



ST MICHAEL'S ALL-YEAR ROUND NURSERY CARE

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

*The Foundation for a Lifetime of Learning Starts Here
St Michael's School & Nursery*

A Tradition of Excellence Since 1922

*St Michael's School
Church of England Prep School & Nursery
Co-Educational - 2-11 Years*

Welcome!

Thank you for considering the Nursery at St Michael's School for your child's early years. We pride ourselves on providing an exceptional, nurturing environment, coupled with the unique advantage of being part of the wider school community.

Your child will benefit from our experienced staff and an enrichment learning programme delivered by specialist teachers who also teach our older pupils. This means your child gains access to school-wide facilities and expertise from day one.

Our focus ensures that children who join us are well-equipped - both academically and emotionally - to make the best start in Reception. We have recently introduced our new all-year offering and appreciate this exciting change opens up a lot of questions. We hope the Frequently Asked Questions will be helpful, but please do not hesitate to ask any further questions if they are not answered here.

We do hope you consider St Michael's for the beginning of your child's educational journey. It is an exciting time, and our knowledgeable nursery and admissions staff are here to help you make the decision that is right for your child and your family.

Best wishes,

Mrs Kate Perry
Head of EYFS & Pre-Prep
St Michael's School & Nursery



When are you open?

- As a Church of England Nursery, we observe two main Christian holidays, which means we are closed for two weeks at Christmas and one week at Easter.
- We are also closed on other bank holidays that fall outside of these two main Christian events.

How many children can we offer places to

- We have 400 sessions per week to offer.
- On any given day, if every session is full, we can accommodate 15 Pre-Nursery Pupils and 25 Nursery Pupils, 40 in total.

Do you accept Government Funding?

- Yes, we do. All children aged 3-4 years have access to 15 hours of weekly funding. We apply three hours a day of funding to our morning sessions, which run from 8.30am - 1.00pm.
- We allocate four full-time places to children who are eligible for 30 hours of government funding. Children have to attend all-year-care and a minimum of eight sessions per week.
- While funding is typically allocated for the 34-week St Michael's term-time schedule, it is stretched to cover an extra four weeks for pupils who utilise the Nursery on a year-round basis.

What are your opening times:

- We are open from 7.30am - 6.00pm.
- The Nursery day runs from 8.30am - 3.30pm.
- Extended Morning (EM) and Extended Afternoon (EA) care will be delivered by our own Nursery staff and take place within the Nursery environment.
- For further details, please see the fee structure at the end of this document.

Can I just opt for Term-Time Nursery provision?

- Yes, we currently have two packages: Term-Time Only and Term-Time plus All-Year-Round Care.
- Non-Term time sessions are exclusive to our Term-Time only pupils.

What is the difference between the Term-Time and Non-Term Time offering?

At St Michael's, our Nursery operates for 49 weeks of the year, offering families both high-quality early education during term time and engaging, care-based provision during the school holidays. While the consistency of routine remains the same for children, the focus of our staff teams changes slightly depending on the time of year.

Below is a guide to help families understand the difference:

Term-Time Nursery Provision (Educational Focus)

During the standard school term, children follow a structured programme of learning delivered in line with the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). This is led by our qualified Nursery teaching staff.

In term time, children benefit from:

- A planned curriculum designed to support early language, literacy, mathematics and personal development
- Daily observations and learning activities tailored to developmental needs
- Access to specialist teaching where appropriate
- Regular updates for parents on progress and next steps
- A high level of educational input and early learning experiences

This ensures children make strong progress and are well-prepared for Reception.

Non-Term-Time Nursery Provision (Holiday Care & Enrichment)

During the school holiday periods, the Nursery moves to a care and enrichment model, led by our qualified Nursery practitioners.

In non-term-time weeks, the emphasis is on:

- Play-based activities, crafts, outdoor play and exploration
- A relaxed and nurturing routine to support children's well-being
- Opportunities for social play and friendship building
- Fun, themed days and practical experiences
- Continuity of care within a familiar environment

While the EYFS welfare standards still apply (as they do year-round), staff are not required to deliver formal curriculum planning or assessment during holiday provision. This allows children to enjoy a more flexible, holiday-style experience while still receiving high-quality care from trained practitioners.

A Consistent Experience for Children

Although the focus changes slightly between term-time and non-term-time provision, children experience:

- The same warm, caring environment
- Familiar staff
- Consistent routines that help them feel secure
- Smooth transitions between term and holiday periods

This combined approach ensures families have reliable, high-quality childcare for most of the year, while children benefit from both structured learning and rich, play-based holiday experiences.

Do the children wear uniform?

Yes, please see requirements below (all uniform except for the girls' winter tunic, are to be purchased from Stevensons).

Pre-Nursery Children

- Royal blue sweatshirt
- Royal blue joggers
- Royal blue shorts
- St Michael's Polo Shirt (this will be available shortly via Stevensons, until such time Nursery t-shirts can be purchased from the Nursery)
- St Michael's waterproof coat
- Royal blue fleece hat
- White socks
- Black, blue or white trainers
- St Michael's small rucksack
- Wellies - to be left at Nursery

In non-term time, children can just wear the Pre-Nursery t-shirt or polo shirt with their normal clothes.

