

Everton

Nursery School and Family Centre



www.evertonnurseryschoolandfamilycentre.org



@EvertonNursery



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Dr. Lesley Curtis OBE
Headteacher/Head of Centre

Welcome



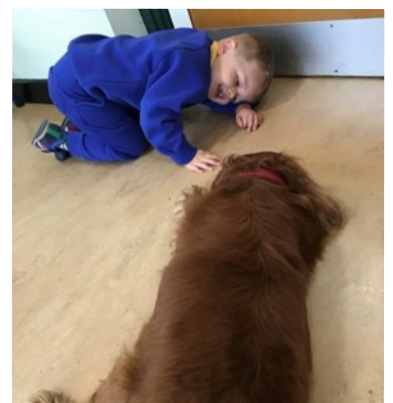
Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of another academic year I would like to thank you for all your support. Thank you for attending many of our events throughout the year which has been lovely to see especially after the Covid restrictions. We have welcomed 178 children to our Nursery School this year with 48 children speaking 22 different languages. Our final newsletter of the academic year provides lots of information of the range of activities the children have explored. For example our intergenerational cafe was a success with many grandparents and parents sharing their skills of gardening, weaving and fixing bikes. We are sad to see 89 of our children leaving in July to 25 different primary schools. We wish the children and their parents well as they moved onto their primary school. If your child is returning in September, I and the staff team look forward to welcoming you back from Monday 4th September onwards.

Have a lovely summer break.

Dr. Lesley Curtis OBE

Headteacher/Head of Centre

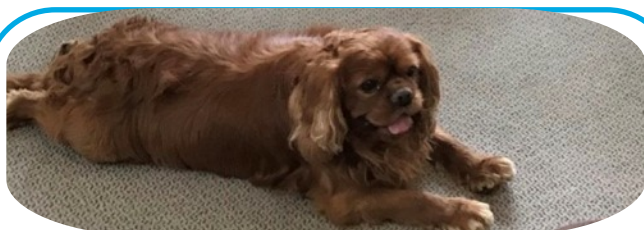


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Contact information



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Rebecca Melia

Assistant Headteacher / SENDCo / Spencer 1 Nursery Teacher

Gold Health and Well-Being Award

We are currently in the process of completing the steps to achieve the Gold Health and Well-Being Award, accredited by School Improvement Liverpool. We achieved the Bronze Health and Well-Being award in March 2021 and the Silver Health and Well-Being award in March 2022.

The Liverpool Health and Wellbeing Award helps to impact on the lives of children across Liverpool, by supporting schools to improve the health and wellbeing of their whole school community. The award aims to provide an opportunity to celebrate current whole school good practice, whilst identifying areas for improvement that will make a difference and demonstrate impact.



The focus targets that we are working towards for our Gold award application is to extend our work on embedding the physical activity and emotional health of both children and staff at Everton Nursery School and Family Centre. The wellbeing of staff and children is very important to us at Everton Nursery School and Family Centre and is key to many of the activities within our nursery school. In turn we have created an environment both indoors and outdoors that fosters wellbeing for children as well as staff.



We have a child-led Eco Committee who link with staff to support our programme of events throughout the school year. The Eco Committee talk about a variety of environmental topics in their classes and in small groups with ideas that staff try to put into practice. The Eco Committee have supported the development of the Peace Garden, the Forest School and allotment. The children have been part of developing a pond in the Peace Garden and a willow arch in the Forest School for the benefit of all children and staff. These activities have linked to Children's Mental Health week, our Massage in School programme, persona doll work and our emotion boards in nursery school. Our Eco



Committee have also worked with staff to develop the provision for



physical activity. This has included purchasing new wooden equipment for our outdoor area, developing the Forest School and purchasing new equipment for team games.

