



EARLY YEARS



PRIORY SCHOOL
EDGBASTON



“The love and care
showed to our children
has been amazing.”

Mrs Rae, Poppets Parent



Choosing the right nursery for your child is one of the most important decisions a family will make, and we understand how exciting, and at times overwhelming, that journey can feel. At Priory Poppets, we are proud to provide a nurturing, stimulating and secure environment where children from as young as six months old can thrive.

As part of Priory School, an independent school with a strong Catholic heritage, we warmly welcome families of all faiths and backgrounds. Our vibrant multicultural community is one of our greatest strengths, and we celebrate the diversity that enriches the experiences of every child in our care.

At the heart of Poppets is a commitment to giving children the very best start in life. As a Startwell accredited setting, we place a strong emphasis on healthy eating, wellbeing and the development of positive lifelong habits. Our unique location within 16 acres of beautiful parkland allows children to enjoy regular Forest School experiences based on the Swedish philosophy of outdoor learning. Through exploration, discovery and adventure in the natural environment, children develop confidence, resilience, creativity and a love of learning that extends far beyond the classroom.

We believe that education is a collaborative partnership between home and school, with every child at the centre of that relationship. Our experienced and dedicated staff introduce children to the Reception curriculum during their nursery years, ensuring they are exceptionally well prepared and often ahead in their readiness for school. As Headteacher, I have experienced Poppets not only as a school leader but also as a parent, with my own children having attended the nursery. This personal experience gives me complete confidence in the quality of care, education and opportunities we provide. Above all, our aim is to nurture inquisitive, confident and creative learners who are ready to embark upon their primary school journey with enthusiasm, independence and a genuine love of learning.



Dr Leanne Flood
Headteacher



NEED TO KNOW ESSENTIALS

We know that sometimes you just want the essential information up front. So here are some practicalities you might be curious about:

- We are open every week day from 8am to 6pm
- We are open 51 weeks of the year (with a week's closure at Christmas)
- Once your child is in Poppets, their place in our Prep School is secure
- We believe small class sizes are always better (so we have no more than 16 children in most classes)
- You can review your child's development at any time via our online learning platform and we have an open door policy for any questions, support and concerns

Parents tell us they love our nurturing, learning-led approach and that Poppets feels like a second home for their children:

- We deliberately focus on kindness and we encourage children to look after each other, our world and all living things
- We are big on the outdoors and fortunate to have 14 acres of land for forest school and outdoor play
- We are committed to exposing children to enriched learning opportunities and activities (parents always tell us they're amazed by the number of activities on offer)
- We are keen on collaboration so we give you detailed daily feedback and you'll be invited to regular parents evenings and events
- We welcome all faiths and we celebrate all festivals



BABY POPPETS

6 - 16 Months

Crawling
with curiosity



Our baby room is safe, secure and stimulating; perfect for poppets who want to go everywhere and get into everything:

- Tailored, baby-led routines
- Safe, clean and homely no-shoe zone
- Calm and neutral surroundings to avoid overstimulation
- Baby-height furniture and activities inspire babies to explore freely
- We encourage lots of creative play to help your little one learn and grow, and most importantly we have fun

- Tactile play and experiences to develop curiosity and sensory skills
- Daily music and singing to encourage early listening and language skills
- Crawl-to-outdoors setting with soft outdoor flooring and plenty of space to roam

We know that leaving your baby can be tough, especially for first-time Mums and Dads. So we are here to support you as a parent as well as your little poppet.

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Staff commitment to providing outstanding care and learning for all children is infectious.

OFSTED, 2019

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MINI POPPETS

16 Months - 2 Years

Finding their feet



Our toddler room builds confidence and independence; perfect for poppets who are finding their feet:

- A bigger, more 'grown up' room, ready for exploring
- Termly topics with themed activities form a gentle structure for learning
- Toddler-height activities and objects to encourage early investigation skills



We continue to focus on learning through play whilst gradually introducing structure and the building blocks for a routine:

- Daily walks in our wonderful grounds
- Weekly library visits to encourage vocabulary and communication
- Daily music and instrument play to reinforce early listening skills
- Weekly gym sessions to promote confidence and develop gross motor skills





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Our son has developed significantly both academically and socially. He is now a lot more confident, which allows his personality to shine through.

