Nelmes Pre-School Newsletter

Date: Autumn Term 2026

Tel Hall: 01708 479613
Tel Mobile: 07708444473
Email: cherykelly@nelmesps.co.uk

Cheryl Kelly

Sian Briton Watkins

Jo Lambert

Liz Miller

Aysen Turan

Policies & Procedures
Please view on the website
Nelmespreschool.co.uk

Members of Staff

Cheryl Kelly, Owner/Manager/SendCo
Sian Briton-Watkins, DM & SendCo
Liz Miller, Practitioner
Jo Lambert, Practitioner
Aysen Turan, Practitioner

Session Times
All Day - 9am – 3pm
Morning - 9am – 12 Noon
Afternoon - 12 Noon – 3pm
Collection should be on time or earlier. Fines are implemented for late collection.

Staff members need to be aware if someone unfamiliar to them is collecting your child for safety reasons.

Autumn Term Dates 2026
Term Starts Monday 7 September
H/T Monday 27th October to Friday 30th October
Term Ends Wednesday 9th December
(Christmas Party Only Thursday 10 December 26)
(Nativity Only Friday 11 December 26)
Usually only for 2027 school leavers).

No normal sessions on 10 & 11 December 2026.

Spring Term Return to School

Wednesday 6th January 27

Welcome
We would like to welcome back all our existing children to the setting and also a huge welcome to all the new children that will be joining Pre-School this term. We realise that this transition can be a particularly difficult time for children and parents.
However, we will offer you all the support we can and keep you informed of your child's welfare during their settling in period. Please bear in mind that most children new to the setting will cry at some point. If not immediately, then usually in a few weeks' time. This is a perfectly normal reaction to starting Pre-school, but unfortunately at the same time is a heart -breaking experience for all. Also, please be pre-warned that many children will come out of school crying during the first week or two. This is an emotional reaction to seeing you all again and unless we have informed you otherwise, your children will not have been crying for the whole session. Children do become very overwhelmed at home-time.
Could I please give my assurance that we will do our utmost to care for your children and provide a safe, stimulating and enjoyable environment for your child. We will call you during the session if your child is struggling to settle and will leave the decision to you as to whether you collect early or, you leave your child for the duration of the session.

Thank You
The staff of Nelmes Pre-School would like to say a big thank you to all the parents who kindly gave us gifts at the end of the Summer term. We are all touched by your kindness and appreciation.

Keyworkers
Your child's keyworker will be advised in due course as there is still a lot of movement of sessions in the first few weeks and keyworkers can change as a result of this. However, staff are aware of who their key children are from the beginning of term.

Child Illness / Absence
If your child is sick or suffering from diarrhoea could you please refrain from sending them to school. **Our 'Child sickness' policy states that children should not return to school for at least 48 hours after the last bout of illness.** I know it is difficult if you are a working parent but these kind of illnesses spread around the other children and staff so quickly.

Also, if your child is going to be absent from school could you please ring or email the setting and let us know. It is a requirement of the Local Authority that we know your child is going to be absent from school. 01708 479613 or 07708444473. Email : cherylkelly@nelmesps.co.uk.

Changing Weather and Children's Bags
Please could you ensure that children have a complete change of clothing in their bags, including shoes and that clothing is appropriate for the current weather conditions. If your child is in nappies then they will need spare nappies, wipes and nappy bags. Also a plastic carrier bag for wet or soiled clothing would be helpful.

Personal Belongings and Lunch Boxes
Please could you ensure that your child's personal belongings such as clothing, toys, comforters, lunch boxes and drink bottles are **clearly named on the outside**. Lunch box contents should remain healthy and sensible and could I ask that you refrain from providing your child with fizzy drinks, or foods containing nuts ie: satay chicken or peanut butter. **This applies to all children, as we wish to avoid any contamination to those children which have allergies.**
Any fruit given to children in their lunch boxes should be pre-peeled (such as oranges/satsuma's) and grapes should be cut in half length way and food packaging should be part opened for the children to be able to open themselves.

Your child will need a water bottle (with water only) to drink throughout the day. This should be brought into school hall with them and should be clearly named.
Children should bring a packed lunch if they are staying for an all-day or afternoon session.

Snacks should be provided for your child. X1 for morning snack and x1 for afternoon snack. They should be in separate bags/containers and clearly named. All lunch boxes and snacks should be placed on the trolley outside on the relevant shelf. If weather is hot please remember to put an ice-pack into your child's food if needed.

Setting Contact Details
Could I please ask parents to make a note of the setting contact numbers and email address which are detailed at the top of the page. If you could add them to your contacts list or address books. If you need to contact us during school hours would you kindly use the hall number as it rings much louder. Calls to our mobile number and emails will be answered as soon as possible. However, could I stress that we are not on 24 hour call and messages and emails will not be answered after 3pm daily and will not be responded to over the weekend.

Setting Information
Could I please advise all parents that we do have a setting website which contains all the information you could possibly need during your child's time at Pre-School, including term time dates and forthcoming events, uniform requirements etc. I would be grateful if you could check the website for information prior to texting or emailing me, especially out of school hours.
nelmespreschool.co.uk .

