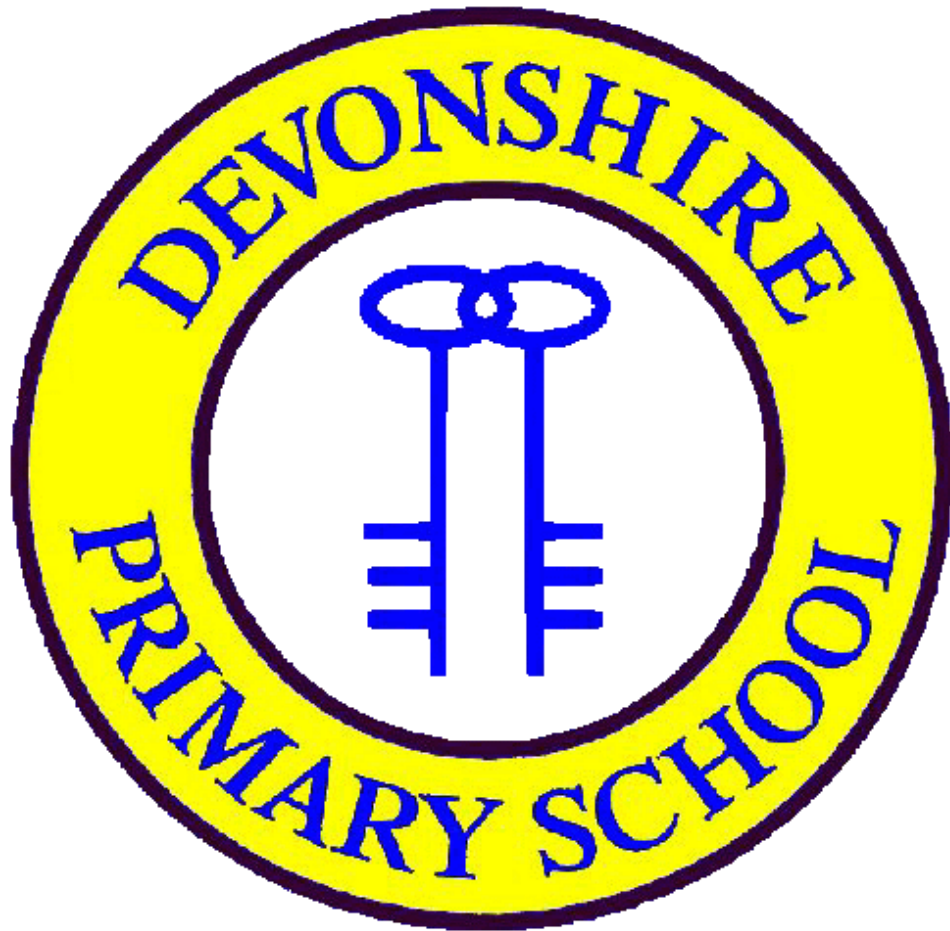


Welcome to



Devonshire Nursery

Hedgehog Class

2026-2027

Telephone number: 020 8643 1174

Email: office @ Devonshire.sutton.sch.uk

www.devonshireprimary.org

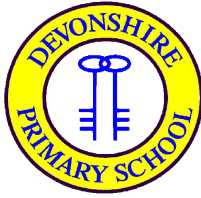


Devonshire Primary School, Sutton



@devonshiresm2

WELCOME TO DEVONSHIRE



This booklet aims to provide an introduction to the school and includes information which we hope will be of use to you.

Aims

At Devonshire, our vision is for us all to be:

*“**Determined** to be lifelong learners & to be the best that we can be.*

***Positive** in our outlook, showing pride in all that we do.*

***Supportive** of everyone in the school community.”*

The aim of our teaching is to give every child the best possible start in life and to help children develop lively, inquiring minds and a love of learning, together with a sense of self-respect and respect for others. The curriculum is challenging but structured so that children succeed rather than fail in school.

All of our children settle well in to Nursery and quickly start to enjoy the fun activities that the staff plan for them. Our Nursery staff team are here to support you and your child settle into Nursery and are always here to help. We aim to establish positive links between home and school and welcome parental involvement.

Devonshire Parent and Staff Association (Registered Charity)

When your child joins the school, you automatically become a member of the ‘Devonshire Parent and Staff Association’ (PSA). Each year there are social and fundraising events. New parents are warmly encouraged to get in touch with the PSA by email: psa@devonshireprimaryschool.co.uk.

