



Prospectus

&

Statement of Purpose

Contents

1. Foreword
2. Our aims and objectives for the service provided
3. Admission Information
4. A Healthy Setting
5. An Environmentally Friendly Setting
6. Your Child's Pre-school Experience
7. General Session Routines
8. Making Friends
9. Your Child's Development
10. Indoor Play
11. Outdoor Play
12. The Importance of Language Development
13. Welsh Language
14. Curriculum for Wales
15. Parents and Carers at Smarties
16. Children with Additional Needs
17. Registration, Collection and Legal Requirements
18. Health & Safety
19. Complaints
20. Policies
21. Evaluation and Monitoring
22. Continuing Education at Mount Street Nursery & Infants

Provider Details and Address for Service



This prospectus and statement of purpose and all other documents and policies are available on the school website.

Provider details:

HEADTEACHER and RESPONSIBLE INDIVIDUAL for 'Smarties':

Mrs Shan Kenchington

Smarties
Mount Street Nursery & Infant School
Rhosferig Road
Brecon
Powys
LD3 7NG

Telephone: 01874 623038

Website: www.mountstreeti.powys.sch.uk

Smarties is registered by
Care and Social Services Inspectorate for Wales (CIW)
Government Buildings,
Picton Terrace,
Carmarthen,
SA313BT

1. Foreword

This brochure is intended to introduce you and your child to 'Smarties', a setting for 3 and 4 year olds who may attend through their entitlement to educational provision.

Smarties is a 3+ educational and day care setting which is attached to Mount Street Nursery and Infant School. We offer 10 hours funded Education hours and in addition we offer wrap around childcare. We are able to take 38 children within each session. Morning session is run 9:00-11:00 am and the afternoon session is run from 1:00-3:00 pm. Children can also access breakfast club and after school club.

We are an approved provider for the Childcare Offer for Wales- an initiative that will provide working parents up to 30 hours' free child care. For full details please go to our website www.mountstreeti.powys.sch.uk . Please contact the Setting Leader for all your childcare needs.

We pride ourselves on the provision we are able to offer, which includes a dedicated 3+ outdoor area, a community garden, large playing field, outdoor apparatus, and an on-site Forest School.

SETTING LEADER/SUPERNUMERARY and PERSON IN CHARGE:

Mrs Joanne Edwards - Level 3 Diploma in Children's Care Learning and Development

Tel: 01874 623038

SETTING ASSISTANTS:

Miss Elizabeth Stephens NNEB

Mrs Kate Griffiths, NVQ Level 3

Ms Clare Lloyd, NVQ Level 3 (Bank staff)

Mrs Emily Bujok, NVQ Level 3 (Bank Staff)

EARLY YEARS ADVISORY TEACHER:

Natalie Thumbwood

EARLY YEARS GOVERNOR:

L Burnett

Smarties is included in Mount Street Nursery & Infants School's governance and as such is overseen by the School's Governing Body.

The Chair of Governors for Mount Street Nursery & Infants School is Mr Joe Daggett. Tel: 01874 623038

Our Vision

'Smarties children are compassionately inclusive, resilient and are sprinkled with laughter and smiles'

2. Our aims and objective

- To ensure the wellbeing of the children, parents and staff is paramount
- Encourage children to develop social skills, confidence, self-esteem and independence.
- Create a relaxed atmosphere in which children can learn whilst playing and communicating together.
- To support the individual needs of pupils and extend special gifts and interests.
- Develop language and numeracy skills by talking with children and encouraging them to participate in group activities.
- Provide children with opportunities to hear and use Welsh in the setting.
- Treat the children with care, warmth and respect.
- Support all children so that they develop to their full potential.
- Give all children equal opportunities regardless of race, colour, religion, nationality, special needs or social background.
- Prepare the children through play activities for their time in school.
- Work in partnership with you as parents to promote these aims.

3. Admission Arrangements

From the beginning of the term following a child's third birthday we can offer up to 10 hours free provision as funded by the Welsh Assembly Government. Children may attend Smarties in the term after they reach their 3rd birthday. We are open between 9.00am and 11.00 am and 1.00pm to 3.00pm during term time. Children will be offered places from a waiting list in line with our Admissions Policy. Smarties is accessible to all children regardless of gender, culture, disability, religion in accordance with our Equal Opportunities Policy. Additional hours to the educational hours are available. Charges will apply.

In order to accomplish this staff will ensure the setting is:

- Widely known in the local community. Notices will be displayed in appropriate places.
- Arrange informal visits to the group for new parents, cares and children prior to admission.
- Be flexible about attendance patterns to accommodate the needs of individual children and families to ensure the child can access their entitlement.
- Monitor the gender and ethnic background joining the group to ensure no accidental discrimination is taken place.

Starting at Smarties

- We advise you to register well in advance of the start date. You can contact the school office on 01874 623038 on how to register your child's place. All admissions are allocated by Powys County Council.
- We work in partnership with parents allowing your child to settle at his/her own pace. We can offer flexible arrangements if needed.
- Before starting at Smarties, you will be asked to complete the Powys County Council application form, Smarties registration forms and bring you child's birth certificate to the main office for verification.
- The Setting Leader will contact you before your child starts to arrange a visit. On visiting the setting, you will receive your information pack with everything you need to know.
- We would ask that a pair of Wellington boots, a coat and change of clothes to be kept at Smarties at all times as we use the outside areas including our woodland regularly.

4. A Healthy Setting

We are a healthy setting, and therefore encourage all our children to develop healthy lifestyles.



Mount Street Nursery and Infant School was awarded the 'Powys Healthy Schools Excellence Award' in 2018. Smarties plays an active role in embedding these values and practices, earning their own Gold 'Bach a lach' thus ensuring that even the youngest children develop healthy minds, bodies and lifestyles.

All children must bring in their own snack pot and drinks bottle. Parents and carers are invited to provide a range of healthy fruits. Children who stay with us over the lunch time period will be required to bring a packed lunch with them and an extra snack for the afternoon.

All children are taught about good hygiene practices, and self-care and independence is encouraged at all times.

As part of the daily programme, we encourage physical activity both inside and out to develop a positive attitude towards exercise.

We promote an 'I can' attitude within the setting, and actively work towards providing a positive attitude towards skill development.



5. An Environmentally Friendly Setting

Smarties is an environmentally friendly setting.



We take guidance from the School's Eco Committee, which gained its Platinum Eco Schools status in 2018, where Year 2 pupils support even the youngest children in identifying how they can help care for their environment.

Children within Smarties actively recycle waste paper, plastic and compost fruit waste at snack time. We use recycled materials for craft too.

During the year the children take part in planting vegetables and flowers and helping to care for our outside area.

We like to care for the wildlife within our grounds too by making bird feeders in winter and planting wild flowers to encourage wildlife into our grounds. We also have a pet rabbit 'Pepper' who lives in Smarties. We look after him by feeding him and making sure he has water. The rabbit is brought into the setting at times but children are supervised at all times.

6. Your Child's Pre-school Experience

We hope to make your child's time with us an enjoyable start to their pre-school education. Smarties provide a safe environment that promotes children's curiosity and interests. The children are at the centre of everything we do, and their ideas play a key part in planning activities.

The sessions will be split up into a number of activities, some of which your child will initiate, with the adults supporting alongside, and some of which will be led by an adult.

Adult led activities may include:

- focused physical activities
- music, singing, and rhymes
- specific craft activities
- gardening and outdoor investigations
- playing structured games
- forest school
- cooking
- stories
- ICT

Child led activities may include:

- building with construction toys
- role play and small world play
- explorative art & craft activities
- water play and sand play
- outdoor activities
- mark making activities

7. General Session Routines



Self-registration 9.00am	Children are welcomed into the setting. Carpet time where children can share news
Child-led and planned activities Indoor and outdoors	Child led play and planned activities based on our observation of the children, also enhanced activities linked to Children's interests, schemas and current interests throughout the year. Continuous provision throughout morning e.g. sand / water / painting / various corners / construction / craft area / play dough etc.
Tidy up time	We use a tidy up song and children work together to help the adults put the resources away.
Snack Time 10.30 am	Snack time is a very social time and children are encouraged to be independent. Good manners and Welsh phrases are encouraged. Snack time develops their social and self-help skills, communication skills and relationships with each other and the staff.
Learning activity	Dough Disco/Story time/Jolly phonic/Welsh Book/Welsh Songs etc
Home Time at 11.00am	Home time - children signed out by parent / nominated person
Outdoor Play 11.15am	Children within the setting have a large enclosed outdoor space. They have access to ride on toys and balls, role-play resources, outdoor construction, sand and water, a grassed area with play equipment and pet area. Smarties has access to our Community Garden, large play equipment and Forest School.
12.00pm Lunch Time	Lunch time is a social time where children eat their lunch together. Good manners and Welsh phrases are encouraged whilst developing independent skills. Children are required to bring their own healthy packed lunch or have a school dinner.
	We repeat the same pattern in the afternoon

8. Making Friends

The most important aspect of early education is being outside of the home environment, building relationships with others, feeling safe and secure away from parents and carers.

All of the work undertaken with pre-school children is planned to assist each and every child in developing their social and emotional needs.

We are aware that all children develop social competences at very different rates and that coping with a larger group of people can be quite a challenge for many young children.

If you have any concerns or worries about your child, please come and discuss them with us, we are here to help.