Collecting Children
For security reasons, if you are going to send someone to collect your child from Pre-school that staff are unfamiliar with then we need to have a password, which is known only to us, yourself and the person collecting. It puts us in a very difficult situation if people arrive to collect children that we do not know. This can lead to much distress to the child and lots of calls being made to trace the parent, whereby parents will ultimately have to collect their child in person. You have been sent an email already if you have not yet provided me with a secure password.

If you wish to collect your child early from setting for school runs that is perfectly acceptable. Please ring the bell and your child will be brought out to you. In the colder months please be patient at the door whilst we get your child's coat on. If it is not raining, we will aim to put bags and coats outside for you. If for any reason we do not hear the bell, it can get very loud in setting, please call the setting phone 01708 479613.

Accidents in Pre-School
As much as possible I would like to reassure parents that we do our utmost to prevent children hurting themselves, or being hurt by other children within the setting. However, we cannot stop every accident or incident from occurring and we cannot stop a child tripping or falling over. Should your child incur an injury in setting and we see, or are made aware of the incident by a child, it will be advised to you via email. If any accident is serious we will aim to contact parents by telephone.

CONSUMABLE CHARGE
We will continue to request that our consumable fees of £1 per day attending is paid by parents. This will be invoiced to you to comply with new regulations. This term we are a 14 week term, so to give you an idea if your child attends x1 session per week the termly cost will be:

1 day per week	:	£14.00
2 days per week	:	£28.00
3 days per week	:	£42.00
4 days per week	:	£56.00
5 days per week	:	£70.00

Any End of term events will be charged for additionally if required.

Pre-School Policies and Procedures
All the policies and Procedures for Nelmes Pre-School are on our website, nelmespreschool.co.uk

Uniform
Please note that we have a uniform in place at Nelmes Pre-School which all children should adhere to and information regarding uniform is on the setting website www.nelmespreschool.co.uk.

Admission to School 2027 – APPLY BY 15th JANUARY 2027

Children born between 1 September 2022 and 31 August 2023 will be starting at an infant or primary school in September 2027. You must apply for a school place online via https://www.eadmissions.org.uk/
Information around primary school places and a user guide to the eAdmissions website can be found via https://www.havering.gov.uk/school-admissions-1/apply-infant-junior-primary-school-place
However, should you require further information you can call the admissions team directly on 01708 434600.

Please be aware that registering at your preferred school does not guarantee your child a place at that school. School selection for children is chosen by the local authority.
The on-line admissions facility will open on 1 September 2026 and will close on 15 January 2027. Any applications received after the closing date will be considered late and will affect your child's chances of receiving a place at your preferred school. Parents will receive their school offer via the on-line eAdmissions system on the evening of 16 April 2027. Please speak to me (Cheryl Kelly) if you have any concerns regarding the school transition procedure.

Nelmes Face Book Page
We do have a setting Face book page and all parents are encouraged to join this page in order to keep abreast of what is going on in setting. Sian may also upload photos onto this page of the activities that are available for the children which will give parents an insight into what kind of activities the children have access to. Just search on Facebook 'Nelmes Pre School'.

Birthday Sweets
Many children and parents like to bring sweets into setting to celebrate children's birthday's. Whilst we do not oppose this we would be very grateful if the sweets you bring in could be chocolate based. Sweets must **NOT** contain nuts and **Haribo's or sweets containing gelatine are not permitted**. This forms part of our setting policy and can be reviewed in our Policies and Procedures which are available on our website.

Toilet Training
If your child is currently toilet training would you please let us know in order that we can ensure your child is taken to the toilet more frequently. If your child is currently wearing nappies could they please attend school in a 'clean and dry' nappy.

Funding Options
There are many differing funding options available to parents as below. If I could suggest you familiarise yourselves with these options by logging into the 'Childcare Choices' government website or using the link via our setting website nelmespreschool.co.uk.

9+ Months Working Families (30 Hours)
2 Year Working Families (30 hours)
2 Year Families Receiving Additional Support
3&4 Years Universal (15 Hours)
3&4 Years Working Families (30 Hours)
Disability Access Fund (DAF)
Pupil Premium

If you are thinking of taking up the options of Working Families Funding (30 hours for 9 Month + and 30 Hours for 2, 3 and 4 year olds) you MUST APPLY FOR FUNDING YOURSELF. Once you have a reference number you must send it to me for verification via the Local Authority as soon as possible along with the main applicant's date of birth and national insurance number.
I would advise you not to delay on this. If I do not have a valid reference number you will be charged for your child's place at £22.00 per session.

Working Families Funding
Could I please, at this time, remind parents to think about renewing their funding codes for the Autumn Term 2026. This must be done before the end of July 20216. and I would advise parents not to leave this until the last minute to allow for any queries or delays. Applications for funding must be made online at www.childcarechoices.gov.uk

When to apply

When your child turns 9 Months + 2, 3 or 4 Years	**When they can get funded hours from**	**Recommended time to apply**
1 September to 31 December	Term starting on or after 1 January	15 October to 15 November
1 January to 31 March	Term starting on or after 1 April	15 January to 13 February
1 April to 31 August	Term starting on or after 1 September	15 June to 15 July

You can apply outside of these recommended dates but you might not receive your code in time.