How you can also support at home:

- Ensure that children participate in a minimum of 30 minutes of daily physical activity
- Talk with children about school lunches and share weekly menus with them
- Prepare and eat healthy foods at home



Kate Doyle

Nursery Teacher Spencer 2

Allotment

What a busy couple of months we have had planting a range of vegetables and herbs, including sweetcorn, tomatoes, lettuce, onions, beans, pumpkins, mint and sage. We have attempted to grow rosemary but unfortunately we over watered the first seeds that we planted, and we're now on our second attempt. We have had some very dry weather, so watering has been essential for many of our crops and luckily, all our children are keen to complete this task. We have seen so much progress and growth in just a couple of months. The tomato plants are looking very healthy with soft green leaves and a strong stem. The pumpkins are also growing well with gigantic leaves and plenty of flowers ready to appear on each plant.

Thank you to all our families that helped plant the sweetcorn and sage as part of our intergenerational café experience. These are thriving in our freshly fertilized soil and with additional help from a new scarecrow provided by Spencer 1 class.



Giving our children the chance to connect with nature and grow their own food from seeds has been an incredibly valuable experience. The allotment is a fantastic place to visit to extend classroom-based activities, as well as a perfect place to provide opportunities for children to observe and care for nature. Children are fascinated by the process of how plants grow from seed and even more excited by being able to taste what they have harvested.





Kate Doyle

Nursery Teacher Spencer 2

Scouse Flowerhouse



Cresswell and Spencer children had the opportunity to work collaboratively with Scouse Flowerhouse, which involved children visiting Grant Gardens to scatter wild flower seeds. Scouse Flowerhouse has sown 40+ sites in Liverpool and Sefton.

They contacted our school and invited us to be part of their transformational work and the children had a wonderful time sowing a variety of wildflower seeds.



The flowers should appear late summer time so please try to visit Grant Gardens during the 6 weeks' summer holiday period to see how our children have enriched the landscape of this park.





Julie Antonio

Senior Early Childhood Educator

Healthy Eating Week

Healthy Eating Week took place on 12th – 16th June 2023. Healthy Eating week focuses on eating 5 portions of fruit and vegetables a day, being active, drinking water and eating a substantial breakfast each morning. Throughout Healthy Eating week this year, children engaged in learning experiences focused on healthy living and the impact this has on their bodies to enhance their health and well-being. A selection of cereal, toast, fruit and milk/water was provided in each class each morning for all children which is vital to enable them to refuel for the day ahead. A healthy afternoon snack was also provided each day which children prepare themselves and access freely. During this preparation, all children are encouraged to use utensils and equipment such as safety knives, graters, fruit cutters and vegetable peelers.

During Healthy Eating Week, children are exposed to a variety of different fruits and vegetables. They are encouraged to explore these fruits and vegetables using their five senses, as well as developing and enriching their vocabulary.

Healthy living is a holistic approach encompassing every aspect of life. This topic is essential to our learning experiences. There are four broad themes of healthy living which are embedded into our daily routine: exercise, healthy eating, staying safe and emotional wellbeing. This year BNF included a focus on reducing food waste, aiming to use the right amount at mealtimes and cooking to avoid throwing food away. A whole setting approach to healthy eating provides an opportunity to encourage children to eat well and learn about food. This approach helps protect children's health and sets the foundation for their future.





Faye O'Connor
Assistant Headteacher

Research

Did you know that Everton Nursery School are part of an action research programme that aims to build networks of schools to test a range of innovative practices in teaching for creativity.

Over the past two years I have been conducting research on the following lines of inquiry.

- How do creative pedagogies contribute to the experience of education for young people?
- What are the conditions needed to foster a culture of curiosity & creativity within and across schools?
- What pedagogies effectively cultivate creative thinking across the curriculum?



This year my research has explored the ideas of Collaboration and how providing opportunities for children to work collaboratively can improve their well being and involvement. I focused specially on improving Collaboration during our In Harmony music session

exploring the idea of 'Authentic Audience.'

The images within the article show how all children across the school have explored singing and performing to each other on small and large scales to experience an authentic audience. To support the research, we have recently purchased a significant amount of new instruments, a stage for performing and microphones and speakers for children to explore.





