

Bankier ELC
REACH FOR THE STARS

Contact details:

01324 849971 (nursery number)

About Bankier Nursery Class:

The Nursery operates during term time only.

We are open Monday to Friday 9am-3pm each day.

Staff Team

Senior Early Years Officer: Mrs Laura Brown

Early Years Officer: Mrs Caroline Doctor

Early Years Officer: Mrs Louise Noble and Mrs Lynn Przybylinski

Early Years Officer: Mrs Grace Wright

Early Years Officer: Mrs Lizzie Milligan

Early years Officer: Mrs Amanda Livingstone

Support for learning assistant: Mrs Jilly MacKenzie

Early Years Learning Assistants: Mr Scott Hendry

Mrs Saryia Riaz

Assistants also provide support as necessary.

Throughout the year we may have work experience pupils from Denny High School, students from Forth Valley College of Nursing, Child Care and Education students from Falkirk College of Technology and teacher students from various Universities. These students would, of course, be in attendance at varying times throughout the school year.

Our catchment area

We offer places to children of Banknock, Coney Park, Haggs and Longcroft. Placing requests into the nursery from out with the catchment area can be made however, may not be granted. We operate a waiting list system for all nursery admissions. Children are allocated places according to age and start one month after their third birthday or as near as possible to this date.

Safety and Security Information

We believe that your child's safety is paramount; access to the nursery can only be gained through a secure door system. Children should be dropped off and collected by a responsible adult who is known to the child and is at least 16 years of age. Nursery staff will not hand over a child to anyone unknown to them and not authorised in writing by you on our form to collect them. Please notify us of any changes to avoid difficult situations. A sign in sheet is available each day so that staff know who is

collecting each child at the end of each session. Please ensure that you complete this each day.

Opening Times

Opening hours are as follows:

Monday – Friday 9.00am – 3.00pm

Children should be brought to nursery between 9.00am and 9.15am and picked up between 2.45pm and 3.00pm.

Aims of Bankier Nursery Class

The Nursery aims to provide a caring, happy, secure and stimulating environment for your child. Nursery education is about the development of the whole child as an Individual. It is our aim to develop happy, well-adjusted and confident children.

We aim to:

- Provide high quality education for 3 - 5 year old children
- Meet the needs of children and their families
- Promote children's welfare, rights and responsibilities in an inclusive environment
- Ensure that children feel safe, happy, valued and respected and that they in turn learn respect for self and others, their environment and our multi-cultural society
- Make provision for optimum child development in terms of personal social and emotional development
- Foster children's interests within a secure, stimulating environment that encourages children to learn through play
- Offer a broad and balanced curriculum that ensures children develop physically, socially, emotionally and intellectually
- Provide opportunities to stimulate interest and imagination, extend communication skills and broaden the range of children's learning experiences
- Encourage positive attitudes to self and others
- Develop self-confidence such that children become eager and enthusiastic learners
- Foster partnership and links with parents and the wider community

Curriculum

At Bankier Nursery the staff plan in the moment by following the children's interests and link this to the Curriculum for Excellence and Realising the Ambition. We focus on natural observations and develop learning opportunities focussing on experiences and outcomes from the Early Level in the eight curriculum areas. Purposeful learning opportunities are planned considering pupils' needs, their interests and their stages of development. We offer a Froebelian approach within our nursery and offer a wide variety of learning through block play, sewing, mother songs, baking, clay and woodwork.

Current work is displayed throughout our nursery floorbook and through the children's individual online journals.

Children's ongoing learning and interests are taken into account when planning activities.

Children attending Bankier Nursery will have their own Electronic Learning Journey which will be completed by their key worker who is allocated on enrolment. Every new step in your child's learning journey is automatically shared with you. You will receive a notification to your e-mail account helping you to keep track of your child's progress. Paper copies of Learning Journeys will be provided to any parent or carer who does not have access to the internet.

