



# Loreto Convent School, Gibraltar

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## NURSERY 1 GUIDELINES

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## GENERAL INFORMATION

Our main aim in Nursery 1 is to ensure your child is happy and settles into a routine that will prepare them for school life. We aim to provide a loving caring environment where your child will thrive and learn through play. Through play children can develop social and cognitive skills, develop emotionally and gain the self-confidence required to engage in new experiences and environments.

- The school gate will open for nursery children at 8.15 am and close promptly at 9.00 am.
- Please inform us of any change of arrangements **in writing** to the teacher and to the office (email [admin@loreto.gi](mailto:admin@loreto.gi) ).
- Please ensure that every item is clearly labelled e.g. clothes, bag, drinks bottles, dummy, Tupperware.
- Please bring nappies (not pull ups unless toilet training) wet wipes and a snack.
- If your child has a comforter please bring this to school, this could help settle your child into nursery.

## STRUCTURE OF THE DAY

- Free play.
- One-to-one teacher lead activities.
- Art.
- Break.
- Carpet time (stories, singing etc.)
- Outside play.



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## WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

- Sensory play.
- P.E. on Wednesdays and Thursdays.
- Chapel (prayers and singing) on Friday.
- Music time on Mondays and Tuesdays.
- Spanish on Wednesdays and Thursdays

## Areas of learning

### Communication and Language / Literacy

- Encourage speech through play and singing.
- Story time is an important time to develop the children's language.
- Encourage to verbalise as well as point to objects.
- Follow simple directions "Come and show me the car".
- We encourage the children to look at books to become familiar with them.
- We give the children a different range of activities to encourage fine motor skill.
- Introducing the days of the week.

## MATHEMATICS

- Develop an awareness of numbers through nursery rhymes and songs.
- Introduce rote counting by clapping and saying the numbers to 10.

## PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT



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- Learn to share with other children and adults by playing games together.
- Help the children to adapt to the new surroundings by creating a colourful stimulating caring environment.
- Build up confidence to become more independent.
- Help the children develop a high self-esteem by praising the children for any accomplishment they achieve no matter how big or small.
- Encourage pretend play through the toys they play with.

## PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

- Develop fine motor skills during tabletop games and activities, such as Playdough and threading.
- Fine motor skill activities such as sensory play are taught to encourage strength in the fingers and hand. This in turn prepares them for pre-writing skills in Foundation Stage 1.
- Develop gross motor skills through outside play, P.E, and action songs.

## UNDERSTANDING THE WORLD

- Learns about the different textures through sensory play.
- The children learn to follow routine of the nursery day.

## EXPRESSIVE ART AND DESIGN

- Encourage the children to move their whole bodies to music and sound.
- The children learn to listen to music and are encouraged to join in with rhymes and songs.



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## TOPICS

Our topics allow for the children to develop skills within the Early Years Areas of Learning. The topics change monthly.

### September

- National Day. Craft activities ready to take home to celebrate Gibraltar National Day.
- 5 little ducks – engaging children in activities like '5 little ducks' offers a range of educational and developmental benefits, while also being a source of joy and entertainment for them.

### October/November - Nursery Rhyme

- There's a worm at the bottom of the garden – This offers numerous benefits for toddlers' language, cognitive, motor, sensory, social and emotional development, all the while providing a delightful and engaging experience.

### Autumn Activity

- Working with autumn leaves, printing, sticking and painting.
- We also cover autumn nursery rhymes during carpet time. The activities we do with the children help the nursery rhymes come alive.

### December

- Christmas - The children will make lots of Christmas decorations whilst also learning the true meaning of Christmas. 'Happy birthday Jesus'.

### January/February

- It's raining It's pouring nursery rhyme – this nursery rhyme offers numerous developmental benefits for young children from language to cognitive and social development. Repetition of these short little rhymes has big impacts on our little ones.

### March

- