

Ashfield Nursery School



Part of Newcastle Nursery Schools Federation

Understanding the World at Ashfield Nursery

At Ashfield Nursery, we inspire children's natural curiosity by providing rich experiences that help them explore and understand the world around them. Our diverse community and unique outdoor spaces play a key role in shaping this learning. As a multicultural and diverse school, we celebrate a range of cultural festivals. Families share their traditions, food, and stories, helping children develop an appreciation for different cultures and an understanding of British values.

Our beautiful garden is a much-loved feature, offering opportunities for hands-on exploration, seasonal discovery, and community events. Our children often have the exciting opportunity to spot little visitors such as squirrels, hedgehogs, and various birds. This natural environment offers a unique chance for children to observe wildlife up close, sparking curiosity and fostering a deeper understanding of nature and the world around them.

Our nursery allotment offers a wealth of learning opportunities as children actively engage in growing and tending to a variety of fruits and vegetables. Through hands-on experiences, children learn about the life cycle of plants, the importance of caring for the environment, and where food comes from. Harvesting and enjoying the fruits of their labour encourages healthy eating and connects them to the natural world in a meaningful way, fostering a sense of achievement and understanding of the world around them.

Technology is seamlessly integrated into play at Ashfield Nursery, from cause-and-effect toys to interactive whiteboards and iPads. Children also explore real-life items, such as vacuum cleaners, electric whisks, and microwave ovens, during cooking activities, observing change and cause-and-effect through hands-on use of everyday technology.

Theatre productions within the nursery bring stories to life, immersing children in language, drama, and storytelling. These experiences enhance communication skills, creativity, and cultural awareness.

Children witness the wonder of life cycles as they observe caterpillars transforming into butterflies, developing an early appreciation for nature and scientific enquiry. Our farm visits allow children to interact with animals up close, reinforcing their understanding of where food comes from and the importance of caring for living things. The excitement continues with our mini-beast encounters, where children explore different insects, their habitats, and their roles in the environment.

At Ashfield Nursery, we believe that curiosity is key to a child's development. By fostering a natural sense of wonder, we encourage children to explore and ask questions about the world around them. Through hands-on experiences and real-life learning opportunities, we support their growing understanding of nature, different cultures, and the community, helping them develop a rich knowledge of the world.