

Everton

Nursery School and Family Centre



www.evertonnurseryschoolandfamilycentre.org



@EvertonNursery



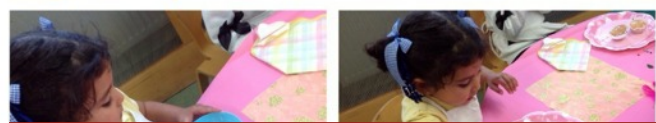
0151 233 1969



7+8 Investigating the changes of the season



9+10 Early Mathematics



13+14 PLODs at Everton

11 ATTENDANCE

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12 PRIMARY SCHOOL APPLICATION

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15 Children's Centre

Children's Centre Activities Timetable



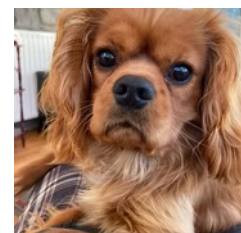
Dr. Lesley Curtis OBE
Headteacher/Head of Centre

Welcome



Welcome to our new parents/carers joining the Nursery School during September and October. Welcome back to our existing parents/carers this first part of the autumn term too. The staff team are all looking forward to working with you during this academic year. Thank you to the parents/carers that were able to come to the 'Meet the Headteacher/Team meetings' during the beginning of October. If you didn't manage to come to the meetings there are other ways to communicate with myself and the team through the evertonnsfc@evertoncentre.liverpool.sch.uk email address or by arranging meetings if required.

If you come into the school/centre on Wednesdays, you may see Hugo the school/centre dog.



Hugo is 2.5 years old now and still in training. He has attended two classes so far and will attend the Good Citizens Bronze award in 2026.



I look forward to meeting you at various events that are planned throughout the autumn term.

Dr. Lesley Curtis OBE
Headteacher/Head of Centre



Autumn 2025 Contents



1 Headteacher's welcome

2 Contents

3+4 In Harmony and Tuning In at Everton

5+6 Island Time

7+8 Investigating the changes of the season

9+10 Early Mathematics

11 Attendance At Nursery School

12 Primary School Application

13+14 PLODs at Everton

15 Children's Centre Timetable

Mission Statement

The mission of Everton Nursery School and Family Centre is to promote the children's educational and social development and help families have and achieve high expectations for themselves and the community.



In Harmony and Tuning In at Everton **P3+4**



Investigating the changes of the season **P7+8**



Early Mathematics **P9+10**

Contact information



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Everton Children's Centre



Rebecca Morgan

Assistant Headteacher/(Leadership Team)

In Harmony and Tuning In at Everton

In Harmony Liverpool is inspired by Venezuela's El Sistema and uses orchestral music-making to improve the health, education and aspirations of children and young people in Everton. The In Harmony team work with children at Everton Nursery School exploring musicianship from age 2. The In Harmony team is made up of musicians from The Royal Liverpool Philharmonic orchestra.



In March 2024 In Harmony celebrated 15 years in North Liverpool. Since 2009, the programme has benefited over 4,000 children and families in Everton and Anfield and over 300 professional musicians, artists, school teachers and staff.

The curriculum develops musicianship in eight key areas:

Pitch – through voice work and singing.

Pulse – through the beat.

Rhythm – through the rhythm of the words. Concept

Pairs – use of high/low, loud/quiet, fast/slow and long/short.

Instrument Preparation – developing the coordination needed for string playing through posture, arm movements, whole body movements, finger and thumb dexterity.

Ensemble – through team work.

Tracking/ Reading – through the development of the skills to read music notation.

Creativity/ Expression - Listening to and enjoying music



continued



At Everton Nursery School, children in Heyworth, Cresswell and Spencer 3 also access weekly Tuning In sessions led by the In Harmony musicians. During these sessions, musicians are encouraged to follow children's lead and allow children the freedom of expressing their thoughts and interests through instrument playing.

The instruments available for exploration are a wide variety and include egg shakers, hand bells, desk bells, glockenspiels, drums, tambourines and rainmakers. Staff monitor children's levels of engagement and well-being during Tuning In sessions to ensure a positive impact on children's learning and development.

If you have any questions about the In Harmony programme or would like any additional information, please do not hesitate to speak to your child's Class Teacher or Family Worker.





Lyndsey Gardner

Senior Early Childhood Educator (HLTA)
Heyworth Class

Island time

In Heyworth class children's personal, social and emotional development, communication, language and problem-solving skills are enhanced through the interpretation of Elinor Goldschmied's theories on heuristic play and 'islands of intimacy'.

