

# NURSERY ATTENDANCE POLICY



We love God and each other and follow the example of St Teresa.  
We enjoy learning together and doing our best in a happy, healthy and welcoming community.  
We learn to be responsible and caring citizens.  
*"Let us do little things well today".*  
*St Teresa*

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| <b>Approved by:</b>        | Governing Body | <b>Date:</b> <i>Pending</i> |
| <b>Last reviewed on:</b>   | July 2025      |                             |
| <b>Next review due by:</b> | June 2027      |                             |

## **Introduction**

At Little Flowers Nursery, we recognise the importance of regular attendance in laying strong foundations for learning, social development, and emotional well-being. While attendance at nursery is not statutory, good attendance supports children's early development, helps them feel secure, and fosters a positive attitude to learning that lasts throughout their education. As part of St Teresa's Catholic Primary School and the Rosary Trust, we are committed to promoting a culture of high expectations, where every child is valued, nurtured and supported to flourish.

## **Our Catholic Ethos**

At Little Flowers Nursery, we believe every child is a unique and precious gift from God. Regular attendance enables children to fully experience our loving, faith-filled environment and grow in the values of kindness, respect and care. We aim to provide a safe, nurturing space where all children are supported to flourish in line with our Catholic mission.

## **Aims of the Policy**

This policy aims to:

- Promote regular and punctual attendance from the earliest stage of education.
- Establish a clear framework for attendance expectations, processes and responsibilities.
- Support families in establishing consistent routines.
- Ensure that absences are communicated and understood.

## **Expectations**

We ask parents and carers to:

- Commit to regular nursery attendance wherever possible.
- Avoid term-time absences unless absolutely unavoidable.
- Ensure children arrive punctually for their agreed sessions.
- Communicate with the nursery team regarding any absence, illness or concerns.

We will:

- Monitor attendance patterns and follow up unexplained absences.
- Offer support to families where attendance becomes a concern.
- Ensure safeguarding responsibilities are met in accordance with statutory guidance.
- Celebrate and encourage good attendance in an age-appropriate way.

## **Safeguarding and Attendance Monitoring**

In line with the EYFS Statutory Framework and our whole school safeguarding policy, the nursery monitors children's attendance closely. Where there are patterns of absence or a child is absent without explanation, we will follow up promptly and, where appropriate, inform safeguarding partners. Regular attendance contributes to children's safety and emotional security.

## **Continuity and Relationships**

Consistent attendance helps children settle into nursery life, build strong attachments with staff, and benefit fully from our curriculum. The relationship with their teacher is central to each child's early experience of education and supports their emotional wellbeing, learning and sense of belonging.

### **Working in Partnership with Parents**

We recognise that parents are their child's first educators and work closely with families to promote good attendance. Where there are any challenges - such as illness, family needs or transport difficulties - we encourage open communication so we can work together to support the child's continuity of care and development.

**Reviewed: July 2025**

**By Becky Maguire**