

Thames View Infants



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[ThamesViewInfants.org](https://www.ThamesViewInfants.org)

[TVInfants](https://www.TVInfants.org)

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Dear Parents/Carers;

Welcome to Nursery – Key Information for New Families



Welcome to Thames View Infants!

We are absolutely delighted to welcome you and your child to the Thames View Infants family. It has been such a lovely start to the year, and we have been so pleased to see how beautifully all of the children are settling into Nursery. Nursery is already full of smiles, laughter and busy learners. The children are playing happily together, beginning to make new friendships and growing in confidence as they get to know their teachers, their classmates and their new routines.

There is so much to discover during these first few weeks, and we know that starting Nursery is a big milestone for both children and their families. We want you to feel welcomed, supported and part of our school community from the very beginning. Thames View Infants is a very special school, and we believe passionately that every child deserves the very best start in life. We work hard to help every child, and their family, feel valued, supported and able to achieve their very best.

This is my 20th year as Headteacher, and over the years I've had the privilege of learning so much about supporting our youngest children as they begin their school journey. I've put together a series of short, bite-sized videos sharing some of the things we've learnt along the way, with practical ideas and advice to help you and your child as they grow and develop through their time at School. I hope you find them useful — [click here to view the playlist.](#)



There will be lots more information and opportunities to get to know us over the coming weeks, but for now, we have put together some of the most



important things you need to know to help you and your child settle happily into Nursery.

A Little Bit About Thames View Infants...

Thames View Infants is a very special school, and we are incredibly proud of our caring and committed staff and the high standards we set for every child. We are a high-performing, inclusive Academy and have been judged **Outstanding by Ofsted three times in a row**. [Click here to read the report!](#)



Our leadership team, including the Headteacher and Deputy Headteacher, are very much part of school life and teach across the school, working alongside staff and children every day. We are also fortunate to have a dedicated group of volunteer Governors, known as our LAB, who help us continually improve our curriculum, learning and pupil voice. If you would like to find out more about becoming involved with our LAB later this year, please speak to me.

Watch our [“Every Day Matters”](#) video to get a feel for what life at Thames View Infants is like!

Parent App – Arbor

- We use **Arbor** for *all* school communications and it is essential **for both parents to have a login to Arbor**.
- We recommend using **the Arbor Parent App** on your mobile. Please [click here](#) for a step-by-step guide on how to get set up on Arbor if you haven't already activated your account.
- If you have any problems with Arbor, please pop in and we'll do our best to help.



You will need Arbor to:

- Receive newsletters, weekly learning summaries and event updates.
- Receive in-app messages from us – for instance – ‘Bumped Head Notifications’ and reminders.
- Buy uniform and PE kit.
- Give consent for your child to go on School visits.
- Sign your child up for after-school clubs.
- Book Parent-Teacher meetings (the first set are in **November**).
- Pay for School Visits and Clubs.

 Arbor is essential. Without Arbor you'll miss essential information.



We also use **BlueSky** for informal, behind-the-scenes updates:

 [Follow us here](#)

These videos help get you and your child “Nursery Ready” – **there's lots of helpful advice here:**

[Being Ready for Nursery](#), [Headlice](#), [Bedtime Routines](#), [Developing Independence](#), [Developing Speaking/Listening skills](#), [What to do at Home time](#), [Developing Resilience](#), [Regulating Play & Emotions](#), [You're in Charge!](#), [Fussy Eating Support](#) and more [Fussy Eating Support](#).

We're a PAPERLESS School: download the Arbor App to receive School news, book after-School clubs and Parents' Meetings, and give consent for educational visits.

Thames View Infants/TVI Learning: a company limited by guarantee

Registered in England: Company Number: 08163191

Registered Office: TVI Learning, Thames View Infants, Bastable Avenue, Barking, Essex IG11 0LG

Attendance – Every Day Matters

- Nursery is a **very important year** – daily attendance is vital.
- We support your child's well-being with:
 - Administering medication where needed
 - Keeping a watchful eye if they feel unwell
 - Encouraging positive attendance routines
- If absent, contact us on **020 8270 4317 (option 1)** by **9:30am each day**. Do not email.
- We reward good attendance and more information will follow.
-  [Download our Term Dates](#)



- ✗ **Don't be late** – children enter School at 8:45am. (But arrive earlier at 8:40 to meet the teacher).
- ✗ **No term-time holidays** – these will not be authorised. You might risk losing your school place.

Please remember that nursery is part of your child's education and is **not a day-care provision**. The expectation is that children attend **every single day**, unless they are unwell. Consistent attendance is important for your child's learning, development and wellbeing.

Absence without good reason, or arrival later than 9:15am, will be recorded as unauthorised in line with DfE legislation.

 [Check and sync our School calendar here](#)

!!! If you have a family emergency, let us know at your earliest convenience.

Pupils with **97%+ attendance** do best academically and socially.
Below 90% = **Persistent Absentee** – reported to the DfE.

[Click here](#) to watch my video explaining all about attendance percentages and what they mean.

Parents as Partners

We believe the very best learning happens when parents and teachers work together. Getting to know your child's class teacher and building that connection from the start can make such a positive difference, and our teachers are always happy to have a quick chat with you at drop-off or pick-up. Good communication really matters to us, and I've made 3 short videos explaining why — [click here](#), [here](#) and [here](#) to watch.