At Everton Nursery School this is referred to as 'Island Time'. We have found that this way of working deepens children's learning and improves their well-being. The improvement in children's problem solving and communication and language skills is confirmed by nursery school colleagues following transition to the on-site nursery.



What makes 'Island time' different is that it is focused interaction specifically organised to respond to two-year-olds' need for close relationships with their family worker. Island time starts on the 'island' - a special rug only used during this session - and is characterised by a flow of meaningful, directed praise about what children are doing, saying and sharing.

The focus and intention of each Island Time is different for each child. The aim is to ignite children's curiosity and promote awe and wonder exploring interesting items together.



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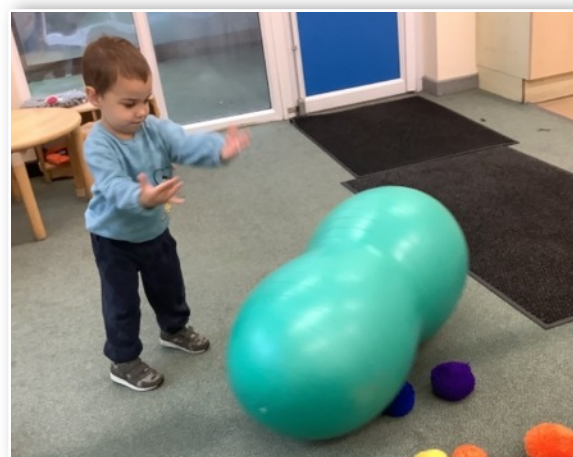


The planned activities increase children's attention, concentration and sustained investigation. Staff have also discovered that this correlates with increased levels of happiness and well-being in the children. The children access Island time sessions when they are fully settled in Heyworth class and when they feel safe enough to move around the classroom. During this half term children have so far explored:

- Puppets - relating to the tale of the half term 'Jack and the Beanstalk'.
- Click Clack track - a toy that promotes turn taking
- A pumpkin - exploring what a pumpkin feels like and new seasonal experiences.
- Bubbles - promoting joy, wonder and fun!



Island time sessions are shared on children's learning journals and will detail what children have learned and key vocabulary. Please continue to like and comment on your child's learning journey. We look forward to more Island Time sessions next term.





Kate Doyle

Nursery Teacher
Spencer 2

Investigating the changes of the season

The children in Spencer 2

have been investigating the changes of the season and enjoying a wide range of autumn-themed learning experiences both indoors and outdoors.

We began by going on Autumn walks around our outdoor environment, using checklists to spot and identify seasonal materials such as colourful leaves, acorns, conkers, and sycamore seeds. Our educational visit to Everton park was another wonderful opportunity to explore nature, where we discovered many different types of leaves and even found some prickly horse chestnut cases.



The children noticed that the apple trees in our outdoor area were full of fruit. We carefully collected the apples and used them to bake apple crumble. We also had the opportunity to take part in pressing apples to make our very own fresh apple juice.

During forest school, the children have been creative with natural materials, making leaf crowns and necklaces. In Expressive Arts, they have enjoyed leaf printing and collage making, experimenting with textures and colours to create stunning autumn artwork.





Our story times have also been filled with autumn related stories.

The children have listened to and discussed books such as Leaf Man, We're Going on a Leaf Hunt, The Tiny Acorn, Fletcher and the Fallen Leaves, and We're Going on a Pumpkin Hunt. These stories have inspired lots of imaginative play and conversation about the changing world around us.

We have also been busy harvesting crops from our school garden



including cucumbers, tomatoes, sweet corn and pumpkins. Pumpkin picking in our very own pumpkin patch was a real highlight for the children, and we are all looking forward to using our harvest to make some home pumpkin soup soon!

It has been a wonderful term so far, full of exploration, creativity, and hands-on learning. The children have shown great curiosity and teamwork as they've discovered all that makes Autumn such a special season.



Megan Edwards
Nursery Teacher

Early mathematics



The children in Spencer have explored early mathematics through a focused investigation of the number one, inspired by 'The Dot' by Peter H. Reynolds. The story's central message - that even a small mark can be the beginning of something meaningful - provided a creative and accessible entry point into deeper number learning.

Children engaged in a "dot hunt" around the environment, identifying dots in everyday objects and contexts. This observational activity encouraged spatial awareness, pattern recognition, and the idea that one object can hold meaning on its own or as part of a whole.