Funds raised by the PSA have enabled the school to purchase a whole range of additional items including the playground climbing frames and books for classrooms.

Morning Session

8.40am – 11.40am

Staff

Hedgehog Class will be led by a fully qualified teacher.

WELCOME TO NURSERY



This is our classroom.



**This is our cloak room.
This is where you will hang
up your coat and bag.**

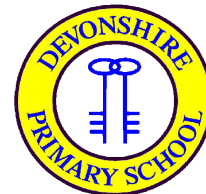


**These are the toilets
that you will use.**



**This is our playground.
We have a sandpit,
a growing area and
a mud kitchen!**

Starting School



Introduction Meeting

We are delighted that in September we will be admitting 26 children into our morning Nursery session. To enable this very important transition time to run as smoothly as possible for everybody, we warmly invite the parents and carers of our new children to a very important meeting which will be held on **Wednesday 1st July 2026 at 3.45pm**. At this meeting we will outline what lies ahead for your children and you will get the opportunity to meet the Nursery staff.

Please note that this meeting is for adults only. You will need to make child-care arrangements for your son/daughter. We hope to see as many of you as possible at this meeting.

Home visits

Every child is offered a short home visit which will **either be on Thursday 3rd September or Friday 4th September 2026**. We will confirm at the Introduction meeting the time of your home visit. These visits allow you and your child to get to know the teacher and/or teaching assistant. They also give us the opportunity to discuss information about the school with you and for you to ask questions. We will also talk about any specific needs your child might have. Alternatively, if you cannot attend the Home Visit in September, we may be able to offer a Home Visit in July 2026, please send an email to nursery@devonshire.sutton.sch.uk.

Stay and Play sessions

We will invite you and your child to a 'Stay and Play' session on the morning of **Monday 7th September 2026** which will last for 1 hour. We will confirm at the Introduction meeting the time of your session. This gives both yourselves and your child the opportunity to come into school, see life in the Nursery and to meet other children and their parents/carers who will be starting with them. You will also have the chance to meet the staff who will be working with your children who can answer any questions you may have and show you where to bring your child on their first day and where to meet them at the end of the day.

The children don't need to wear their uniform to this session – save it for their first day!

Starting Nursery

On **Tuesday 8th and Wednesday 9th September 2026**, we will run 2, shorter sessions just for the children between either **8.40am to 10am** or **10.20am to 11.40am**. We will let you know at the Introduction meeting the time your child will be invited to join.

On **Thursday 10th September 2026** we hope that all children will be able to stay for the entire session from **8.40am – 11.40am**.

Please be reassured that if your child does not settle, we will call you to collect them.

Things to work on before your child starts Nursery

It would be really helpful if you could ensure that your child can do the following things before they start school;

- Put his / her coat on independently and use a zip
- Turn clothes the right way round and dress without help – practise putting on their uniform to get used to wearing it
- Manage the toilet independently and wash hands
- Use a water drinking bottle and drink water
- Make his/her needs known and ask an adult for help
- Share toys with others and take turns
- Tidy toys away
- Recognise his / her name
- Enjoy listening to stories
- Count from 0 to 10 and recognise some numbers
- Hold a pencil correctly (using a tripod grip)
- Trace patterns and colour in pictures
- Follow instructions
- Be happy to be away from parents / carers and understand that they will be back soon
- It is also very important to establish a good bedtime routine before your child starts

Personal Information

We use a digital platform called Applicaa Admissions+ to ensure we have all the information we need to know about your child before they start nursery. The link is emailed to you and the information must be provided before your child starts school.

Please ensure that you inform the school office if any information changes.

The School Day: Nursery

8.40am Nursery gate opens and Nursery begins

Nursery children enter through the Nursery gate located to the right hand side of the Site Supervisor's house. A class teacher/teaching assistant will meet and welcome your child. We encourage all children to be independent from their first day if possible, but understand that some children may need more support when separating from their parents/carers in the morning and we will work with you and your child to ease any separation anxiety.

8.45am Nursery gate is locked

If you are late, your child must enter school via the main entrance where you will be required to sign them in at the school office. You will need to wait with your child until a member of the Nursery staff is able to safely leave Nursery to collect your child from outside the school office.

11.40am Nursery ends for children

Nursery finishes at 11.40am and children need to be collected promptly.

Please be on time as it can be very unsettling for a young child if you are late dropping off or collecting.