9. Your Child's Development

At three and four years old, your child's world is expanding, and becoming a member of Smarties is part of that expanding world.

Our setting is very aware that this may be the first time that a child has left their parent or carer, and we recognise that their social, emotional, physical and intellectual needs are paramount.

All activities within our setting are planned to foster these needs, and our aim is to create a happy and supportive environment in which all children can flourish.

Play is important for children. It offers them a safe environment in which to explore the world, satisfy their curiosity and wonder and search for knowledge. For the child, play is a very serious business needing concentrated attention. It requires perseverance, attention to details and is fundamental to intellectual development. Play is crucial to the way children become self-aware and provides the vehicle to learn the rules of social behaviour.

10. Play Provision

The setting is dedicated to providing an environment that incorporates both indoor and outdoor play. The premises both indoors and outdoors is fully utilised to allow free flow play.

Indoor Play

In our setting, indoor play centres around different areas including;

*role play *small world *construction *ICT
*investigation *mark making *books
*number and shape *sand and water *malleable play

In their play, children have the opportunity to explore on their own and to co-operate with others to develop their ideas and imagination. At other times, the adult will direct and lead in the play activities to develop children's thinking and further their knowledge and understanding.

Outdoor Play

As well as taking our indoor experiences outdoors, we also recognise that children need to have opportunities outdoors that are very different from those available indoors and that they are an essential part of our curriculum. At all times of the day the outdoor learning environment will be in use with a dedicated covered area making it accessible all year round.

All pre-school children should have the opportunity to develop physically by running and jumping in a larger space than a classroom. As well as providing resources such as bicycles, bats, balls and hoops, the children have regular access to a number of outdoor play areas which foster physical development and creativity.

*pre-school play area *the community garden *pirate ship
*outdoor apparatus *woodland area

11. Pets kept at the setting

The setting has its own rabbit whose vaccinations are all up to date. He is kept in a secure run in our outdoor area. The children routinely handle the rabbit with adult supervision. Appropriate hygiene is adhered to.

More information can be found in the pet policy.

12. The Importance of Language Development

Language acquisition is a vital part of your child's education. It is the key to success in the educational system and all activities at the early stages of education assist in the development of language skills.

At pre-school stage the children are developing an ever wider vocabulary and every opportunity is seized upon and planning is geared towards enriching and extending language development.

Language development includes both verbal and non-verbal communication. Children gain a huge amount of complex language during their early years. It involves learning how to communicate in different ways.

There are strong links to language acquisition and intellectual development (children need to develop language in order to think). Communication has many different parts – listening, reading, writing, drawing, gestures, facial expressions, using language and using sign language. It also includes art, music, singing and dance.

All activities that the Early Year's staff plan are aimed at developing these skills. All activities are suitable for the child's age, needs and abilities so that confidence and an enjoyment of learning are promoted.

It is not unusual for three year old children to have difficulty in saying some combinations of sounds. These articulation problems can cause concern for parents but in fact are nothing to worry about at this stage. If there are any concerns then parents will be advised how to contact the Speech & Language Therapy department of the Powys Health Care Trust for specialist advice.

13. Welsh Language

We encourage all children in Smarties to celebrate their Welsh heritage and life in Wales. We introduce Welsh customs and celebrations.



In addition, we introduce elements of the Welsh Language by using incidental Welsh throughout each day, alongside weekly focused sessions where 'Fflic a Fflac' help to reinforce new language patterns.

14. Curriculum for Wales

At Smarties, staff aim to enhance the education and well-being of all children by providing a stimulating, safe and happy environment in which each child feels confident and secure, enabling them to reach their full potential to learn and thrive. Their role is to ensure that a broad, balanced and relevant curriculum for the children is provided with opportunities for learning that support all aspects of their development.

The Four Purposes are at the heart of our curriculum development. Smarties aims to support all learners to become:

- ambitious, capable learners, ready to learn throughout their lives –
- enterprising, creative contributors, ready to play a full part in life and work
- ethical, informed citizens of Wales and the world
- healthy, confident individuals, ready to lead fulfilling lives as valued members of society.

Cross Curricular Skills

Literacy, numeracy and digital competence are mandatory skills across the whole curriculum. Our curriculum will enable learners to develop competence and capability in these skills and to extend and apply them across all areas. Children will be given opportunities across the curriculum to:

- develop listening, reading, speaking and writing skills
- be able to use numbers and solve problems in real-life situations
- be confident users of a range of technologies to help them function and communicate effectively and make sense of the world around them.

15. Parents and Carers at Smarties

Parents and families have been a child's educator from birth. During this time, amazing developments have taken place. We wish to work closely with parents and families to ensure that this progress continues when their child attends pre-school.

We ask parents and carers to share with us all appropriate information about their child so that we are aware of their likes and dislikes, their particular strengths and their different personalities.

We see parents and carers frequently and we encourage them to share with us things that have happened outside of school so that we can build on the familiar, making the children feel secure. We will discuss with parents and carers the things their children are doing in school so that we can work together and parents can discuss more easily with their child events that have occurred in school.

We provide parents and carers with updates on what we have been doing in school through our digital communication service 'Schoop'.

We welcome parents' and carers' comments and ideas and we encourage all parents and carers to join the 'Parent Teacher Association' of Mount Street Nursery and Infant School. This group holds about 6 meetings per year when all are welcome to attend and help organise events to raise additional funds for the setting and the school while also creating opportunities for parents, carers, children and the whole school and wider community to socialise.



[Download the App](#). Our Schoop ID: 5721

16. Children's Additional Needs

Some children may have additional needs at some time during their childhood. At Smarties we welcome those with additional needs and our building meets the requirements of the Disability Discrimination Act.

The school will support parents and carers in accessing any services that are available to support their child whatever their need. Our Additional Learning Needs Policy is available at Mount Street Nursery and Infant School.

17. Registration & Collection and Legal Requirements

All parents have to sign the Parent/Carer/Setting contract prior to admission to Smarties. We also ask parents to give permission for any necessary emergency medical advice and treatment needed during the period the child is in the setting.

When children arrive at the setting, it is essential that children are registered in the appropriate way. Children will be handed over to their parent/carer at the end of the session. If anyone else is collecting your child we need to have all the information and authorisation to allow this to happen. A child will not be allowed to leave the premises with a different adult unless this has been authorised by the parent/carer. If a parent/carer is unexpectedly delayed, and will be late picking up their child, please ring and inform the school. Parents/carers are required to sign their child into and out of the setting.

18. Health and Safety

As the setting is in a school environment, all health and safety requirements have to be met. All staff have attended Child Protection and First Aid Training. All staff have up-to-date DBS checks in place.

19. Complaints

From time to time a parent may have a concern that could be deemed a complaint. This should be first discussed with the setting leader and if there is no satisfactory outcome, then with the Responsible Individual.

HOWEVER, IT IS WITHIN YOUR RIGHTS TO CONTACT CIW AT ANY STAGE OF YOUR COMPLAINT SHOULD YOU WISH TO DO SO.

CIW ADDRESS;

TEL: 03007900126

Government Buildings
Picton Terrace
Carmarthen
SA31 3BT

20. Dealing with emergencies

Fire evacuation procedure

The setting has a document that states the emergency procedure in the event of an evacuation. These are clearly displayed in the area and the procedure is covered with staff on induction. Regular fire drills take place to ensure all staff and pupils are aware of how to leave the building in an emergency.

Fire exits are clearly visible and lead out onto the yard and around to the field which is the fire assembly point. A roll count of pupils and staff is taken. Fire marshals immediately contact 999.

Accident or medical emergency

All staff at Smarties follow the accident and emergency procedures to ensure that all parties are supported and cared for and their health, safety and welfare is protected throughout their time in the setting.

All accidents and near misses are recorded and parents are asked to sign this when their child is collected. Smarties leader will report any accidents of a serious nature to CIW. Further information is available in the emergency policy and procedure available on the website.

21. Policies

To operate successfully Smarties has all appropriate policies and procedures in place. All policies including a pet policy, are available for parents and carers to read on our website.

22. Evaluation and Monitoring

The quality of care in the setting is reviewed and monitored on an ongoing basis with an annual evaluation on the quality of care undertaken formally. Parents and carers are asked to feed into the annual process in a formal way via a questionnaire and informally on a regular basis.

23. Charges

The charges for 2023 are as follows:

1 additional hour (11.00am – 12.00pm) - £5.00

All day (9.00am – 3.00pm (including 2 hours Foundation Phase educational hours) - £20.00

End of day – 3.00pm – 3.30pm - £2.50

Breakfast club- 8:00am – 9:00am - £3.00 – takes place and is run by Mount Street Infant School

After school club- 3:30pm – 5:15pm - £6.50 - takes place and is run by Mount Street Infant School

22. Continuing Education at Mount Street Infant School

Smarties staff welcomes your child to our pre-school education. We feel very privileged that we have been approved as a provider for pre-school education and have met the rigorous standards of the Care & Social Service Standards in Wales and the Inspectorate for Wales, Estyn.

Applications to the school are open to all children and must be applied for via Powys County Council. If you wish to discuss your child's educational needs, please do not hesitate to contact the school and speak to the Head Teacher Mrs Kenchington.

23. The statement of purpose is reviewed on a regular basis and if there are any changes made in the setting CIW will be informed immediately.