Dr. Lesley Curtis OBE
Headteacher/Head of Centre

Henry

It is with great sadness that I share the news that Henry our school Nurture dog has passed away in May aged 13 from heart failure.



Henry was an amazing dog and started his nurture work in Spencer 3 over 7 years ago. As a Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Henry had a calm nature and thoroughly looked forward to every Wednesday coming to school until his health started to fail this year. Henry retired at Easter due to his health. He was always keen to visit Cresswell and Spencer classes on his way to Spencer 3 to say hello to the children. He will be sadly missed as he was also my dog which we rescued at 10 months being his fourth owners as he wasn't suitable to show. We have registered with the Cavalier rescue society again and hope we can care for another Cavalier at some point again.



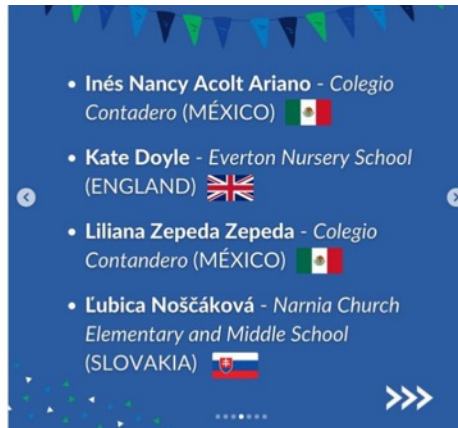
Henry lived with Poppy the Springer Spaniel who came to live with us two years ago when my sister in law moved to Cyprus. As Poppy was 9 years old my sister in law asked if we would look after Poppy on a long term foster placement which we agreed. Poppy used to come to the Children's Centre and sit with the staff team for their well-being every Wednesday for the last year. Unfortunately Poppy became unwell in January this year and passed away in March with a tumour on her spleen aged nearly 12. Poppy will be sadly missed. My sister in law did fly back from Cyprus to see Poppy before she passed away.





Dr. Lesley Curtis OBE
Headteacher/Head of Centre

FEE Award



FEE Teacher Award

By instituting an award for teachers, the Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE) aims to recognize the efforts of outstanding teachers from the global network who promote and integrate Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) in their schools and communities.

Through the award, we aim to highlight professional excellence, celebrate achievements, and spread inspirational stories amongst stakeholders.

The award is not a competition awarded to a select few. It is the recognition of teachers' efforts and a celebration of their work and the impact they have had every day over the last 28 years.

On June 5th, World Environment Day, we are proud to announce the winners of the FEE Teacher Award which recognizes exceptional environmental educators in the global FEE network. The selected teachers are inspiring examples of educators dedicated to education for sustainable development.

Congratulations to Kate Doyle as a recipient for the first-ever edition of the FEE Teacher Award!



Kate Doyle

Nursery Teacher Spencer 2

RNLI

Thank you to everybody who gave money towards Royal National Lifeboat Institution, the largest charity that saves lives at sea around the coast of the United Kingdom. We raised a total of £35 for this wonderful charity which is run by volunteers and relies heavily on donations from the public. The volunteers receive no wages, yet they are prepared to brave high winds and heavy seas 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

Our children welcomed a visit from Lauren, one of RNLI volunteers, who spends her time visiting schools to educate children about water safety. Children from Spencer and Cresswell classes had the opportunity to try on some of the lifeguard uniform as they engaged with Lauren's presentation. We learned about the different beach warning flags that you might see when you visit coastal areas and what the different coloured flags mean.

You've probably noticed them at a day at the beach, often near lifeguard towers. An all red flag means 'No Swimming' red over yellow (horizontal striped) flag means 'Swimming Area' and black and white quartered flag means 'Surfing Area'.

We also practiced the safety position to stay afloat in water by lying on the floor with our arms and legs stretched out to the side. We hope you manage to visit one of our local beaches along the Sefton coast; Crosby, Freshfields, Ainsdale or Southport over the summer holiday period.