LONG TERM PLANNING FOR SCHOOL YEAR SEPTEMBER 2026 – JULY 2027

Date	Theme
Monday 7 September 2026	Free Week Settling
Monday 14 September 2026	Free Week Settling
Monday 21 September 2026	Shapes & Number
Monday 28 September 2026	Shapes & Number
Monday 28 September 2026	Colours / Marble Printing
Monday 5 October 2026	Colours / Marble Printing
Monday 12 October 2026	Emergency Services
Monday 19 October 2026	Diwali & Diwali Cards 27-31 Oct 2027)
Monday 26 October 2026	Half Term
Monday 2 November 2026	Bonfire safety (Thursday 5 November 2026
Monday 9 November 2026	Emergency Services
Monday 16 November 2026	Xmas Cards
Monday 23 November 2026	Christmas
Monday 30 November 2026	Christmas
Monday 7 December 2026	Christmas
Monday 14 December 2026	Christmas Holidays
Monday 21 December 2026	Christmas Holidays
Monday 28 December 2026	Christmas Holidays
Wednesday 6 January 2027	Healthy Bodies
Monday 11 January 2027	Healthy Bodies
Monday 18 January 2027	Cooking
Monday 25 January 2027	Cooking
Monday 1 February 2027	Chinese New Year (4 Feb Year of Goat)
Monday 8 February 2027	Chinese New Year (4 Feb Year of Goat) Beginning of Ramadam
Monday 15 February 2027	Half Term
Monday 22 February 2027	Mothers Day Cards 7 March
Monday 1 March 2027	Mothers Day Cards 7 March
Monday 8 March 2027	Physical Processes Night and Day Eid al-Fitr (End Ramadam
Monday 15 March 2027	Nocturnal Animals
Monday 22 March 2027	Nocturnal Animals
Monday 29 March 2027	Easter Holidays
Monday 5 April2027	Easter Holidays
Wednesday 14 April 2027	Growing Peppers
Tuesday 20 April 2027	Space
Monday 26 April	Space
Monday 3 May	Big Beasts / Dinosaurs
Monday 10 May	Big Beasts / Dinosaurs
Monday 17 May	Mini Beasts

You can help your children at home by discussing the above topics with them.

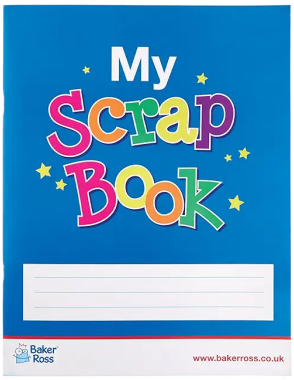
For parents that wish their children to be given School Bookbags ((for last year attending, prior to mainstream school), these will be given out as soon as the settling period has calmed and for the Pre-School to provide cost £20.00. This will include the cost of keeping the bag updated throughout the year. The school book bags which will contain more specific learning in the form of number work, phonics and shapes. These book bags will go home with the children but should be brought into school daily. If you do not bring their book bags to school daily, the school work will not be completed. Parents can also help the children with the activities in their book bags and please write what you have done in the children's yellow books.

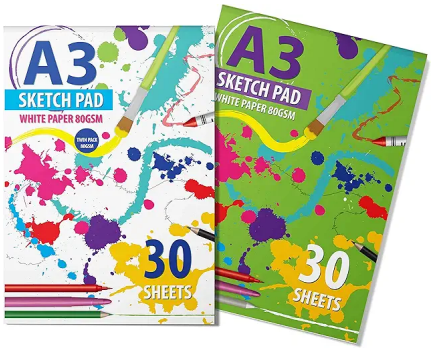
If you wish to assist your child with their phonic learning please could you watch the following link to ensure you teach your children correctly :

Sounds of the English Phonic Code – Synthetic Phonics.wmv
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IwJx1NSineE

Pronouncing phonic sounds correctly is taught very differently to how it may have been when you were at school. Also please be aware if extended family members such as grandparents are helping with phonic work that they also watch the video. It gets very confusing for the children if we are teaching correctly at school and at home they are being taught in the 'old school' way.

Once your child reaches age three they will need a scrap book provided. If the scrapbook could be A3 size and at least 30 pages. An example below which can be purchased on Amazon. Other retail outlets that sell scrapbooks are B&M and The Range. Both, I believe, you can also order online.





I think that is everything! However, if you have any questions please let me know and I will try and get back to you as soon as possible.

Kind regards, Cheryl

Forthcoming Events

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Photographer – Thursday 5th November 2026

Wednesday 10 December 2025 – last normal session before Christmas Holidays.

Christmas Party (Additional Cost) – Thursday 11 December – 12.00noon.

Christmas Nativity – Usually only school leavers), Friday 12 December 2026 - 10.00am.

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