

Welcome to

BEYA

Barnet Early Years Alliance

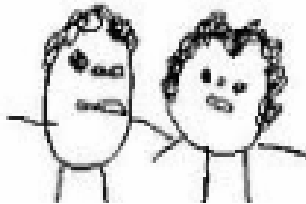
A place of possibility



St. Margaret's
Nursery School



Brookhill
Nursery School



Hampden Way
Nursery School

020 8449 5466

www.beya.org.uk



Welcome

Welcome to BEYA Nursery Schools and Children's Centre. This booklet has been written to provide you with all the information you need to know about the nursery prior to your child's start date. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to ask a member of staff or call 0208 449 5466. We look forward to sharing the exciting learning journey ahead, with you and your child.

Barnet Early Years Alliance (BEYA)

BEYA is a federation of three outstanding nursery schools.

Brookhill Nursery School

Brookhill Road, East Barnet, Herts, EN4 8SD

Hampden Way Nursery School

Hampden Way, London, N14 5DJ

St Margaret's Nursery School

Margaret Road, New Barnet, Herts, EN4 9NT



Our Ethos

Our BEYA Nursery Schools are places of possibility; living spaces where children and childhood are honoured, their ideas and abilities valued. A place where children and adults are learning from each other. Where children are seen as individuals and achievements are celebrated.

We value free play and open-ended learning as opposed to fixed goals and outcomes. Free play is an essential and beneficial right of all children. In our schools of possibilities, adults observe children to understand rather than assess against measurable targets. We observe their innovation, their creativity, their ideas, their intents and feelings. The insight that we gain enables us to discuss, reflect and plan our environment to support and shape future learning.

Learning and Development in the Early Years

At BEYA we provide children with a balance of both adult led opportunities and self-chosen, independent learning through play. We follow the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) curriculum for children from birth - 5 years.

The EYFS promotes learning in the following areas:

- Personal, Social and Emotional Development
- Communication and Language
- Literacy Development
- Mathematics
- Understanding the World
- Physical Development
- Expressive Arts and Design





Forest School

At BEYA, we have qualified Forest School leaders and we recognise the unique benefits that the outdoors can have on all aspects of children's development, particularly their physical and mental health. We encourage children to engage in a range of outdoor activities from building dens to climbing trees to making fires and observing wildlife.

These activities support self-confidence, self-esteem and resilience. Through risk taking challenges and the sense of well-being that comes from being in and around nature, children will develop a love of learning.

Children should always come to nursery appropriately dressed to engage in this type of play. We go out in all weathers and seasons.



Messy Play

At BEYA, we believe that messy play is an integral part of play, exploring and learning in the early years.



At nursery your child's clothes will get dirty but it shows that they have been exploring, playing and learning. Messy play such as using mud, water, paint, shaving foam and corn flour allows young children to make their own discoveries using their senses and curiosity.

Messy play is all about exploring, there is no right or wrong way. Please provide your child with spare clothes and we suggest that you do not dress them in anything that is considered precious as we will always encourage your child to have a go and get stuck in! **We will not interrupt your child's play to put on an apron.**



Promoting Physical Well-Being

At BEYA we are passionate about promoting children's well-being through purposeful physical play. The current daily recommendation for children is that they should be physically active for at least 180 minutes (3 hours) a day! To support this at nursery we provide children with many opportunities, both inside and out, to encourage children to engage in physical activity and movement. By giving your child movement experiences, this not only supports their physical development but helps them to have a healthy and happy mind too.

We also help to support children's understanding of what it means to be healthy. We promote healthy eating at both snack and lunch time as well as developing their self-help skills such as hand washing. If your child is having packed lunch they must not contain nuts due to children with severe allergies at nursery. If you would like any advice about what to give your child as part of a healthy packed lunch, please ask your child's key person.