Lyndsey Gardner

Senior Early Childhood Educator

Wellcomm

Communication and Language is a Prime Area of Learning, based on the central importance of communication skills for all learning and development. The statutory framework for the EYFS (2021) states that educational programmes must involve activities and experiences for children, as set out under each of the areas of learning.

'The development of children's spoken language underpins all seven areas of learning and development. Children's back-and-forth interactions from an early age form the foundations for language and cognitive development.



Here at Everton Nursery School we assess children's communication and language skills using Wellcomm Toolkit. The assessment process is facilitated by Speech and Language Therapists at Talk About Town Ltd who are experienced at managing the Speech, Language and Communication needs of nursery and school - aged children. School staff; Lyndsey, Maria and Julie will also assess all children from September 2023.

During the Autumn Term assessments will take place for all children.

A Speech and Language Therapist's role is to help children with communication difficulties to enable them to communicate to the best of their ability. A Speech and Language Therapist can help children with communication needs by:

- Carrying out an assessment of the child's speech, language and communication skills and diagnosing a variety of difficulties.
- Completing written reports that detail the child's needs and how best to support them, for the reference of parents / professionals.
- Providing practical advice to carers / other professionals about how to support the child's communication development
- Offering treatment sessions, which are often play-based and child-centred, to target the child's difficulties.
- Carrying out review assessments to monitor the child's progress and regularly update the child's targets and goals.





Jade Dumbell
Childrens Centre Deputy Coordinator



Toilet Training

Toilet training is a stage of development and children need to learn how to do it in the same way as learning to walk and talk. Between 8-20 months children should be able to start communicating bladder and bowel movements. Between 16-26 months children should show awareness of bladder and bowel urges and what a potty/toilet is used for.

There are a number of signs to look for to show that your child is starting to develop bladder control and is developmentally ready.

- They know when they have got a wet or soiled nappy
- They know when they need a wee and may say so in advance
- Awareness of a soiled nappy and you may see them pulling a "pooh" face
- Wanting to be changed when wet and soiled (some children are quite happy in a wet/soiled nappy)
- Able to understand and follow simple instruction e.g. "Throw the ball"
- Able to remain dry for around 2 hours at a time
- Can do simple role play e.g. "feed the doll"

We would NOT recommend using pull ups at nursery as they can confuse children and they are an unnecessary expense. When starting nursery we would encourage you to bring plenty of spare underwear, clothing and shoes if your child has accidents.

Top Tips for toilet training over the summer.

The summer holidays can be a great time to practise some of the skills needed for toilet training.

1. Try and establish the length of time it takes for your child to have a drink and then empty their bladder. If your child go one hour without emptying their bladder this is a good indicator that they are ready and will help you plan for toilet trips when out and about.
2. Plan through the day set times to take your child to the toilet. If you ask your child "would you like to go to the toilet" you will most likely be met with a "No." It is important that you tell your child it is time for toilet "Toilet time".
3. Have toys/books in the bathroom or by potty that are for use at toilet time to help distract your child and help to keep calm in sometimes stressful situations.
4. Use lots of praise and encouragement "I'm so proud of you doing your wee on the toilet". When your child has an accident simply say "Uh oh, you had an accident. Let's clean it up. Maybe next time you can do your wee on the toilet." If your child sits on toilet and am unable to go still praise your child for trying.
5. Give you child the opportunity to practise pulling up and down their own trousers.

