



School Readiness Policy

Designated Senior Person for School Readiness: Miss Kirsty Butler

Telephone: (020) 7727-8300

Email: contact@rolfesnurseryschool.co.uk

Deputy Designated Senior Person for School Readiness: Miss Vanessa Dempsey

Telephone: (020) 7727-8300

Email: contact@rolfesnurseryschool.co.uk

This policy is reviewed on an annual basis

Annual Policy reviewed by: Miss Kirsty Butler: **January 2019**

Annual Review date: **May 2018**

Next date of Annual Review: **May 2019**

Signed:

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At Rolfe's Nursery School we recognise that the quality of a child's early educational experience is vital to his or her future success.

Our school readiness program works in parallel with The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) whereby children are provided with opportunities to learn and develop in the 7 areas of the curriculum.

Teachers focus on improving children's 'school readiness' skills and knowledge, guiding the development of a child's cognitive, behavioural, physical and emotional capabilities, so that he or she can take full advantage of learning opportunities presented in school.

Children are encouraged throughout the school years, to become enthusiastic and independent learners. Children are encouraged to manage their own behaviour, toileting and dressing themselves. Children should be able to separate from their parent or carer and demonstrate listening and attention skills. We encourage each child to use 'their own words', to communicate their needs, interests and to express themselves. There is an emphasis on children being able to interact with adults and peers, for example, to take turns and listen to others and respond to boundaries appropriately.

Children participate in a wide variety of planned learning experiences which develop motor strength for writing, develop numeracy and enhance literacy skills through the Jolly Phonics program.

At Rolfe's Nursery School we work closely with families to ensure that they are involved in the process of transferring to 'big school'. Every effort is made to ensure parents are aware of the expectations in the reception year and this information is shared during parent teacher meetings, in newsletters, parent information workshops and in 'Individual Play Plans'.

At Rolfe's Nursery School we recognise that inter-school collaboration ensures a smooth transition, therefore we endeavour to work closely with schools that the children progress onto. This includes visits to other schools, completion of report cards and hand delivering each child's Learning Journey to each chosen future school. We also invite reception teachers to visit our school and to meet the teaching staff and children. We invite children who have moved on to big school, back to Rolfe's Nursery School to speak to the class, to reassure children and to answer any questions that the children may have. A collaborative partnership helps to develop an understanding of what is expected in terms of school readiness, ensuring that all children are well prepared for starting school.

At Rolfe's Nursery School we believe that preparations for school readiness begin on the very first day of school.