Daily Activities On Offer At Bankier Nursery

A large part of the children's day is taken up in free activity, in which your child actively pursues their own interests, with the guidance and support of adults. Skills developed during this 'free play' include language and listening skills, early numeracy skills, manipulative skills to develop small and large motor control and creative skills.

Children also learn how to work alongside other children and adults in a cooperative way. All of those skills will be developed through 'play'.



As the session draws to a close, the children gather at their group with their key worker where they have time to talk and reflect upon their day. The door will open and parents/carers can collect their child from their groups.

The following activity areas are an integral part of the nursery day.

- Snack
- Baking activities
- Imaginative play
- Sand
- Water
- Painting
- Collage
- Clay
- Books
- Large and small construction activities – manipulative tasks
 - Block play
 - Jigsaws
 - Drawing/Writing tables
- Music – percussion instruments and listening to music
 - Table games
- Computer and other ICT
 - Sewing
- Junk modelling
- Outdoor play
- Loose parts play
- Woodwork



Other activities which the children participate in regularly include weekly visits to the school library, gym hall and outdoor areas such as the woods or Astroturf.

Illness and Medication

For your child's comfort and well-being and that of the other children and staff, please do not bring your child to nursery if they are unwell. We would appreciate it if you could contact the nursery if your child will not be attending. Please contact us before 9.15am.

If your child becomes unwell while in our care we will contact you immediately. If your child requires prescribed medication we are able to administer this once consent forms have been completed.

Accidents

Any accidents that occur whilst your child is in our care will be recorded on one of our accident forms. When you collect your child you will be asked to sign the form to say you acknowledge the details recorded.

If we feel it is necessary we will also contact you at the time to inform you of the incident. In the event of a medical emergency your child will be assessed promptly and the appropriate action will be taken.

Snack Information and Marvellous meals

Lunch is provided by the kitchen staff and works on a three week rota. Healthy snacks are prepared daily in the nursery. A range of snacks are provided and dietary needs and requirements are taken into consideration. Please discuss dietary needs with nursery staff during enrolment. Fresh fruit and milk or water are also provided with each snack.

Children will also take part in baking activities which will be then eaten for snack.

Marvellous Mealtimes is also about helping the children become self-sufficient and meals in Bankier have become a rich learning opportunity.

The children use real cutlery and crockery, help set the table, serve themselves, pour their own water or milk, clear their plates and wash them afterwards.

It is giving youngsters an opportunity to explore different foods and textures – and they can also express their likes and dislikes.

Tooth brushing

We are involved in a daily tooth brushing programme as part of a nationwide scheme to improve the dental health of Scottish children. Children are provided with individual toothbrushes and these are kept in a hygienic trolley which is only used for this purpose.

Photographs in Bankier Nursery

School photographers will take individual photographs in September and group photos in June each session. These are available to purchase. Nursery staff also take photos on a daily basis for Electronic Learning Journeys and displays in and around the nursery. Please notify nursery staff at enrolment if there is any reason why your child should not be photographed.

Attendance

Attendance at nursery school is not compulsory although it is hugely beneficial to a child's learning and wellbeing. If for any reason your child is absent please phone the nursery to advise them of the dates they will be absent and the reason for absence. If your child is frequently absent without explanation a meeting will be set up with the Senior leadership team to discuss how we can support you to improve attendance.

The nursery session starts at 9.00am and ends at 3.00pm. We encourage children to attend for the duration of each session to ensure they get the most from their time at nursery. If you are unable to collect your child by 3.00pm please phone the nursery and inform them. If you do not contact the nursery then they will contact you at the end of the session. All children who have not been collected by 3.00pm will be taken to the main office in the school and must be collected from there. If your child is frequently collected late then a meeting will be set up with the Senior Leadership Team to discuss how to improve this.

Communication

A monthly newsletter which contains school and nursery information is made available to parents and carers at the end of each month. The newsletter contains a calendar of events which is very useful.