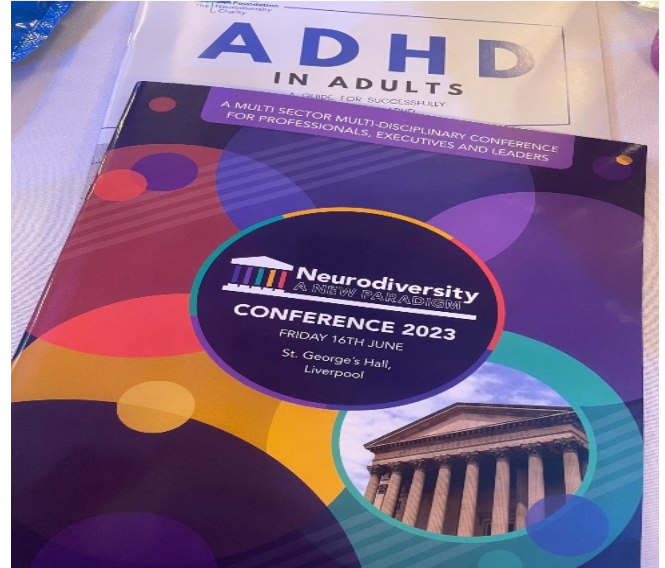
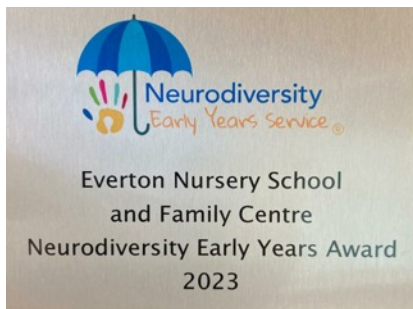
Give your child nappy free time each day as having a nappy on all day every day can delay toilet training as the nappies can be very absorbent.



Emma-Louise Scott
NurtureTeacher

ADHD foundation: Neurodiversity Early Years Award

This year at Everton Nursery School we have achieved the Neurodiversity Early Years Award presented by the ADHD foundation. "The ADHD Foundation honours schools who can demonstrate how they actively support children with learning differences, whatever their particular needs, to improve their life chances through education." - ADHD foundation 2023.



Our staff team ensure that all children can express themselves freely, grow and expand their learning and most importantly feel uniquely valued and encouraged to be authentically themselves. The staff and children created a video of 'A Day in the life' celebrating the vast learning opportunities we bring that are reachable to all children in our Early Years setting. This video was presented by our Head teacher, Lesley, at the Neurodiversity Conference 2023 at St Georges Hall.



Please **scan** the QR code to watch the video we created.





Emma-Louise Scott
NurtureTeacher

Sensory Circuits

Every Wednesday sensory circuits are available for all children to access and explore. Sensory circuits are physical activities that help alert, organise and then relax the senses of children in order to regulate. There are 3 stages within sensory circuits; alerting, organising and calming. The aims of a sensory circuit include; to regulate and result in focus attention in readiness for learning and encourage the development of sensory processing skills.

Alerting activities are to stimulate the child and provide a vestibular and proprioceptive input.

Vestibular input is the sense of movement, centered in the inner ear for example spinning, swinging and hanging upside down provide the most intense and longest lasting input. *Proprioceptive* input is surrounding body awareness- it is knowing where we are in the world.

Organising activities to provide challenges involving multi-sensory processing for example balancing, moving and throwing.

Calming activities are the most important to ensure the children finish the circuit calm, and centered ready for the day.





Ruth Waldron
Parent Governor

We have Parent Governor vacancies. Can you help?

I started attending the Family Centre (swimming and Tots in Harmony) when my son was 1 year old, he then joined the nursery at age 2 and stayed there until he started in Reception last year. It was a happy 3 years and we felt very supported as a family, so when the opportunity arose to become a Parent Governor, I felt that I wanted to “give something back”.

I had never been a Governor before and wasn't sure what to expect, but was given the opportunity to come and meet with staff to find out more, and also to attend a Governors' Meeting in order to see what went on. I found the team to very welcoming and can honestly say that I was ever made to feel that my questions were silly.



The only real requirement is to be a parent and to be willing to provide your own perspective; other skills and experiences are a bonus but are not essential. Being a Parent Governor means that you can get involved in how the school and Family Centre are run, your feedback or even challenges are encouraged and can help to shape how decisions are made. Online training is provided, and there are lots of other training opportunities available if you want to access it.



