



Early Years at Mayville High School

Information booklet 2021/22





Why Mayville?

Mayville is a school for the individual, where every child is valued for who they are and what they can contribute to the whole school community.

Our belief is in 'Excellence through Nurture' – teachers and pupils alike share a commitment to care for one another.

At Mayville, children thrive because of the strong bonds they develop with caring staff, who want the best for each individual. The Early Years Department has a fantastic suite of rooms and excellent facilities at Mayville and every child receives a first class education.

The best way to understand what we do is to experience it with a taster session.

Our Early Years philosophy

At Mayville, pupils are nurtured, respected and listened to. Our **small classes** and **caring staff** enable us to build **strong, trusting relationships** with pupils and families. Parents are actively encouraged to be involved in their children's experiences at Mayville.

Pupils flourish in the **safe, stimulating, exciting and challenging environment**, both indoors and outdoors. Our pupils are taught by **specialist teachers** in Physical Education, Music, Dance and French.

Pupils learn the importance of British values – respecting one another, using manners, being courteous and learning how to resolve conflicts amicably. There are high expectations of behaviour and a culture of rewarding good behaviour and conduct.

Pupils aged 0-5 years old are part of the Foundation Stage. There are seven areas of learning and development in the Foundation Stage curriculum that shape educational programmes in Early Years settings. Good parenting and high quality partnership working provide the foundation children need to make the most of their abilities and talents as they grow up.

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) sets the standards that all early years' providers must meet to ensure that children learn and develop well and are kept healthy and safe. It promotes teaching and learning to ensure children's 'school readiness' and gives children the broad range of knowledge and skills that provide the right foundation for sustained future progress through school and life. There are four overarching principles:

- every child is **unique** and constantly learning to be resilient, capable, confident and self-assured;
- children learn to be strong and independent through **positive relationships**;
- children learn and develop well in **enabling environments**, in which their experiences respond to their individual needs and there is a strong partnership between practitioners and parents and/or carers; and
- **children develop and learn in different ways and at different rates**. The framework covers the education and care of all children in Early Years provision, including children with special educational needs and disabilities.

Opening times

The Early Years Department is open term time, however, there is a Holiday Club running during school holidays and places can be booked on a first-come first-served basis. Booking forms are available from your child's Key Person/Teacher.

Main session times

Nursery (Swans/Kestrels)	8.30-11.30am and 12.30-3.30pm
Lower 1 (Reception)	8.45am-3.10pm (classrooms are open from 8.30am)

Morning Care (8-8.30am) Morning care for Swans, Kestrels and Lower 1 is available from 8.00-8.30am in the Pre-school.

After Care Mayville provides care for pupils after school from 3.30-6.00pm. The children are offered a light snack e.g. sandwich, fruit, cake and water to drink and an opportunity to relax in a variety of self-chosen activities inside and outside.

This service may be used on a regular or occasional basis. If you are not a regular user of the service, please inform a member of staff, when you bring your child, that you would like them to attend aftercare that day and mark it on the signing-in sheet. In the event of an emergency, telephone the school office and they will organise for your child to be cared for after school.



Staff training

The Early Years team attend staff training once a month, on a Friday and therefore Aftercare is unavailable from 3.30-6.00pm on six days a year.

These are the dates for 2021-22:

Autumn Term: Friday 24th September 2021 and Friday 26th November 2021

Spring Term: Friday 28th January 2022 and Friday 25th March 2022

Summer Term: Friday 27th May 2022 and Friday 29th June 2022

If you need to contact Aftercare after 4.30pm, when the school office is closed, please telephone 023 9273 4847.

Holiday times

The main school term dates are published on the website. Holiday club provides activities for Nursery, Pre-prep and Junior pupils in all the school holiday breaks except for 2 weeks at Christmas when the site is closed. Children may be working with different members of staff in holiday times as staff work on a rota system. A full programme of activities will be offered including off site activities which may include travelling on a mini bus. Sessions must be booked and paid for in advance and forms are available from your child's Key Person/Teacher or the office.