The nursery also uses Class Dojo. This is more personalised to our nursery setting and is a private group with only our nursery parents on it. Staff post snapshots of the children's learning throughout the day. Any other information will be posted on Class

Dojo for example if your child is visiting the woods etc this will be posted on Dojo. Class Dojo also has the private message function if you need to contact us. Information is also shared on the school website www.bankier.falkirk.sch.uk

Annual Trips and Events

There are several annual events that take place in the nursery. We have a Halloween and Christmas party and also a moving on up party each year. We take an annual trip during the summer term. Parents and carers are often invited to help at these events.

Clothing and Uniform

Nursery uniform is not compulsory but many children choose to wear it. If you would like your child to wear a uniform, it is available to order through the school office or can be purchased at BE School wear in Falkirk.

We provide aprons for messy activities such as painting but we would advise you not to send your children in their best clothes as accidents do happen. Loose fitting clothes without belts, buckles and brace help children to be independent, especially at the toilet.

Please provide a pair of wellies for outdoor play, the nursery will provide a puddle suit for your child.

The children will have the opportunity to play outdoors everyday so we would ask you to dress them appropriately for outdoor play.

As the children are in 9.00am-3.00pm we ask that you provide your child with a new bottle of sunscreen at the start of the year. Parents/carers are required to apply the sun cream before the child's comes to nursery in the morning and staff will re-apply when needed throughout the day. A permission slip will be given at enrolment.

Please ensure that all clothing and footwear is clearly named.

Parental Involvement

At Bankier Nursery we actively encourage and welcome parental involvement. There are daily opportunities to chat with key workers when dropping off and collecting your children from nursery. We have more formal 6 monthly reviews where parents meet with the child's key workers to discuss your child's progress in the nursery. We have a parent helper timetable where parents can choose time, date and activity that they would like to be involved in. We also hold termly coffee mornings/afternoons to discuss current initiatives and how we can work together in the nursery. We will also invite you to stay and play sessions in the nursery. Each stay and play session lasts approximately 1 hour and gives you an opportunity to explore the nursery with your child.

Moving on to Primary 1

When your child reaches their preschool year they will be involved in a range of transition activities so that they can get to know their way around the school and meet their P1 teacher. During the second term of your child's preschool year information will be sent out regarding enrolment for Primary 1 such as when and where to enrol.

Parental Feedback

"The staff made me and my child feel very relaxed when we came for our first visit. The staff have really looked after my child throughout the year and if I have ever had to speak to the staff it has never been a problem. The staff are lovely and I could not think of a better nursery I'd rather send my child to". May 2022

"I have loved the introduction of Class Dojo, I prefer the closed group rather than Twitter as it is far easier to see the posts straight away rather than scrolling through Twitter. I also like the private message function as the staff normally get back to parents really fast". June 2022

"My child came from another nursery and within a few weeks I noticed a difference in their learning and development. The nursery helped us so much and the staff are always very approachable". January 2022

FALKIRK COUNCIL: EDUCATION SERVICES
Agreed Term Dates for Session 2022-2024

Holiday	Start date	End date
<u>Staff development day</u>	Monday, 14th August 2023	Tuesday, 15th August 2023
<u>September weekend</u>	Monday, 11th September 2023	-
<u>October holiday</u>	Monday, 9th October 2023	Friday, 20th October 2023
<u>Staff development day</u>	Friday, 24th November 2023	-
<u>Christmas and new year</u>	Monday, 25th December 2023	Friday, 5th January 2024
<u>Term time public holiday</u>	Friday, 9th February 2024	Monday, 12th February 2024
<u>Staff development day</u>	Tuesday, 13th February 2024	-
<u>Easter holiday</u>	Friday, 29th March 2024	Friday, 12th April 2024
<u>Staff development day</u>	Thursday, 2nd May 2024	-
<u>Term time public holiday</u>	Monday, 6th May 2024	-
<u>Summer holiday</u>	Monday, 1st July 2024	-