Ribbon Academy Early Years

Supporting children to lead the way…



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www.ribbonacademy.org.uk

Ribbon Academy Early Years

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Vision and Values

At Ribbon Early Years Academy, we aim to meet the needs of all children and their families by providing high quality education and private childcare. We envision a world where every child is celebrated for their unique qualities and potential. We are committed to fostering a lifelong love of learning by providing magical, inspiring experiences that captivate young minds and spark curiosity. We believe that children are born capable and ready to learn, and it is our privilege to support them in becoming the best they can be.

Our Values

Valuing Each Child as an Individual: We RESPECT and cherish every child for who they are. We tailor our approach to recognise and nurture each child's unique interests, talents, and developmental pace.

Providing a Safe and Nurturing Environment: Our setting is a warm and welcoming space where children feel safe, secure, and cared for. We prioritise emotional well-being and physical safety that creates foundations for confident and happy learners.

Engaging, Magical Learning Experiences: Our highly skilled practitioners are committed to offering exciting and engaging learning opportunities that ignite imagination and inspire wonder. Through creative, hands-on learning, we encourage independent exploration, problem-solving and discovery.

Inclusion at the Heart of Our Practice: At Ribbon, we ensure the needs of all our children are met in an environment where their development is supported every step of the way. We strive to support children's executive functioning and constantly revise our curriculum and learning environment to ensure this.









"THE GREATEST GIFTS WE CAN GIVE OUR CHILDREN ARE THE ROOTS OF RESPONSIBILITY AND THE WINGS OF INDEPENDENCE."

—DR. MARIA MONTESSORI





Meet the Team



Mrs Sheridan
Headteacher



Mr Houghton
Deputy Headteacher



Mrs Flower
Assistant Head
(Inclusion)
& SENDCO



Mrs Childs
Acting Assistant Head
(Early Years)
& Reception Teacher



Mrs Cartwright
Nursery Teacher



Miss Peel
Reception Teacher



Miss Starkie
Deputy Phase Lead
(Early Years)
& Reception Teacher



Mrs Robson
Assistant Head
(Early Years)
(On leave)



Miss Ord
Teaching & Learning Partner



Mrs Kirk
Teaching & Learning Partner



Miss Hope
Teaching & Learning Partner



Miss Walton
Support Assistant



Mrs Peverley
Support Assistant



Miss Taylor
Support Assistant



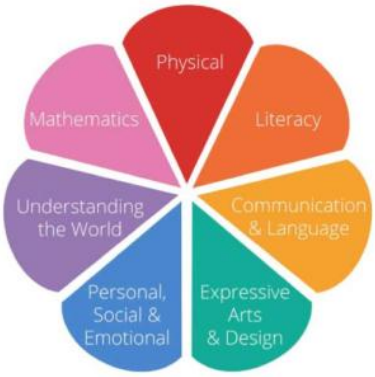
Mrs Richardson
Support Assistant

Our Curriculum

What is the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)?

The EYFS can be identified as a window of opportunity to nurture a child's development from birth to five years. Early Years Practitioners work in line with the statutory framework, which identifies seven areas of learning.

Early Years Framework



At Ribbon Academy, our curriculum is designed with our child's cultural capital in mind. This is the essential knowledge that they need to prepare them for future success. We consider previous experience and what they need to enable them to succeed in later life. Our curriculum is designed around a balance of **adult- led, child-initiated and child-led** encounters.





It's not just play!

Learning through play is a term used in education and psychology to describe how a child can learn to make sense of the world around them. Children can develop social and cognitive skills, mature emotionally, and gain the self-confidence required to engage in new experiences and environments.

Enabling Environments

The philosophy, that underpins our learning environment, provision and interactions is inspired and influenced by 'Reggio Emilia' and the 'curiosity approach' to learning. This focuses on paying attention to creating an environment that enables children to develop relationships with the world around them, themselves, and each other.





Indoor Provision

Our indoor provision has been carefully designed to ensure development in all areas of learning. The provision evolves to reflect the needs of the children and their everchanging interests. Areas of challenge are carefully presented to ensure a greater depth of knowledge and understanding is nurtured using natural and open-ended resources.

Our Outdoor Provision

Our outdoor learning environment includes carefully planned spaces to ensure that children can develop a specific skill set in a supportive space. Outdoor equipment supports children to move in various ways, challenging individual physical capabilities and provides risk to promote safety and self-awareness within a variety of contexts. Learning moves beyond our outdoor environment as children access our on-site forest weekly. We recognise the importance of the outdoors; therefore, our children and staff access the outdoors in all weathers to ensure the children develop an awareness of seasonal changes and explore the elements at their best.
















"Children learn as they play. Most importantly, in play children learn how to learn."

Dr. Fred Donaldson













Our Routines

Nursery Room Routine

Children are welcomed into the setting by a member of the Nursery Team. We ask that parents support their child to develop independence by allowing them to hang their coat and bag on a designated peg.