Staff training days

The whole school (including nursery staff) have five staff training days per year and the dates are published on our website: mayvillehighschool.com

Entrance requirements

Entry to our Nursery is by a tour of the School and a taster session. Our Pre-School feeds our Reception class and therefore it is assumed that pupils joining will be going through to Reception and subsequently into the Pre-Prep Department.

Please note that deposits will be refundable at the end of the Reception year, provided the correct notice has been given, unless the School did not allow transition from the Nursery to Reception, in which case deposits will be refundable at the end of Kestrels.

Entry to the Reception Class is normally by a taster day and a meeting with a member of the Senior Management Team. Priority is given to pupils within our own Pre-School but there are usually spaces for children from other nurseries. Entry from our Nursery to Reception (L1) is not automatic because we have to ensure that we can cater for the needs of all pupils, keep an appropriate balance of abilities within the class and be certain that all pupils will be able to access the curriculum.

The daily routine

Every day is balanced and includes the following elements;

Large group time:

We say hello to each other, talk about the timeline of the day's activities and introduce new topics.

Directed activities:

Pupils engage in small group directed activities with their Key Person/Teacher focussing on the seven areas of learning. The activities are carefully matched to each pupil's ability.

Child-initiated Activities, inside and outside:

We have a full range of toys and equipment to stimulate learning across the seven areas of learning. We encourage the pupils to be independent learners and choose an activity from the wide range of resources. During this time, practitioners observe the Characteristics of Learning; Playing and Exploring, Active Learning and Creating and Thinking Critically. They engage in sustained shared thinking, encouraging pupils to develop an idea with suggestions of how an activity can be extended.

Specialist activities:

As part of the School, we benefit from the expertise of subject specialists who teach the pupils in PE, Dance and French. The children also have fun Music and Movement activities (Mini Movers) and Mini Football, to help develop ball skills and learn the basics of a team game.

Snack time:

We encourage pupils with healthy eating through the provision of healthy snacks and drinks of water or milk.

Lunch time:

Pupils can choose to have a hot lunch prepared in the school kitchen (must be pre-ordered & paid for via ParentPay) or bring a packed lunch.



Trips out & about

We try to arrange regular visits out and about in the local community, in order to enhance learning about the wider world. Recent trips have included the seafront, local parks, garden centre, shops and the Library.

All activities and trips are risk-assessed and all minibus drivers fully vetted and trained. Trips in the local community provide an opportunity for children to experience different environments and are valuable learning experiences.

Phonics, reading, mathematics & writing

Pupils will be taught key phonological skills, to encourage listening and sound discrimination, as outlined in the Letters and Sounds programme and, by the end of the Foundation Stage, children will be able to read and write simple sentences.

We introduce lots of fun fine motor activities to develop dexterity, such as play dough, threading, mark-making and cutting with scissors, to strengthen fine motor control in readiness for writing. Pupils are then taught the tripod grip and supported to write their own name when they are ready to do so. As they progress and, when they are ready, they are taught the correct letter formation using the cursive script and number formation.



Communication with parents

Key Person: All children will have a Key Person/Teacher, who will be your key point of contact. Staff are caring and approachable and available at drop-off and pick-up times. They will be pleased to arrange a mutually convenient time if you would like to talk about your child's progress.

Email: The principle form of written communication is via email, both from the department and administration team, together with letters, which are uploaded to the Parent Portal and information posters advertising special events.

We have an open-door policy and are happy to discuss any concerns as they arise. We like to work in close partnership with parents and value them as each child's first educator.

Whole School events: Parents are warmly encouraged to attend whole school events, such as the Christmas Production, Harvest Festival, Early Years Parent Assembly and Sports Day. Mayville has an active Parent and Teacher Association which runs charitable and fundraising events, such as the Christmas Fair, Fireworks Evening, Quizzes and Cake Sales etc.