It is important that you provide your password to anyone that collects your child on your behalf, if they are not known to the school. There is no need for you to inform the school office if someone else is collecting your child, so long as they have the password.

If you are delayed collecting your child on time, then please call the school office.

We encourage all our Nursery children to walk or scoot to school. Scooters can be kept in the scooter racks situated beside the Reception/Year 1 door. If you should bring your child in a buggy/pushchair then please ensure you take your buggy/pushchair home with you as we have no storage on site.

It is a school rule that children may not ride their scooter through the gate or on the school site for the safety of everyone. Please ensure all nursery children are walked from the school gate and buggies are left outside the nursery gate.

On your child's first day at school, please bring;

- Devonshire book bag– this should be brought into Nursery every day (no rucksacks please, as there is limited space in the Nursery for these)
- Most children are toilet trained before they start; however please provide a change of clothes in a named plastic bag to leave at Nursery in case of accidents
- Water bottle (named) – please fill this with water only
- Coat

Please ensure that all items are clearly labelled with your child's name

School Uniform

The children at Devonshire are very proud of their school uniform. We believe that children who take care and a pride in the way that they look also take care and a pride in their work.

Suppliers

We have two suppliers for the sale of school uniform items that demonstrate the best quality and value for money:

- Your School Uniform: order [online](#) or by post
- Cladish in Wallington: 29 - 31 Woodcote Road, Wallington (Tel: 020 8669 9992) - order [online](#) or by post or visit in person.

The nursery has a compulsory uniform policy. This means your child must wear the following to school every day:

- A white polo shirt
- A royal blue sweatshirt/jumper/cardigan
- Grey school trousers/skirt or black, grey or navy jogging bottoms/leggings
- Children can wear school summer dresses or grey/black/navy shorts when the weather is warm
- A Devonshire book bag. Please do not use a backpack as we do not have the space to hang them.
- Black leather school shoes or trainers – No boots. Please do not send your child to Nursery in shoes that have laces. If the laces become undone, they can be a trip hazard and get trapped in climbing equipment or bikes/scooters that the children are using.
- You must bring a coat to Nursery every day

The school has a limited supply of good quality pre-loved uniform. If you would be interested in finding out more about this, please complete the form at the bottom of the page at this link <https://www.devonshireprimary.org/page/?title=Uniform&pid=101>

Please ensure that all items are clearly labelled with your child's name

PE

The children have a PE lesson each Friday. Please can we ask that you do not dress your child with tights on these days as they are very hard for the children to remove and replace. They must wear shoes on a Friday that they can easily take off and put on independently.

Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum (EYFS)

The EYFS sets the standards that all early year's 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 right foundation for good future progress through school and life. *(Statutory Framework for the EYFS Nov 2024)*

Further information on our curriculum is available on the school website

<https://www.devonshireprimary.org/page/?title=Early+Years+Curriculum&pid=52>

The School Year

The school year runs from 1st September to 31st August. We divide the year in to 3 terms: Autumn, Spring and Summer. Each term has 2 half terms. Please check the school website for actual term dates.

Communicating with staff

We are always happy to talk to you after Nursery so please feel free to ask us anything you are unsure of or need further details of. We do ask, however, that if you need to speak to us, you wait for all the children to be sent safely to their parents and carers first. We will then be able to give you our full attention.

Communicating with families

We use a system called Arbor to send texts and emails home and in app messages. Please ensure you regularly check your email address for messages from school. Some families have found it helpful to create a new email address specifically for school communications.

Week Ahead Bulletin

Every week we send home via email our Week Ahead bulletin. This includes information about the topic we will be focussing on, any particular activities we have arranged, general messages and a reminder of important dates.

Parent Consultations

Parent consultations take place during the Autumn and Spring terms when you will be able to discuss your child's progress with the class teacher. You will receive a written report at the end of the Summer Term.

Learning Journeys

Throughout the year, staff will record your child's learning in a folder called a 'Learning Journey.' This will form a unique record of your child's learning and development throughout the year. It will contain samples of work, photographs and observations. These folders enable staff to track your child's progress and attainment and also plan future activities. We also value your comments about your child's progress and attainment.

Birthdays

We will celebrate your child's birthday in school however please do not send cake, sweets or other gifts, as we are unable to give these out.

Toys

Please **do not** allow your child to bring in toys from home, they can be the source of upset if they get broken or lost. Please return any toys from nursery that find their way to your home!

Own Clothes Days

We occasionally have days when children are encouraged to wear their own clothes to school instead of their school uniform, normally in exchange for a small donation for charity. Please ensure you name all the clothing your child wears to school.