Dr. Lesley Curtis OBE
Headteacher/Head of Centre

Stronger Practice Hubs

Award winning nursery one of six settings chosen to lead DfE's Stronger Practice Hubs
Original Article from Nursery World by Katy Morton.

Former Nursery World award winner, Everton Nursery School and Family Centre in Liverpool is one of six nurseries chosen to lead the DfE's network of Early Years Stronger Practice Hubs.

Children from Everton Nursery and Family Centre engaged in construction themed role play, PHOTO: Everton Nursery School

The Department for Education (DfE) has today named the final six nurseries that will act as 'lead hub settings' under its early years stronger practice hubs programme, which aims to improve the teaching of children's early speech, language and literacy, they are:

Everton Nursery School and Family Centre - North-West
Alfreton Nursery School - East Midlands
The Barn Nursery School – East of England
Charles Dickens Primary and Nursery School – London
Childhaven Nursery School – Yorkshire & Humber
Haltwhistle Primary Academy – North-East

They join the 12 Hubs already established under the DfE's Early Years Stronger Practice Hubs programme, which is being led by the NCB, with support from the Education Endowment Foundation (EFF). It is being funded for two years until late 2024.



DfE's Stronger Practice Hubs gets underway

Under the programme, a network of 18 Early Years Stronger Practice Hubs are being set-up to support early years practitioners to adopt evidence-based practice improvements and build local networks for sharing effective practice.

It forms part of the DfE's £180m Covid-19 recovery package to improve the teaching of children's early speech, language and numeracy.

Children's minister Claire Countinho said, 'The early years of a child's life are so important, which is why we're delivering a transformational package of support to make sure that the youngest children can make the progress they need with the basic building blocks of learning like reading and speaking.'

'Our Stronger Practice Hubs are an important part of this, helping nursery staff and other early years workers learn from each other and share best practice. I'm thrilled that six more settings have been selected to act as hubs so that more even more areas can benefit from their support.'

Everton Nursery School and Children's Centre won the Nursery World Award for School Early Years Team in 2016.

Everton Children's Centre Summer Timetable 2023

 Everton Children Centre

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Families must live in the Everton area and have a child under 5 years.

All sessions are bookable, please contact reception to book your place

Call: 0151 233 1969

Everton Nursery School and Family Centre, Spencer Street, Liverpool , L6 2WF, Telephone: **0151 233 1969**

Week commencing July 17th

Tuesday 18th	Under 1's stay and play	1.00pm - 2.00pm
Wednesday 19th	Pool session	10.00am - 11.00am
Thursday 20th	Pool session	10.00am - 11.00am

Week commencing July 24th

Monday 24th	Pool session	10.00am - 11.00am
Tuesday 25th	Tiny Tasters Pizza making	11.00am - 12.00pm
Wednesday 26th	Mr Tumble	10.30am - 11.30am

Week commencing July 31st

Monday 31st	Pool session	10.00am - 11.00am
Tuesday 1st	Tiny Tasters Fruit Kebabs	11.00am - 12.00pm
Wednesday 2nd	Teddy Bears Picnic in Stanley Park	11.30am - 12.30pm

Week commencing August 7th

Monday 7th	Pool session	10.00am - 11.00am
Tuesday 8th	Tiny Tasters Pizza making	11.00am - 12.00pm
Wednesday 9th	Campfire	10.30am - 12.00pm
Thursday 10th	BAMBIS Antenatal feeding session	1.30pm - 2.30pm

Week commencing August 14th

Monday 14th	Pool session	10.00am - 11.00am
Wednesday 16th	Under 1's stay and play	1.00pm - 2.00pm
Thursday 17th	Lounge Room Lizards (2 sessions)	12.30pm - 2.30pm

Week commencing August 21st

Monday 21st	Pool session	10.00am - 11.00am
Tuesday 22nd	Mr Tumble	1.00pm - 2.00pm