Learning journeys: Each Key Person/Teacher keeps a learning journey for every pupil, showing progress and attainment throughout the year. Information is collected via an application called Tapestry and staff make observations on an iPad, which are then uploaded for parents to see. They include a photograph, observation and a link to a curriculum statement. Parents can access the observations as they happen and add photographs and comments about the things they do at home.

Progress meetings: We offer regular progress meetings with staff to see how each child is progressing and to learn about next steps in learning. These can be arranged with the member of staff concerned.

Written reports: You will receive two written reports about your child's progress in the Autumn Term and Summer Term. At the end of the Foundation Stage in Reception (Lower 1), your child will be graded as either emerging, expected or exceeding the required standard at the end of the Foundation Stage. This information is then passed on to the next Teacher.

Transition meetings and training events are offered during the year and information about these will be communicated via email.

School website: Please refer to the school website for information about general school matters.

How can parents support learning at home?

We acknowledge parents as the child's first teacher and want to work together, to support learning, as they progress through the school. Posts on Tapestry will illustrate what the children are learning and the progress they are making and activities and information on Google classroom will further support learning.

Facilities

The Early Years Department has a suite of classrooms on the Kenilworth site. Each class has provision for; creative activities, science and investigation, construction and building, small world, imaginative play, music, table-top games and activities, mark-making, mathematical activities, puzzles, book corner and an Interactive Whiteboard which the pupils can use to develop their ICT skills and the staff can use for interactive teaching.

As part of the school, we have access to the Ecclesiastical Hall and the Linda Owens Hall for PE, Dance and Music.

Outside, we have a nursery play area, large playground and access to a fleet of minibuses, which allow us to venture off-site and explore the local community of Southsea and further afield. We also use our Cockleshell Playing Fields for outdoor games and PE throughout the year.



Fees

Information about fees and the nursery education grant is available on our website.

Invoices are issued just prior to the commencement of each term. You may pay fees in one payment or spread payments over the term. Parents of pupils claiming the Nursery Education Grant will be required to sign a form at the beginning of each term.

Holidays taken during the term time should be notified to the Senior Practitioner but please note that no refund of fees will be given.



Are lunches & snacks provided?

Hot lunches must be ordered by logging-on to your ParentPay account and booking the day that the meal is required. The deadline for ordering is two days before the meal is required. If you have missed this deadline, the kitchen staff request that you send your child in with a packed lunch.

Healthy snacks are provided for pupils mid-morning and are included in the fees. However, on special occasions, such as birthdays, biscuits and cakes are sometimes seen to make an appearance!

All children will need a named water bottle.

Any food and drink brought into school should be in a lunch box, marked clearly with your child's name. In summer, please ensure they contain a frozen cool block. Please also ensure that any drink containers brought in are clearly marked with your child's name.

Packed lunches should contain healthy items, including sandwiches, fruit etc. and that no chocolate is included although a chocolate covered biscuit is acceptable. For the safety of other pupils in the school with allergies, NUTS of any kind must not be brought into school.

The lunch menu for hot lunches is available on the website and displayed on the notice boards.

If you do not wish your child to have particular food items for religious and/or medical reasons, please let us know and we will endeavour to provide an alternative.

Please note: hot dinners are only available during term time so please provide your child with a packed lunch during the holidays.

We are not able to heat up food brought in from home.

Sleeping children

We understand that young pupils might still need to sleep or rest at nursery and we are happy to talk to parents about sleep requirements during their nursery day.

Toileting and nappies

Pupils need to bring their own nappies, wipes and spare clothes.



What happens if my child is ill?

Pupils must not attend school if they have any form of sickness or infectious illness. If a pupil is taken ill during the school day, a member of staff will telephone the emergency contact number and care for the pupil until the parents or a carer can pick them up.

If your child is ill during the night, please do not send them into school for at least 24 hours. This helps to ensure that they are not infectious to other pupils or staff, and it is very unfair on a child to be sent to school if they feel unwell. If your child is ill on a school day, please phone the school office on 023 9273 4847.