What Your Child Needs

- A **school-branded polo shirt** (£7 each – 6 colours available).
- **Indoor slippers** to keep feet warm in class and **wellies** for outside.
- Please ensure all items are **clearly labelled**. [Click here](#) for my video on how to avoid lost uniform!
- No jewellery or earrings are allowed in School.
- Most children **don't need jumpers** until the weather changes.
- **Pre-loved alternatives** are available via the School Office



✦ Children may wear their own clothes during **Weeks 1 & 2** only.

✦ From **Week 3 onwards**, uniform is compulsory.



Uniform shopping list & info:

👉 [Visit our Uniform Page](#) which includes:

- Full uniform checklist, including slippers and wellies
- Links to **two non-branded Asda polos** (cheaper alternatives)

🕒 Late Collection Charge

It is essential that children are collected **promptly at the end of their Nursery session**. Unfortunately, we do not have the staffing capacity to accommodate late collections, and waiting beyond their collection time can be particularly upsetting and unsettling for children.

We therefore ask all families to make sure they arrive in good time to collect their child. **A late collection fee will be charged if your child is collected after their scheduled collection time.**

The fee is **£15 for the first 1–15 minutes**, followed by an additional **£15 for each subsequent 15-minute period (or part thereof)**.

We appreciate your support in ensuring that collection times are adhered to. This helps us to maintain appropriate staffing levels and, most importantly, ensures that children are collected promptly and do not experience unnecessary distress.

Important Information for Full Time Nursery Families

Families with children who attend our Nursery Full time and have a school lunch pay in advance. [Please click here for pricing information.](#)



IMPORTANT: If your child has a full-time place in Nursery please make sure that your child care codes remain up to date.

School Dinner Taster Session for Full Time Nursery Parents! Friday 18th September 2:00pm

Our school catering team, **Olive Dining**, have created a delicious menu for the children. We always receive lots of positive feedback from both children and staff, and it's wonderful to see so many clean plates every day! The food is 100% Halal.

We would love for you to come and sample some of the food that Olive Dining will be preparing for your child each day. Here is a link to our Nursery 'Picky Tea' Lunch menu: [Nursery Menu](#)



You are warmly invited to our Parent School Lunch Taster Session:

 Friday 18th September  2:00pm in the school hall.

 Please enter via the school office, where a member of staff will sign you in.

This is a great opportunity to meet the team, try some of the menu items, and see first-hand the quality of the food being served in school.

Please note that this taster session is exclusively for parents and carers of children currently in Full Time Nursery.

We would love to see you there! 😊

Learning & Progress

Every child is different, and we take great care to make sure that learning is individualised to each child's strengths, needs and stage of development. Our flexible groupings mean that children are given the right level of challenge and support, and we are very proud to be among the highest-attaining Infant Schools nationally.

There are lots of ways you can support your child at home, and your child's teacher will be very happy to suggest ideas or resources. Most importantly, please try to spend just [five minutes reading together every evening](#) — this small, regular routine makes such a difference. Each week, your child's teacher will also share a short summary of what the children have been learning and what they will be exploring the following week. You can also find our [Nursery Curriculum online here](#), so you can see what your child is learning and talk about it together at home.



Please click for my videos on [Homework](#) at Thames View Infants.

School Pets



We're lucky to have seven chicken and our little (elderly) school dog, Pear, as part of the Thames View Infants community. They bring lots of joy to school and provide wonderful opportunities for children to learn about kindness, care and responsibility. As the children settle into school, we gradually introduce them to our animals in a calm and gentle way.

Safeguarding & School Conduct

- **Social Media:** No child under 13 should be on platforms like Facebook / Tik Tok / You Tube.
- **Playground Safety:** Parents or childminders must **stay with children** until they enter School. Never leave them at the gate.

- **Reminder:** We are obliged to report any disclosures to **Social Services** and then **follow their lead**.



Respecting Staff & Others

We are always here to listen and support you, so if you have a question, concern or something you're unsure about, please come and talk to us directly. Sometimes information can get passed on incorrectly, so rather than relying on second-hand information, please check with us — [if it doesn't sound right, it's always best to ask!](#)

Our Inclusion Officer, Inclusion Lead and SENDCO are also here to support families, with Emma Murphy also serving as our Designated Safeguarding Lead. We ask that all conversations with our staff are respectful and in line with our Code of Conduct; aggressive, threatening or inappropriate behaviour towards staff may result in a ban from the school premises.

☒ Quick Daily Checklist

-  Use Arbor (check it daily).
-  Watch our [Playlist](#) – and subscribe for regular updates!
-  Wellies and slippers.
-  Wear uniform from Week 3 (buy via Arbor or see uniform page).
-  No earrings or jewellery.
-  Label everything in permanent marker.
-  No term-time holidays – fines may apply.
-  After-school care bookable via [Premier Education](#)
-  Apply for **Pupil Premium** if eligible – [check here](#)
-  Sync your calendar with ours: [term dates page](#)
-  Follow us on **BlueSky**: [@tvinfants.bsky.social](#)

We're looking forward to a fantastic year of learning and your partnership.

Please say hello in the playground and keep in touch.

Yours sincerely,



Paul Jordan

Headteacher