Mrs Rae

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POPPETS

2 - 3 Years

Developing personalities



Our 'turning two' and 'nearly three' rooms are fun and active; perfect for poppets who are discovering and developing their personalities:

- A slightly more structured day
- Introduction to even more extracurricular activities
- Two separate rooms to settle younger children joining from Mini Poppets and to prepare older children for our Nursery Class

We continue to mould learning around play and encourage free expression, performance and independence:

- Children start learning phonics, early maths, computer skills and pencil control
- We encourage role play to improve vocabulary and social skills
- Children have their first experience of performing on stage
- Children discover the joy of going on a trip
- Music lessons continue with a focus on rhythm and instruments
- Children are introduced to French and multi-lingual sessions



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Children form positive relationships with key people and demonstrate high levels of wellbeing as a result. They have warm and trusting relationships with all staff.

ISI, 2023

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The staff always go above and beyond to create a nurturing environment, filled with creative activities and engaging lessons. Priory Poppets truly feels like an extended family, and we couldn't be happier with our choice

Miss Booth, Poppets Parent

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NURSERY CLASS

3 - 4 Years

Preparing for school

Our Nursery Class is inspiring, challenging and fun; perfect for determined pre-school poppets:

- A 'big-school' uniform and a structured school day
- We make learning fun with a focus on maths, literacy and phonics
- Children are encouraged to independently problem solve and develop a 'can-do' approach to learning



We focus wholeheartedly on getting your child school-ready with an emphasis on their personal, social and emotional development:

- Children begin to learn early numeracy skills and problem solving
- Children develop an excellent foundation in reading and writing
- Children continue to access RE, PE, forest school, language sessions and music lessons led by specialist teachers
- Children start swimming lessons and can opt for extra-curricular ballet lessons
- Celebration and achievement is encouraged at our sports day and end-of-year graduation ceremony

We are always sad to see our Poppets leave, but we're equally proud of how far they've come and how ready they are for school.

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ENCOURAGING CURIOSITY, CONFIDENCE & EXPRESSION



Why parents
choose us

Stimulating
curriculum
and learning
opportunities

All children have access to an enriching range of activities and a high-quality educational timetable which follows the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum:

Phonics	Forest School (led by qualified Forest School Leader)
Maths	French (Poppets & Nursery Class)
Literacy	Multilingual lessons
Yoga and mindfulness	Swimming lessons at the Edgbaston Priory Club (Nursery Class)
Music	Ballet (Nursery Class)
Rhythm time (Baby Poppets & Mini Poppets)	Toddler Tennis
Football	Trips & in-school visits
Cookery	Arts & Crafts
PE (including Footie Bugs)	Stage productions (Poppets & Nursery Class)

Nutrition

We serve home-cooked, healthy food with seasonal menus that change weekly.

- 5* hygiene rating
- Seasonal produce
- Menus change weekly
- Daily halal and vegetarian options
- Freshly cooked on site by our in-house catering team
- Meals to accommodate specific dietary requirements and allergies

Events & Celebrations

Priory Poppets is one big family. And we love to celebrate just like you do at home.

We celebrate our similarities and differences. We celebrate cultural traditions and events. And we celebrate achievements and milestones too. Because we believe curiosity and celebration lay the foundations for caring, well-rounded individuals:

- World Book Day
- Religious festivals
- Cultural traditions
- Charity fundraising events
- Christmas Nativity (Poppets & Nursery Class)
- Spring production (Poppets & Nursery Class)
- End of year Graduation Ceremony (Poppets & Nursery Class)

Safeguarding

We are committed to promoting the safeguarding and welfare of young people.

We understand that safeguarding is everybody’s responsibility and we take every measure to ensure your child is safe and secure.

You can find a full copy of our safeguarding policy on our website at www.prioryschool.net



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