Medication

If your child needs to have prescribed medication at school please bring the medicine to school in its original container and fill out an administration of medicine form with a member of staff. Staff are only permitted to administer medication as directed on the bottle. The form must be signed by the parent before medicine can be administered. Please check the information on the website if you are unsure whether to send your child to school.

<https://what0-18.nhs.uk/parentscarers/child-unwell-ok-go-nurseryschool>

Allergies and regular ongoing medication

Please ensure that we are informed of any allergies or long term health problems from which your child suffers. Please ensure that staff are informed of anything that may have an adverse effect on your child, so that we can deal with them safely and efficiently.



Nursery uniform – Swans / Kestrels

<p>WINTER UNIFORM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nursery sweatshirt (navy) • Jogging pants (navy) – not jeans, belts for buckles • Plain white/navy socks • Nursery polo shirt with collar (pink, pale blue or white) • Soft shoes, trainers or plimsolls, NOT BOOTS, Velcro if possible • Warm waterproof coat, hat and gloves
<p>SUMMER UNIFORM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nursery polo shirt • Nursery sweatshirt (navy) • Shorts or jogging pants (navy) • Pink checked dress • Sun hat • Hair must be tied back if it is long
<p>EQUIPMENT REQUIRED</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Mayville backpack (obtainable from the office) containing spare pants and socks • A Mayville book bag (obtainable from the office) • A complete change of clothes • Wellington boots • A waterproof jacket and waterproof trousers or all in one waterproof • Sun hat and sun lotion (Staff will apply sun cream after lunch for children who stay all day but please can parents apply in the morning at home)

JEWELLERY SHOULD NOT BE WORN TO SCHOOL

Lower 1 uniform – (Reception Class)

WINTER UNIFORM

- Mayville three in one navy coat
- Navy blazer
- Navy V-necked pullover
- School scarf
- PE Bag
- Book Bag
- Navy cagoule (plain)
- Navy regulation tunic or long grey trousers
- Pink check blouse with collar and long sleeves or long sleeved white shirt
- School tie
- Navy gloves (if worn)
- Navy hat/cap with school badge
- Black shoes with buckle or velcro fastening
- Navy blue knee length socks or plain navy blue tights
- Navy hair tie (if worn)

SUMMER UNIFORM

- Pink check dress
- or
- White short sleeved shirt and grey trousers
- White short socks (not knee length)
- Regulation black sandals (not sling back or open toe)
- Straw boater with hat band (bow at the back) / school cap
- White/pink hair ribbon (if worn)

JEWELLERY SHOULD NOT BE WORN TO SCHOOL

SPORTS REQUIREMENTS

- House coloured T-shirt
 - Navy tracksuit bottoms
 - Polo shirt – pink, blue or white
 - Navy sweatshirt
 - Navy shorts
 - White socks- summer
 - Predominantly white trainers (white velcro)
 - Drawstring PE Bag
 - House sun hat
- Name tapes to be sewn on all sports garments*

DANCE REQUIREMENTS

- Navy MHS long sleeved leotard and Navy MHS leggings
- or
- Navy shorts and Polo shirt
- Pink/black ballet or jazz shoes

Regular second-hand uniform sales are held at MHS and considerable savings can be made using this facility. Dates and times of the sales are displayed around the school buildings and can also be obtained from the Office.

Uniform outfitters: AlleyCatz online – www.alleycatz.co.uk

Please note: no earrings, nail vanish or chains are to be worn by children at any time

It is essential that all clothing, shoes and equipment are clearly marked with the pupil's name



ParentPay

We have streamlined Mayville's payment methods and encourage all parents to use ParentPay to book and pay for school meals, clubs, trips and (once in the main school) morning/after-school care. Should you wish your child to have a hot meal, please log onto ParentPay, select 'Nursery Hot Dinner' and follow the 'Make Bookings' link. You will then be presented with each week by date and can select which day you would like a meal to be cooked. Once selected, you can check out and pay. **We ask that you pre-book and the cut off date is two days before the day the meal is required. If you have not pre-booked a hot dinner please can you send your child in with a packed lunch.**

Emergency contact

Please ensure we have two up to date contact numbers and be sure to let us know if your telephone number changes as it is imperative that we can contact you in an emergency.