To reinforce the concept of one as a single unit, the children took part in a hands-on M&M experiment where hot water was poured over the m and, m's. Children were able to make predictions and estimations of what was going to happen which helped support mathematical thinking. Each sweet was counted individually, helping children internalise the principle of one-to-one correspondence and make tangible connections between quantity and number.

The learning continued through dot-inspired artwork, where children created their own designs starting with a single mark. As they explored colour, size, and pattern, they naturally used mathematical language and demonstrated early understanding of scale, shape, and composition.



This approach reflects a key principle in early mathematics: that deep understanding is more valuable than rapid counting.

There is a common misconception that young children must quickly count to 10 to demonstrate progress. However, genuine mathematical thinking develops when children are supported to explore number concepts in context - understanding what numbers represent and how they relate to the world around them.

By avoiding a focus on right and wrong answers, educators encouraged open exploration, risk-taking, and critical thinking. In this supportive environment, children remained confident and engaged, building strong foundations for future mathematical learning.

Through creative experiences and meaningful exploration, the children discovered that understanding a single number - deeply and in many forms - is a powerful step in becoming confident, capable mathematicians.





Ruth Scully
Inclusion Co-ordinator

ATTENDANCE AT NURSERY SCHOOL



The importance of **Excellent School Attendance** for your child cannot be stressed enough. While it is inevitable that children will nearly all be absent at some time due to sickness, persistent absence will severely disrupt their education. Persistently absent children are those who have more than 10% absences. This amount of absence from school has a significantly detrimental impact on their learning and development. We will be continuing to monitor children who are persistently absent from School throughout the academic year.

Why is excellent school attendance important?

Excellent attendance gives children the opportunity to achieve to their full potential giving them a better chance in life. When children attend school every day they achieve more, learn better, settle in quicker and make positive friendships. There is a clear link between poor attendance at school and lower academic achievement.

The more time a child misses in school the more gaps they will have in their learning, which can be hard to catch up with. Also children find it difficult to settle back into a routine after a period of absence and this can impact upon their friendships and well-being.

Policy and Procedure

As requested by the Local Authority, all children's attendance is carefully monitored, and shared with the Local Authority.

Parents are **expected to inform the school via the school Arbor App**, on the morning of each day a child is absent from school, this is part of a nationwide safeguarding protocol so that every child can be accounted for. Please continue to let us know through using our school Arbor App when this is the case for your child, so that we can **authorise** your child's absence from school. Failure to inform us of your child's absence from school will result in an **unauthorised absence mark**. We will also need to undertake a **welfare check home visit** if your child is absent without informing school of this.

If your child has poor attendance, support will be given to improve their attendance through the Headteacher and School staff team. If poor attendance continues then your child's nursery place will be reviewed.



Ruth Scully
Inclusion Co-ordinator

Primary School Application

PRIMARY SCHOOL APPLICATION **SPENCER CLASS CHILDREN AND SOME CRESSWELL CLASS CHILDREN**

If your child's fourth birthday falls between 1st September 2025 and 31st August 2026, your son/daughter will transition to primary school for September 2026.

Apply online at www.liverpool.gov.uk/admissions

The application window for reception class places formally opened on 1st September 2025 and **you have until Thursday 15th January 2026 to submit your application** to the local authority.

The Local Authority will contact Parents/Carers via email or letter dependent on your application method, with your offer on what is now a national offer date for reception class places on **16th April 2026**.

If you have any questions regarding this matter or would like support with the application, please contact Ruth Scully (Inclusion Coordinator) at evertonnsfc@evertoncentre.liverpool.sch.uk



Catriona McDonough
Cresswell 1 Teacher

PLODs at Everton Nursery

In Cresswell and Spencer classes, children will spend time in a smaller group for Family Worker Time. During this time they will engage in activities with their Family Worker around one of the children's interests in the form of a PLOD (Possible Line of Direction). Each week a different PLOD interest will be used to plan Family Worker time activities.



Cresswell children focus on the Prime Areas of Learning:

- Personal Social and Emotional Development
- Communication and Language
- Physical Development

Spencer Classes focus on all 7 areas of learning which include the above Prime Areas and the 4 Specific Areas of Learning:

- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the World
- Expressive Arts and Design



continued

Activities related to the child's PLOD focus will be chosen together with the child, asking them for ideas on how they can explore their interest. The PLOD interest will then be continued through continuous provision both indoors and outdoors. Family Workers will also plan in sessions where children can share what they have created so far and talk about what they have liked. Once your child's Family Worker has completed the intended learning through the PLOD, they will then post a story on Learning Journals with photographs explaining



the activities they have engaged in and any new skills and vocabulary they have used. When they are posted, please take the time to read about your child's PLOD when it has been written and make a comment! You can also post any home learning that your child has done relating to their interest for them to share with their Family Worker.



This half term in Cresswell we have explored PLODs with the themes of Spiders, Under the Sea and Climbing. Children have shown excitement when engaging in activities related to these topics and when sharing them with their friends!



Everton Nursery School and Family Centre Autumn Timetable 2025

 Everton Children Centre

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MONDAY

Story and Rhyme 9:30am - 10:15am

Fun interactive sessions for 0 - 4 year olds. Come and enjoy exciting stories and rhymes with your child.

BAMBIS



10.30am - 11.30am

Breastfeeding Stay and play Play Group

Early Communication 12:30pm - 2:30pm

Play based targeted group offering advice and strategies to support children's communication skills (**Bookable**)

All sessions must be booked

Check our Social media or contact reception for updates 0151 233 1969

THURSDAY

Tiny Tasters 9.30am - 11.30am

Starting 9th October course encouraging children 18 months and above to prepare a healthy snack with their parents and learn about healthy lifestyles.

PEEP Stay and Play 1.00pm-2.00pm

1-3 years
Come along and play with your child designed to extend and build on your child's learning and development.

Mighty Movers 3.30pm - 4.15pm

4 week course starting 11th September exploring movement and music for parents and children. Booking required

Splash Pool sessions available

Wednesday

9.45 - 10.45am / 11.15 - 12.15pm / 1.15 - 2.15pm

Thursday

9.45-10.45am / 11.15 -12.15pm £4 per adult

Children Free. Contact reception to book.



TUESDAY

Tots In Harmony 9.30am-10.15am

For children 0-3 years old. Music making session for children and parents with musicians from the Liverpool Philharmonic.

Keeping Your Child 9.30am-11.30am

In Mind Starting 23rd September 5 Weeks
Helps parents and carers understand how their actions and relationships impact family life.

Queen of Greens Bus 10:15am - 11:00am

Fresh fruit and vegetables every week. Healthy Start Vouchers can be used.

PEEP- All About Baby 1.00pm-2.00pm

Under 1's Stay and Play. A relaxed, friendly group for under 1's with their parents/carers to play and explore babies development.

Introducing Solids 2.00pm -3.00pm

Last Tuesday of each month.
21/10/2025, 25/11/2025

FRIDAY

Baby Massage 10.00am -11.00am

5 week course promoting positive touch between you and your baby, with accreditation included.

Councillor advice 11.00am -12.00pm

Drop in with Jane Corbett
3rd Friday of the Month

SWAN Stay and Play 1 00pm-2 00pm

(Support with additional needs) Join us for a supported stay and play session for children 0-5 who have special educational needs, physical or learning disability. A safe space to explore play.

Development Matters

Are you worried about your child's development? Book an appointment to speak with one of the staff team to discuss your concerns.

Sensory Room

£1 per session 0 - 4 Years

Also available, Family support, Food bank voucher referral and food parcels.

Family Activities during Half Term's

WEDNESDAY

Baby Weighing 9.30am-11.30am

Appointments only
Contact reception to book

Tiny Tales 10.00am-11.00am

At the Liverpool Light House Bringing stories to life through play, songs, arts and crafts. Starts 10th September

PEEP- Stay and Play 1.00pm-2.00pm
1 - 3 years

Come along and play with your child designed to extend and build on your child's learning and development.

BAMBIS 1:00pm-2:00pm

Antenatal Infant feeding session.

1st Oct 1:00pm - 2:00 pm

5th Nov 1:00pm - 2:00 pm

3rd Dec 1:00pm - 2:00 pm month.

Newborn Know How 1.00pm - 2.30pm

Antenatal education support for parents to learn what to expect with your new baby.

8th Oct 1:00pm - 2:00 pm 12th Nov 1:00pm - 2:00 pm 10th Dec 1:00pm - 2:00 pm

COMING SOON

Nurture Programme

10 week course

Helping adults understand and manage feelings and behaviour and feel positive in their relationships with their children and each other

You and Me Mum

10 week course to understand the impact of domestic abuse and how it affects you as a parent and how it effects your children

Toilet Training

Need support and advice with toilet training your child?

Contact reception for future dates.

Sleep Training

Is your child having sleep difficulties?

Come and see our trained sleep Practitioners for support and advice. For children over 12 months. 4 Week course. Contact Reception

All sessions must be booked

Check our Social media or contact reception for updates 0151 233 1969