Refreshments

Children are encouraged to help themselves to drinking water throughout the session. Please bring a named water bottle to Nursery each day. Devonshire is a healthy school so please only provide water for your child to drink while at Nursery.

Fruit

All children in Early Years are entitled to a free piece of fruit or vegetable each morning through the 'National School Fruit Scheme'.

Milk

Milk is available every day for children who wish to receive it and the scheme is administered by Cool Milk. Children in Nursery receive free milk as they are under the age of 5, funded by the UK Government's Nursery Milk Scheme.

Nut Free



Devonshire Primary is a nut free school as some of our children have a severe allergy to nuts so, please never bring items on to the school site that contain or may contain nuts. Please check pre-packaged items carefully.

Jewellery/Nail Varnish

Jewellery is not allowed in Nursery with the exception of stud earrings. Any earrings worn to school must be removed or covered in tape during P.E. sessions. Please also do not allow your child to come to school wearing nail varnish.

Long Hair

Long hair must always be tied back and large hair accessories, such as bows, are not permitted.

Sunscreen

We are a sun safe school. Please apply sunscreen to your child before school. Please ensure your child wears a named sunhat on sunny days.

Safety

Please **DO NOT** drive into the school grounds or wait in the car parking area. These spaces are reserved for staff only. There are separate pedestrian entrances for the children. Please use these and **NOT** the main vehicular entrance. Cars and children do not mix.

Parking

Devonshire Avenue can get very congested at specific times of the day. We promote "Walking to School" but if you do have to bring your car under no circumstances are you permitted to park in our neighbour's car parks, e.g. Devonshire House. These car parks are private property and must not be parked in, no matter how tempting it is. We work hard to develop and maintain good relationships with our neighbours, please help us maintain these. Similarly, please do not allow your children to play in the residential gardens or sit on walls.

Please be aware that there is no parking in Devonshire Avenue between 10am and 11am.

Absence

If your child is unable to attend Nursery as they are unwell you **MUST** inform the school office on the first day of absence. Please either email the school stating your child's name, class and reason for absence to attendance@devonshire.sutton.sch.uk, telephone the school on 020 8643 1174 and leave a message on the absence line with the same information or complete the form at <https://www.devonshireprimary.org/page/?title=Absence+from+School&pid=86> Please ensure that the school office is provided with up-to-date contact details.

Medical Appointments

We request that routine appointments for doctors, dentist etc. are made outside of Nursery hours where possible. If this cannot be avoided then please inform the school as soon as you have made the appointment so that we can ensure your child is ready at the appropriate time.

Attendance

We believe our pupils will only achieve their full potential if they attend Nursery regularly and punctually. At Devonshire, we expect all pupils to aim for a minimum of 96% attendance and punctuality. Individual pupil records prove that this is achievable. If we have concerns about your child's attendance, we will speak to you.

Holidays

Although your child is not statutory school age, we apply the same expectations on attendance to our Nursery children. Therefore, your child is not entitled to holiday during term time. From September 2013, amendments to The Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006 made it clear that headteachers may not grant leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances. Any leave taken without the headteacher's authorisation will be unauthorised. By way of example, we do not authorise leave if relatives/friends are getting married or if you wish to visit family who live abroad. If a relative is unwell and you wish to go and spend time with them, we will require a letter from a medical professional confirming the diagnosis and confirming that your visit is urgently required.

Withdrawing your Child from Nursery

We understand that sometimes your family circumstances may change and you may need to withdraw your child from Nursery. In this instance we require 6 weeks notice in writing.

We value the support of parents and carers and look forward to building a strong working relationship with you and your child over the forthcoming year.

We hope your child has a very happy time here at Devonshire.



IMPORTANT 2026 DATES TO REMEMBER



- Introduction Meeting (adults only)
Wednesday 1st July at 3.45pm
- Home Visit
Either Thursday 2nd September or Friday 3rd September
- Stay and Play Session (with parents/carers)
Monday 7th September either 9am – 10am or 10.30am – 11.30am
- Starting Nursery (without parents/carers)
Tuesday 8th and Wednesday 9th September from 8.40am – 10.20am or 10.20am – 11.40am
(Due to parking restrictions, you cannot park on Devonshire Avenue between 10am and 11am – We will open the gates 5 minutes before the end of the session)
- Normal full day
Thursday 10th September from 8.40am to 11.40am