Collecting children

We can only release children to nominated adults. If in an emergency, you need your child to be collected by someone else, if possible, inform the Senior Practitioner by letter, giving details of the name of the person, a brief description of them and state whether or not they are known to the child. The person collecting must be over 18 years of age, have a form of identification with them and also know the emergency password that you gave at the time of registration. In extreme cases, this process may be organised by telephone.

How can I prepare my child for starting school or nursery?

All the activities that you do with your child at home are important in supporting their learning and development and have a really long lasting effect on your child's learning as they progress towards and through school. For example, talking, reading, counting, singing nursery rhymes with your child or cooking and baking with them. Playing outside is very important and the local play park is a great way to develop your child's physical skills. Visits to the seaside and the woods provide a great stimulus for children's curiosity and conversation.

Here are some more ideas:

- Read with your child and nurture a love for books by going to the library.
- Let your child help with simple chores.
- Encourage your child to play with other children. This helps them to learn the value of sharing and friendship.
- Be clear and consistent when disciplining your child. Explain and show the behaviour that you expect from them. Whenever you say no, follow up with what they should be doing instead.
- Help your child develop good language skills by speaking to them in complete sentences and using "grown up" words. Help them to use the correct words and phrases.
- Help your child through the steps to solve problems when they are upset.
- Give your child a limited number of simple choices (for example, deciding what to wear, when to play, and what to eat for a snack).

The following websites may be useful:

https://www.foundationyears.org.uk/files/2014/08/EYFS_Parents_Guide-amended.pdf

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/topics>

<https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/>



Transition

Swans to Kestrels

The pupils in Swans will already be very familiar with the staff in Kestrels due to joint activities. They will also be familiar with the learning environment as we have a number of special curricular days when we join together e.g. the Christmas Play. When children in Swans become 3 years old and if they are ready, staff will discuss the transition to the Pre-school (Kestrels) which will start with short visits before they join the Pre-School full time.

Pre-School (Kestrels) to Lower 1 (Reception)

In the summer term pupils do transition visits to get to know staff in Lower 1. A meeting is held for parents during the Summer Term to discuss how parents can best support their children with the transition.

Support for children with special needs and disabilities

Children are initially tracked using the Early Years Outcomes document. If a child is not making age-expected progress or observations highlight concerns, the practitioner will discuss their findings with the SENCO and the following procedure will be followed.

1. Practitioner to complete tracking form based on initial concern.
2. Staff working with the child discuss appropriate next steps with regards to the individual child and inform the school SENCO.
3. Staff meet with child's parents to discuss concerns, gain further information and consent to support the child further in setting.
4. With parental consent, an Individual Education Plan or Individual Behaviour Plan is put in place.
5. Make a referral on to relevant outside agencies if required or request the child is seen in setting.
6. Record support given on the tracking sheet and who has worked with the child.
7. Review IEP or IBP termly with parents.

Disabilities

Staff will work closely with parents to make the required reasonable adjustments in order for all children to access the curriculum and feel happy to ensure any child is not treated less favourably.

Links with the Pre-Prep Department

Lower 1 are co-located with Upper 1 and Lower 11 in Russell House. Transition is seamless into Key Stage 1, as the children and staff work very closely together throughout the year.

Lower 1 have playtime, assemblies and lunch with Pre-Prep and in the Summer Term they all participate in Sports Day together. Mayville regularly supports charitable or curriculum events such as Book Week, where pupils and staff dress up and parade and at the end of the Spring Term, we all participate in the Easter Bonnet parade. All pupils at Mayville are allocated a house, which is either Cavell (blue) Nelson (yellow) or Austen (Green) and children quickly feel part of their team, especially at Sports Day.



Further information

The school website is regularly updated with information and events, for anything else, please give us a call or send an email.

023 9273 4847

| enquiries@mayvillehighschool.net

| mayvillehighschool.com