



WELCOME PACK

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Welcome to Ladybirds!

We hope you find this pack interesting and informative. If there is anything additional you would like to know, a member of staff will always be happy to help.

Ladybirds welcome all families and children- regardless of race, culture, sex, social class and disability. We seek to work closely with all families having a positive impact on the children's development. Our aim is to create a stimulating learning environment where all children access an exciting curriculum, ensuring every child is happy and highly motivated to learn.

We offer care for children aged 2 – 5 years old. Ladybirds are part of a large Early Years Foundation Stage Unit within Hanwell Fields Community School and offer wrap around care to those children that use our Nursery and Reception Classes.

Our setup is rather unique. Ladybirds can take children aged 2 & 3 years old, up until the September AFTER their 3rd birthday. The academic year that they turn 4, children are then classed as "Caterpillars". This is the schools Nursery Class (the year before they start Reception Class) where they attend 5 mornings/ 5 afternoons/ or 5 full days based on 30 hours funding each week.

Reception Class are called "Butterflies". This is the academic year that your child will be turning 5 and will be their final year in the Early Years Foundation Stage.

If children in each of these classes require "wrap around care" such as breakfast club, afterschool club, Ladybirds will cater for this. It is very unusual for children to be able to attend a Foundation Stage unit for potentially 3+ years. We believe this is a huge benefit to our children and families for consistency and stability throughout their early year's education.

Children in our setting access a vast variety of attractive, stimulating and educational experiences. More importantly, they receive the care, support and teaching from a wide host of Early Years Professionals. As a team, we aim to bring a variety of knowledge, experience and expertise to the setting- supporting and nurturing children in their early education.

Please take the time to read through this Welcome Pack so that you can gather a clear understanding about Ladybirds and what we do. If after reading, you have some un-answered questions, please feel free to contact me or arrange a visit. We know that choosing the right setting to care for your children is one of the hardest decisions to make!

Kind Regards

Annie Richards

Ladybirds Manager
Hanwell Fields Community School



Sessions & Prices (UPDATED SEPTEMBER 2025)

2-3 YEAR OLDS (PAYABLE UNTIL THE TERM AFTER 3RD BIRTHDAY- INLINE WITH FUNDING)

Sessions & Times	Price	FUNDING
BREAKFAST CLUB (FROM 7.30AM)	£12.75	***NOT INCLUDED IN FUNDING
AM SESSION (8.30-11.30AM)	£25.50	15 HOURS FUNDING
LUNCH	£2.50	YOU WILL NEED TO INDICATE WHAT DAYS YOU WANT A SCHOOL DINNER. IF YOU WANT TO AVOID ANY CHARGE- YOU NEED TO PROVIDE A PACKED LUNCH.
PM SESSION (12.15-3.15PM)	£25.50	15 HOURS FUNDING
WHOLE DAY (9.00AM-3.00PM)	£51.00	30 HOURS FUNDING. LUNCH NOT INCLUDED. CHARGED AS EXTRA.
AFTER SCHOOL CLUB (UNTIL 4.30PM)	£12.75	***NOT INCLUDED IN FUNDING
WHOLE DAY WRAP AROUND (8.30AM-9.00AM & 3.00PM-3.15PM)	£6	***NOT INCLUDED IN FUNDING
LATE FEE	£10	PER 10 MINUTES

3-5 YEAR OLDS (PAYABLE THE TERM AFTER 3RD BIRTHDAY- INLINE WITH FUNDING)

Sessions & Times	Price	FUNDING
BREAKFAST CLUB (FROM 7.30AM)	£9	NOT INCLUDED IN FUNDING
AM SESSION (8.30-11.30AM)	£18	15 HOURS FUNDING
LUNCH	£2.50	YOU WILL NEED TO INDICATE WHAT DAYS YOU WANT A SCHOOL DINNER. IF YOU WANT TO AVOID ANY CHARGE- YOU NEED TO PROVIDE A PACKED LUNCH.
PM SESSION (12.15-3.15PM)	£18	15 HOURS FUNDING
WHOLE DAY (9.00AM-3.00PM)	£36	30 HOURS FUNDING. LUNCH NOT INCLUDED. CHARGED AS EXTRA.
AFTER SCHOOL CLUB (UNTIL 4.30PM)	£9	NOT INCLUDED IN FUNDING
WHOLE DAY WRAP AROUND (8.30AM-9.00AM & 3.00PM-3.15PM)	£4	NOT INCLUDED IN FUNDING
LATE FEE	£10	PER 10 MINUTES



Ladybirds

* Menus available on website and newsletter- these follow the school food trust standards. If your child has food allergies or dietary requirement it is your responsibility to let the team know on the registration forms and update them of any changes ASAP.

We understand that parents may sometimes wish to collect their children earlier than these finish times - however, the full session price will be charged due to staffing the session.

We also understand that children may not attend due to illness/ holidays/ family commitments- however the full session charges are still payable to ensure that the space is kept.

Funded Hours

All funding takes place the term AFTER the child's 2nd/3rd birthday depending on your eligibility.

You can use these funded sessions in addition to your paid session also. You will need to provide us with your code prior to starting.

If you are eligible for 30 hours funding, you also need to apply and provide us with your code in advance. You are required to reapply for your 30hours code on a regular basis, failure to do so will result in all fees being payable.

Date of 3 rd Birthday	Eligible for funding from:
1 st April-31 st August	Term 1- September
1 st September-31 st December	Term 3- January
1 st January-31 st March	Term 5- April

If you do not use your booked sessions and have continuous absences, we will need to discuss making relevant changes.

Payment

You will be invoiced at the start of each month. This will be sent to you via email so please ensure your email addresses are clear. Please use your child's name as the reference for all payments.

If you fall into arrears, then please understand that you risk losing your place in the provision.

(See Charging Policy on school website)

Uniform

We request Ladybirds also wear school uniform, in-line with school. We are only asking for children to wear the top half (yellow tshirt/ school sweatshirt). We are happy for the children to wear their own trousers/ bottom half as we understand the children will be learning to toilet train etc at this age.

However, if you wish to put them in full uniform and shoes- this is of course very welcome!

The most important consideration, is that the children are comfortable and can be **independent**. If your child is learning to use the toilet- please avoid tight trousers, or dungarees etc! Please consider clothes and shoes which the children can manage on their own. Children are encouraged to engage in creative / messy play each day and clothes do get messy! – do not send children in their best clothes! Remember to name your child's belongings.

We have attached information for you in regards to purchasing t-shirts/ jumpers etc. Uniform does NOT need to have school logo.

Settling In

We understand that often, this may be the first time that your child has spent time away from you in such a social environment. All children and families deal with these situations differently so we aim to provide your child with ample opportunity to settle. These will be arranged prior to your child's start day (normally the week before). We do expect all families to make use of this and we would not accept a child to start with no settling in visit. We would work with all families individually and staff would be more than happy



to work out a plan that works for you and your child. We recognise some children may need more time than others to settle in and it is a process that can require some time and commitment from all involved. It is helpful if you can encourage your child to become independent and organise themselves on arrival to sessions and we will support you in doing so too.

When your child starts Pre-School they will need:

- Spare change of clothes (labelled) A **full set** please- including pants **and** socks. (this does not have to be uniform)
- Suitable clothing for current weather conditions ie sun hat/ winter coat/ hat/ gloves etc
- **Sun cream needs to be applied at home prior to your child's session.**
- A pair of wellington boots and a puddle suit - BOTH NAMED! To keep at school.
*****Please note- we do go out in ALL weather conditions!!!**
*****Please also note that sometimes, wearing an apron will put children off an activity. We will not turn a child away from messy play – but will always ensure they are sent home dry etc.**
A spare plastic bag is helpful to put any dirty/ wet clothing in!

If your child is not completely potty trained, you will need to provide the following in addition:

- A sufficient number of nappies for the session and **named** wipes (in their pre-school bag) we advise 3 nappies for half day sessions and 6 for a full day.
- If they are learning- make sure you send a **sufficient number** of spare trousers, pants and socks too!
- We do not provide wipes, so if your child sometimes has accidents when training- you will also need to provide wipes etc to ensure we have everything to clean them up.
- If your child takes a nap and needs a nappy for bedtime, please provide.

Pre-School will provide:

- A fruit snack & milk/ water

The Curriculum

When your child starts with us in Ladybirds, they will be coming into what is called The Early Years Foundation Stage (Birth to Five). We provide a broad, balanced, developmentally appropriate and flexible curriculum that caters for the wide range of needs of the children with whom we work.

The Three prime areas of learning and development are:

- **COMMUNICATION and LANGUAGE** involves giving children opportunities to experience a language rich environment; to develop their confidence and skills in expressing themselves; and to speak and listen in a range of situations.
- **PHYSICAL** involves providing opportunities for young children to be active and interactive; and to develop their coordination, control, and movement. Children must be helped to understand the importance of physical activity, and to make healthy choices in relation to food.



- **PERSONAL, SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL** involves helping children to develop a positive sense of themselves, and others; to form relationships and develop respect for others; to develop social skills and learn how to manage their feelings; to understand appropriate behaviour in groups; and to have confidence in their own ability.

The four further specific areas of learning are:

- **LITERACY** development involves encouraging children to link sounds and letters and to begin to read and write. Children must be given access to a wide range of reading materials (books, poems, and other written materials) to ignite their interest
- **MATHEMATICS** involves providing children with opportunities to develop and improve their skills in counting, understanding and using numbers, calculating simple addition and subtraction problems and to describe shapes, spaces and measures.
- **EXPRESSIVE ARTS and DESIGN** involves enabling children to explore and play with a wide range of media and materials, as well as providing opportunities and encouragement for sharing their thoughts, ideas and feelings through a variety of activities in art, music, movement, dance, role-play and design technology.
- **UNDERSTANDING of the WORLD** involves guiding children to make sense of their physical world and their community through opportunities to explore, observe and find out about people, places, technology and the environment.

The children access the curriculum through practical experiences and structured play activities in both the indoor and outdoor environment. We also like to arrange visitors to come in and see us such as policemen, firemen, a veterinary nurse etc.

Your child's Learning Journey & sharing this with you!

Every child that enters Ladybirds will have their own Learning Journey. We currently use an online learning journal called Tapestry. You will receive an activation email prior to them starting and will need to set a secure password etc. This will enable you to have access to all the wonderful observations, photos and videos that we gather during their time with us. Please be mindful these are not updated every day and our priority is to interact and support your child, rather than follow them with an ipad! However, we do give regular updates, as well as sharing things that you put on from home. We often use these as a chance for your little one to talk and share something from home. Please support us in this!

Ways you could help your child before they start Pre-School.

We encourage our children to become as independent as possible. Children feel great satisfaction when they can begin to do things for themselves. Even if this means very basic skills such as putting their arms in their coat, feet in their shoes or helping themselves to a drink! We are always encouraging children to access their learning environment through play and this experience is the very first introduction to education and supporting them in becoming excited to learn and ready for school.

Safeguarding



Ladybirds are always alert to the care and needs of every child in our care and believe that every child has the right to be safe. Our first concern is always your child's welfare. Ladybirds will follow the school's Safeguarding Policy. Any safeguarding concerns, please report to **Annie Richards (Ladybirds Manager)**. See Safeguarding policy. Please do not be offended if we ask you what happened if your child arrives with a visible injury. We may also ask you to complete a form. Our policies can be viewed on the school Website.

Health and First Aid

Please do not send your child to Ladybirds when he/she is unwell. If your child has any infectious disease they will not be able to attend Ladybirds. **Children must not return to Ladybirds until a clear 48hours from the last bout of illness.** Please let us know if your child is unwell and won't be in for their session.

***We are able to administer medicine, however, all medication **must be prescribed by a doctor**, have the child's full name on and be in the original container. A medication form **MUST** be completed and all medication handed to a member of staff to ensure it is stored safely and correctly. See Medical Care Policy.

We record accidents and parents are asked to sign a copy. If any hospital treatment is required then parents are always contacted after the emergency services have been called. A First Aider is in attendance at all times.