Nursery Children

Winter:

Boys

- Grey trousers
- Checked short sleeved shirt
- School jumper
- St Michael's waterproof coat
- School cap
- Grey socks
- Black shoes
- St Michael's small rucksack

Girls

- Grey tunic
- Checked short sleeved shirt
- School jumper
- St Michael's Waterproof coat
- Winter felt hat
- Grey socks
- Black Shoes
- St Michael's small rucksack

Summer:

Boys

- Grey shorts
- Checked short sleeved shirt
- Jumper
- School cap
- Grey socks
- Black shoes
- St Michael's small rucksack

Girls

- Summer dress
- Jumper
- Summer boater
- White socks
- Black shoes
- St Michael's small rucksack

• Nursery Children Only

Unisex PE Kit

St Michael's Midlayer

St Michael's PE T-Shirt

St Michael's Tapered Trouser

St Michael's PE Shorts

Tap / Ballet shoes (check when these will be required before purchasing)

Important: Please check the timetable to confirm the days your child requires the PE kit before purchasing it. This ensures your child has the correct uniform only when needed.

In non-term time, Nursery children can wear either their uniform or PE kit.

NURSERY FEES 2025-2026

	Hours	Period	Hourly Rate	Session Rate
Ext Morning	1	07:30 - 08:30	£8.00	£8.00
Morning Session	4.5	08:30 - 13:00	£8.57	£38.57
Afternoon Session	2.5	13:00 - 15:30	£8.57	£21.43
Ext Afternoon	2.5	15:30- 18:00	£8.00	£20.00
Funding- 15 hrs	3	09:00 - 12:00	-£8.57	-£25.71
Funding- 30 hrs	6	09:00 - 15:00	-£8.57	-£51.42
Lunch	-		£4.00	£4.00
Enrichment	-		£5.00	£5.00

Please note that nursery fees are reviewed annually, with any adjustments taking effect each September.

Attendance Options for Parents

Parents are able to choose the pattern of attendance that best suits their family needs. The following options are available:

Full Day Provision (7.30 am – 6.00 pm)

A complete day including Early Morning Care, all core sessions, meals, snacks and After School Care.

Daytime Provision + Extended Morning (EM)

Children attend the full daytime Nursery programme, with the option of adding Early Morning Care from 7.30 am – 8.30 am.

Daytime Provision + Extended Afternoon (EA)

Children attend the full daytime Nursery programme, with the option of adding After School Care until 6.00 pm.

Nursery & Pre-Nursery Fees (VAT-Exempt)

We accept Tax-Free Childcare and Childcare Vouchers for tuition up to the age of 5.

Our Nursery programme includes enrichment lessons in Drama, French, Music, and Dance, delivered by specialist teachers.

Attendance Requirements

- **Pre-Nursery:** Minimum of **3 sessions per week for the first term and five thereafter**
- **Nursery:** Minimum of **5 sessions per week**

Children can join our Pre-Nursery as soon as they turn three years of age, and move up to our Nursery, the September after their third birthday.

Funded Hours

- We offer up to **15 funded hours per week** (Monday to Friday, **9.00am - 12.00pm**)
- We offer four full time places for children who receive 30 hours per week of government funding. Children have to attend all-year-care and a minimum of eight sessions per week.

Late Collection Policy

Children must be collected promptly at the end of their nursery session to ensure their safety and to maintain appropriate staffing ratios.

- A late collection fee will be charged from the official session end time at a rate of £10 for the first 15 minutes, or part thereof*, increasing by £10 for each subsequent 15-minute period (£20 for 16–30 minutes late, £30 for 31–45 minutes late).
- Charges are applied per child and will be added to the next invoice.
- Persistent late collection may result in a review of the childcare arrangement.

i.e. not pro rated but - 1 minute late - £10 / 10 minutes late - £10 / 15 minutes late -£10

Your cooperation in ensuring children are collected on time is much appreciated.

At St Michael's, we have adopted a graduated approach, starting at £10 for the first 15 minutes and increasing incrementally thereafter. This reflects both the need to remain fair to parents whilst also ensuring that staffing requirements and supervision ratios are upheld, particularly within the EYFS setting.

The School reserves the right, at its discretion, to waive or adjust charges in exceptional or unforeseen circumstances.

Admissions & Discounts

- **£80 Registration Fee** (non-refundable):
- **Acceptance Deposit: £350**
Refundable when your child leaves the nursery / school, subject to terms and conditions

Important Update: Nursery Extended Care Bookings

Please note that the Pembeda booking system used for ad hoc morning and after-school care in the main school does not apply to Nursery children.

Since January 2026, the Nursery has operated as a separate entity with distinct staffing requirements. To ensure we maintain the correct staff-to-child ratios, extended care cannot be booked on an ad hoc basis.

Requesting Care: If you require extended morning or afternoon sessions, these must be agreed upon in advance as part of your child's regular attendance schedule. If you need to adjust these arrangements, please contact **the Admissions Team** directly so that appropriate staffing can be arranged.

Does my child automatically have a place in the Reception class at St Michael's after attending the Nursery?

- Nursery parents will have a priority window to secure their child's place in our Reception setting. Our admissions policy explains in detail how the process works.

Further Advice?

For all admissions queries, please contact:

Mrs Pippa Pearce *Head of Admissions*

Email: admissions@stmichaelschool.co.uk

Tel: 01702 416310