Each day we have a different focus in relation to the 7 areas of learning:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Muddy Monday	Talking Tuesday	Wiggly Wednesday	Thoughtful Thursday	Funky Finger Friday

The rhythm of the day is as follows:

Nursery
Welcome and Snack Time
Core Text
Phonics
Planning Time
Play to Learn
Tidy Up
Reflection Time
Maths
Milk and Home



Reception Room Routine

Children are welcomed at the main gate by a member of staff and independently make their way into our setting. The daily routine is as follows:

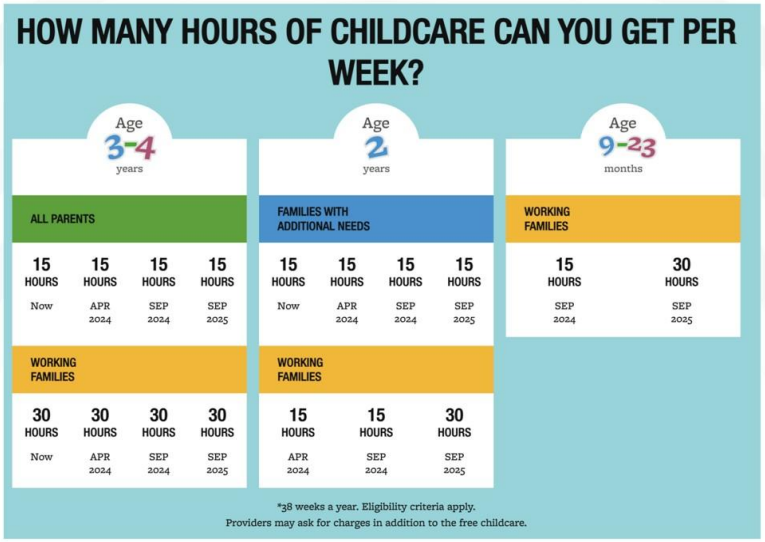
Reception AM Routine	Reception PM Routine
Arrivals – exploring books	Afternoon Registration
Register and Visual Timetable	Mindfulness
Rise and Shine – Gross Motor Skills	Handwriting
Phonics	Core Text
Planning Time	Play to Learn
Play to Learn	Tidy Up Time
Tidy Up Time	Reflection
Maths	Snack and Story
Lunch	Home Time

Wrap Around Care

As a maintained nursery, Ribbon Academy offers nursery education for 3- and 4-year-olds during term time. Ribbon Day Care provides full day care (8.00am until 5.30pm) and is available 51 weeks of the year (closing only for statutory bank holidays and one week over the Christmas period). Fees are available on request from the Day Care manager, Stacey Baker.

We also facilitate the Government's 30 hours scheme – working parents of 3- and 4-year-olds may be able to access 30 hours of free education per week.

To check eligibility, please go to www.durham.gov.uk/earlyyears



For your child's safety, it is vitally important that they are brought to and collected from the Nursery and Reception settings by a responsible adult known to the staff. If there is a change in the daily arrangements, please notify a member of staff (preferably the child's Key Person/Teacher).

Ribbon Day Care provide wrap around care for children in Early Years. Ribbon Academy offer a range of afterschool clubs, please speak to a member of the team for more information.

Should you require any additional care for your child, such as breakfast, lunch, additional sessions or tea, between the hours of 8:00 am and 5:30 pm, please contact the main desk or the Ribbon Day Care Manager, Stacey Baker, at the Day Care office via the main school entrance.

Uniform

Uniform is **optional in Nursery** and is **compulsory in Reception**.

We recommend that all children attend in weather appropriate clothing as children access the outdoor learning environment in all weathers. Please keep in mind that due to the nature of our learning environment, children's clothes and shoes WILL get dirty! It would be very helpful if you could ensure your child has a spare set of clothes and a pair of wellies in their bags.

Uniform colours are **RED** in Nursery and **GREEN** in Reception. Our outdoor PE kit is **BLACK**.

Velcro shoes or trainers are a must for young children to support them in developing their self-help and care skills.

Please ensure that ALL clothing is labelled. As you can imagine items often go astray however, we do our best to retrieve what we can. We rely on parents and carers to check children are taking the correct things home.



Reception Uniform

- Green jumper/cardigan
- Grey or black shorts/ trousers/skirt/pinafore
- White polo shirts
- Black shoes

Nursery Uniform

- Red hoodie
- Black bottoms

*** Optional*

PE Kit

- Black shorts
- Green t-shirt
- Black jogging bottoms / leggings
- Black top

How Can you Help?

Parents and carers are the most important people in a child's life. Therefore, your interest and encouragement are vital to your child's development. There are lots of ways you can support your child including:

Ensuring your child **arrives on time each day**. Help your child to be confident in the 'rhythm of the day' and make the most of the time spent in Nursery/Reception.

Sharing information with your child's Key Person/teacher about what is happening at home. If your child has a particular interest or special event, we can support this by planning learning experiences around it.

Reading with your child each day and asking questions about the story and the pictures. We cannot stress how valuable this is in preparing your child to read! Remember the library is just next door to Ribbon!

Encouraging children to be independent. This can be dressing themselves, washing their own cups after drinks or helping you put the ironing away. These are all valuable learning experiences. We are always happy to suggest ways that you can support your child's development at home, do not be afraid to ask!

Are you ready to apply?



Ribbon Academy Admissions Information

https://www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions