

HOUSTON PRIMARY SCHOOL - EARLY LEARNING & CHILDCARE CLASS

Below we have collated the feedback from parents/carers on different aspects of our nursery. We issued forms in May 2018 and were delighted with the high number of responses we received. Thank you to all who took time to provide us with valuable feedback. We will endeavour to continually improve our service with the support of our community.

Staff and Ethos

All staff are helpful and friendly. My son has built a strong relationship with his key worker Mr Donnelly.

We have always found everyone to be really friendly and welcoming. I feel that the staff are very nurturing and my son responds well to this.

I love how all the staff are so experienced. I know they know exactly how to deal with any issues.

All staff are very friendly, welcoming and enthusiastic and take a genuine interest in the children. My son has grown very fond of Mrs Smart over his time at nursery – she has been a great teacher.

Staff are fantastic – great with the children but also great at engaging and interacting with the parents. Mrs Smart is a real asset to the nursery school.

All staff are very friendly, professional and knowledgeable.

All staff are excellent. I can't fault them.

Staff – You are amazing!!! So friendly – Makes mum's job much easier leaving your child in a happy place!

Staff are very friendly and approachable. I am happy to leave my daughter with them every day. I know she is safe and well looked after.

The staff in the nursery really helped my daughter to settle in so quickly and I'll always be grateful for that. They have helped her to express herself and grow in confidence.

All staff are very friendly and professional.

Very friendly and welcoming environment for both adults and children. Caring environment.

Very good staff who deal with any issues. They should be commended for all their hard work.

Always very, very welcoming and attentive to my daughter's needs. All staff very supportive and helpful. SMT supportive and obliging through personal difficulties.

Staff are friendly, caring and helpful. Out of all the nurseries our son has attended before starting at Houston, the staff are the best.

The staff are wonderful. They are positive about their jobs and clearly very skilled in supporting each child achieve their full potential.

I've always found the staff to be helpful and interested in my child's development.

Cannot praise the staff enough! Always warm and welcoming. Have complete confidence in their exceptional knowledge and expertise.

Great ethos in the nursery. Staff are always welcoming and willing to help.

Welcoming and friendly nursery. Staff have been a great support to my family. Thank you!

All staff very happy and helpful, nothing is too much bother. Special thanks to Mrs Scott on the door! Friendly and upbeat every day. I think having the same staff as a welcome every day is a good idea.

Always welcoming and accommodating. Lots of things in common with the school makes the transition to school so much easier.

Positive ethos. All staff very welcoming and clearly care with good knowledge of the children.

Fantastic staff – caring, engaging and encouraging.

All staff are very approachable including the Deputy Head. Staff are supportive of children and families. Always have time to discuss concerns.

Indoor and Outdoor Spaces

Outdoors offers a good variety of spaces and freedom for play. Indoors there are nice open plan spaces, not overly cluttered or colourful.

Staff have worked hard to maximise the available space.

Really happy with the space at the nursery. The outdoor area is great, plenty of room to accommodate the many varied activities. I think the pirate ship is fantastic!

The Mud Kitchen is always a topic of conversation... and the bikes. If only the weather was better!

Love the outdoor space! Great to let them play and get dirty! The space has a real sense of home and natural surroundings about it – like a mini adventure!

So much to do both indoors and out!

I feel like the nursery is secure but the kids feel they have a lot of freedom! The balance is very good.

Great use of indoor space = free flowing, bright and colourful. Lots of different areas set up for activities. Lovely outdoor space which my child enjoys, especially the pirate ship and play house.

The space is well utilised and the kids feel safe. The outdoor space is well done too!

I remember thinking when my child first started that the nursery was quite small inside, but in fact the size has been great, outside is fun looking too!

The indoor space is much better since it has been restructured, the kids have more space to play and move about. Outdoors, there is ample space for the kids to play.

Great use of space throughout the nursery. Lots of activities outdoors and love the covered decking, so the children can go outdoors in all weather.

The inside of the nursery is looking great since its make-over. My son loves the pirate ship!

The nursery looks great since being painted and the new furniture looks great! Outdoors is great, especially the pirate ship and bikes.

Although the nursery is a porta cabin, I feel there is everything they need indoors with all the different sections, and outdoors there's plenty too. I know that the Mud Kitchen is a favourite, as is the house.

Outdoor space is great. My child loves being outside and comments on the Mud Kitchen a lot.

Family Engagement

We enjoy using the Book Club – it exposes him to a wider range of texts.

The Christmas Show was lovely and the Book Club has been very popular!

We enjoy Sports Days and the shows.

My child has really enjoyed the Book Club and talking about and reading the different books at home. He has loved taking part in the shows and we have loved seeing them and being involved in what is going on at the nursery.

We have felt very involved with our son's learning at the nursery and the materials/tasks he is sent home with further enhance this.

My daughter loves Book Club. Always keen to bring lots of books home to read.

The Stay and Play was a fantastic experience. It was also great to meet her friends and other parents.

I feel families are very encouraged to participate with activities arranged by the nursery and I like how siblings are invited to join in too.

I really enjoy being able to come in and see what my child has been learning.

Great to be involved in activities at nursery and good to see my daughter progress and increase in confidence.

Really enjoyed the Stay and Play – great idea!

I feel that there are lots of opportunities for myself and other family members to share my daughter's nursery experiences.

Always included: school engagements, Family Disco, Fun Nights with siblings. Great overall!

We feel informed and included in my son's learning and have thoroughly enjoyed all events we have attended.

These were terrific events and we all enjoyed taking part. Our daughter loved her family being involved.

Loved attending the Afternoon Tea. The children were very excited to show their parents around.

Nursery Book Club is a brilliant idea! We look forward to each read together. Stay and Play is also a great insight into your child's day at nursery.

We have loved the introduction of the Book Club. My daughter has enjoyed picking a new book each day. We also really enjoy coming to see Sports Day and the little shows. Stay and Play was great too.

It is lovely to be involved and have the opportunity for children to know parents around their environment. The shows are fantastic, must take a lot of practice and encourage teamwork with their peers.

We (and our son) have loved the opportunities to engage in all nursery events and activities. Big brother and sister have loved the engagement e.g. seeing the shows, participating in Sports Day.

Community Links

Woodland Walks are fab!

My children have loved visiting the library and local shops.

The trips have been good for my son.

Good community links and pleased children are involved in school activities to.

My son always enjoys outings and visits.

My son has really enjoyed the library visits and the fact that the nursery use the school so much has made him really excited about going. We feel this will definitely ease the transition to school.

Great links with the school in particular have made our son (and does) feel more settled about moving on to school.

Good links to school get pre-school children ready. Library visit was interesting. My daughter linked the visit from the local police.

I am very impressed by my daughters French and she really enjoys going to the library.

My child comes home and teaches us French after visits from the teacher.

Good links to school and use of space for gym etc.

My daughter has loved the input from Dawn for dancing and Madam McDevitt for French.

My son loves the visits and is encouraged to speak about them at home.

My son has enjoyed learning French and the football coach.

School induction was well organised, valuable to ensure smooth transition to school. Lots of parent volunteers for talks, vet – dentist etc...

My daughter really enjoyed going on the bus with friends on trips. Special events such as the Police etc. were very good.

Really grateful for specialised visitors e.g. French teacher, dance and total soccer teachers.

My Special Book

Lovely to have photographic evidence of your child's personal progression.

Love, love, love my "My Special Book!" Beautiful pictures, encouraging words and wonderful to see my child happy at nursery.

We think "The Special Book" is an excellent addition. They have really enjoyed looking through the learning journeys.

Love looking at this and my daughter loves to tell me about the photos and what she has been doing.

Perfect way to remember all the nursery experiences and memories.

Lovely to see detail, especially pictures of children as they play and learn.

A great way to capture the milestones and memories.

Great way of celebrating my children's achievements. It captures their interests and take account of next steps.

Lovely to see my son develop his interests and skills in different areas.

This is my favourite thing! My son also really enjoys showing it of too, which is lovely. I plan on keeping it forever!!! Thanks.

I loved my son's book as it showed me his nursery journey.

Great platform to teach. My son's progress - we have really enjoyed seeing the additions to the book throughout the year.

I love this book. I am amazed that teachers have the time to complete it, but I think it is so special. It lets us get a little glimpse into what he does when we are not around.

I really like the book, especially the areas where she has described things in her own words.

Lovely to see the progress my child has made. Thank you.

It is really lovely to have photos and stories to look at and read. Gives insight into what you child 'gets up to', and will be great to look back on.

Communication

Well organised. I always feel well informed and given plenty of notice.

There is always a good level of communication around upcoming events etc. going on at the nursery and always a good level of notice.

As I don't drop my daughter off, I am grateful for the e-mails and letters to keep me in the loop.

Appreciate 'Save the Dates', newsletters and invitations – keeps me right! Meeting are really useful.

Happy with communication via letters, website and blog.

Excellent communication, both orally and written. Parents meetings are very useful for updates on progress.

Staff communicate well both informally and formally. Lots of information on the website.

Communication was excellent, we were well informed about all events and my child's development.

All newsletters, parent meetings, school website have been very useful in providing information and activities involving the nursery and progress made.

I like the newsletters and text messages to keep me informed of upcoming events. This is further supported by an informative website.

Great one to one chats with my child's key worker and use of letters, e-mails and text messages to ensure all messages get home.

Happy with the level of communication and feel I could approach the staff at any point with concerns.

Love to see the photographs on the blog. More please.

Resources

I was impressed with all the different things I saw during the Stay and Play sessions.

My son has particularly enjoyed all the construction and building materials.

Always lots for the children to choose from. I like the use of actual materials and everyday objects.

Plentiful resources. Whiteboards, Activ Panel, I Pads are great for the children. The book borrowing library is loved in our house and although we always read at bedtime, this has made it more fun and exciting as we are having new books all the time.

Plenty of resources for the children to aid their learning.

We are very impressed with the amount of different resources available, especially the outdoor mud kitchen and iPads.

Wide variety of resources used. My daughter enjoys painting, playing with playdough, role play games and reading stories.

Great range of resources throughout the nursery for children. My daughter loves all the resources and materials in the Art area.

Fantastic spaces and resources including the SMART Board, Nurture Room, Reading Area, Doctor's role play corner and much more!

A vast range of resources – keeping every morning exciting.

I think the nursery has a great range of resources that are well used and responsive to the children's interests.

Resources are clean and look well cared for. There are a good range in the Imaginative Area (Home Corner, Vets etc.)

Children's Learning Experiences

My son has enjoyed the French lessons, learning about the Chinese New Year and preparing for the Burns Scottish Celebration. I have really noticed him taking on interest in words the last few months.

Our son loves learning at Houston Primary Nursery.

Our child has enjoyed learning French, Mandarin and he enjoys opportunities for outdoor learning.

Our son always enjoys his time at nursery. He has grown in confidence and his numerical and literacy skills have developed, ready for school.

We now have our second child going through Houston Primary Nursery and we are very pleased with how well the girls came on since starting. Both thoroughly enjoyed coming to nursery.

Our daughter has thoroughly enjoyed her time at the nursery. She has developed into a very confident and able young girl.

Fantastic and fun. Great start to education. Thank you everyone.

Our son just loves going to "his" nursery. He feels a real sense of ownership. His learning and understanding has developed tremendously over the past year.

Our son loves his time at nursery and is thriving and developing.

Children participate in a wide range of experiences both in and out with the nursery environment.

Great to see my child develop her interests and skills in different areas... role play, books, drawing, writing, sports.

Very positive learning experiences. My child loves playing outside and being able to choose different activities.

Our daughter has enjoyed all aspects of learning and it is in a way that is fun and enjoyable.

Children covering a broad range of learning experiences and have access to a wide variety of resources to support literacy, numeracy and motor skills.

My son always comes home with a story to tell about what he has been learning.

My child has had a very positive experience including letters, numbers, shapes and French lessons.

Learning every day, progressing well, not so shy and interacting much better.

Our daughter is always telling us about what she is learning at nursery. She especially enjoys stories.

We have been impressed with the French phrases our son has said to us and he seems to be learning new things all the time.

I do not get much feedback – mostly: “I had too much fun, I can’t remember!” She has had a great time in her year at HPSN. I can see her improving with her sounds and numeracy.

A variety of fun learning experiences that engage and challenge my children.

Our son is always telling us about different that he has been doing. We are very happy!

Our son has learned a lot in his time at nursery and enjoyed learning in a fun environment with his peers.