Settling in

We offer a visit before your child starts nursery and aim to make the move from home to nursery as easy as possible. We need your help with this and ask you to set aside time to spend with us when your child is starting nursery. This is important for your child so that they have the opportunity to get to know and trust new adults and children, for you to see how the nursery works and to be familiar with the things that your child may talk about at home.

On the first day you will need to stay with your child in the nursery. This visit will be for one hour. Some children may find a whole session too long at first. When your child is ready, and it will differ from child to child, you can begin to leave your child and sit in the parent's room. Your child's time in nursery will gradually build up over a few days.

We feel it is important for parents/carers to always tell the child when they are leaving and to say goodbye. Never 'disappear' while your child is distracted. They are likely to be shocked and frightened and may lose their trust in you. Please try not to get anxious or impatient if the settling in period takes a while. Our experience has shown that it is important not to rush this stage. The longer you invest in this stage the better the settling in process is for both yourselves and your child. We understand parents and carers have to work and we will support you and your work pattern. At the end of the day we want the child and parents/carers to be happy and we are realistic about your work commitments.



Being on time

The nursery times are:

For **morning** places 8.30am - 11.30am

For **afternoon** places 12.30pm - 3.30pm

For **core day** places 8.30am-3.30pm or 9.00am-3.00pm depending on your agreement. If you have been allocated a place in our extended day provision, please ensure you collect your child on time.

Arriving late is hard for children as all of their friends are busy and it can be more difficult to get involved and will therefore have an impact on their learning. If your child will be arriving late or in unforeseen circumstances where you think you may be late, please phone the nursery to let us know.

We are aware that some parents collect siblings from other schools, therefore, you can collect your child at 3.00pm. Please be aware that the door will not be opened between 3.05pm and 3.25pm so as not to interrupt story time.

Learning Journals

Your child's learning will be closely monitored in collaboration with you to ensure they are supported to reach significant milestones for their age. The observations and assessments we make are called 'Spotlights'. We use an online system created by Learning Journals to share your child's Spotlight.

You will be able to access your child's profile at any time on a device with an internet connection. This is a paperless system, however if you do not have internet access we are able to print this for you.

The system is very secure and your child's profile can only be accessed by you, with a unique username, password and PIN that you create. Please let us know if you have technical difficulties.

We will email you with details of your username and a link to the Learning Journals site where you will be required to set up a password. (Please check your junk folder). If you forget your username or password, please get in touch and we can send you a reset email.

You have the option to like or leave a comment when you receive your child's Spotlight and we would really encourage you to do so as your input and feedback is highly valued.

There is also the option to contribute to your child's profile, where you can add photos or descriptions of significant moments in your child's development that you would like to share. You can also convert your child's profile to a PDF, which will generate a document for you to save or print.

Important information

- We are a NUT FREE ZONE, please respect this as some children and adults have serious allergies that can be life threatening and we all need to keep them safe.
- We ask for a voluntary contribution of £1 a week to cover activities such as cooking, play dough etc.
- If your child is unable to attend nursery for any reason, please inform the school on the first day of absence and each day thereafter. **School number: 020 8449 5466.**
- Holidays should be taken outside of term time if you are accessing a free entitlement for your child. Requests for leave may be authorised in exceptional circumstances.
- As we do not allow children to go with an unknown adult please inform us in advance of any alternative collection arrangements.
- If your child is suffering from sickness/diarrhoea they should stay at home for **48** hours after the last episode.
- Please ensure you label all belongings to prevent items being lost. It is impossible for staff to keep track of individual items. Bags should not be left at nursery but be brought in and taken home every day.
- Please bring fruit each week for the children to share.
- If at any point you wish to change your child's hours, please email admissions@beya.org.uk
- Please make sure you do not park on yellow lines, across driveways or in disabled bays unless a blue badge holder for the safety of our children and courtesy to the local residents.



We look forward to working in partnership with you and value the knowledge you have of your child as their first educators.

If you have any concerns or queries, please don't hesitate to speak to a member of the staff team.

Please visit our websites via www.beya.org.uk for further information.