if things get tough.



Habit 3: Put First Things First - *I persevere and challenge myself to solve problems.*

- Do the important things first.
- Stay focused and concentrate.
- Manage challenges and distractions along



In Nursery, we focus on the use of Habit 1, Habit 2 and Habit 3. Throughout the year we will gradually introduce the children to the habits and encourage the use of the habits in the Nursery environment.

Habit 4: Think Win-Win - *I am kind and think about the needs of others*

- Look for solutions to problems.
- Try to make sure everyone can be successful.
- Be kind and respectful, use courage and consideration when communicating and working together.



Habit 5: Seek First to Understand, Then to be Understood - *I respect myself and others and celebrate my global community.*

- Share own ideas and opinions.
- Listen to other people's ideas and opinions without interrupting.
- Try to understand the views and opinions of others even though they may be different to our own.



Habit 6: Synergize - *I work and learn with others and take pride in my achievements and environment.*

- Communicate and listen carefully to others.
- Value other people's strengths and talents and learn from them.
- Know that we can get more done and create better ideas and solutions when working as a team.



Habit 7: Sharpen the Saw - *I strive to be the best that I can be.*

- Take care of ourselves, look after our heart, body, mind and spirit.
- Balance time between school, out of school activities, family and friends.
- Enjoy learning new skills and seek ways to become a better person.



The 7 Habits in Nursery

Habits 1, 2 and 3, with the themes of 'Be Kind,' 'Be Safe' and 'Be Helpful,' are introduced to our children and integrated into life in our Cubs and Foxes Rooms. These themes are then extended and developed as children transition into Reception.

Habit 1 - Be Kind



Habit 2 - Be Brave



Habit 3 - Be Safe



Accidents

Accidents do occasionally happen in Nursery. Staff are trained in first aid procedures. If your child has an accident at Nursery, you will be informed upon collection and asked to sign an accident form. Should your child have an accident that requires further medical support, you will be contacted immediately and any necessary action taken.

Medicines

Nursery staff may administer medication that has been prescribed by a doctor. A form will need to be signed giving staff permission to administer the medication. Medicines must be in the original named container as prescribed by the doctor and pharmacy.

2 Year Old Progress Check

When a child is aged between two and three, a review of their progress must be carried out. We will provide you with a short written summary of your child's development in the Prime Areas. The progress check will identify your child's strengths and highlight any areas where your child's progress may not be as expected.

Working with Parents

We welcome input from parents at all times and aim to work in partnership with you to provide the best possible care for your children. Please come and talk to us if you have any concerns or worries or have any information about your child that you feel should be shared with us.

Birthday Books

At Queen Emma, we celebrate birthdays by inviting children to donate a 'birthday book' to their class. A special sticker will be placed in the inside cover of the book to tell everyone who has donated the book. We celebrate in this way as this helps help us be a 'healthy school.'

Extended Care

At Queen Emma Primary School, we all offer extended care sessions to children in our Nursery, Reception and Year 1 classes during term time. Breakfast Club runs from 7.45am to 9.00am and After School Club runs from 3.00pm to 6.00pm. All extended care sessions take place in Cubs Room and are run by school staff, many of whom also work in the Nursery.

We also run a Holiday Club for children from 2 years to the end of Year 2. Further details and pricing can be found on our school website.

I am 2

It's not easy. I'm realizing the world no longer revolves around me like it did when I was younger.

Still, life's not so terrible. It's just a bit complex and overwhelming at times.

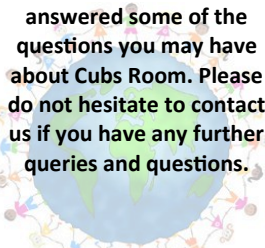
I'm trying to understand the world and my curiosity and drive sometimes look like trouble. I'm a force to be reckoned with, a busy brain on the go.

(Don't underestimate me)



Thank you for taking the time to read this booklet.

We hope it may have answered some of the questions you may have about Cubs Room. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any further queries and questions.



I am 3

I am not built to sit still, keep my hands to myself, take turns, be patient, stand in line, or keep quiet.

I need motion, I need novelty, I need adventure, and I need to engage the world with my whole body.

Let Me Play

(Trust me, I'm learning)

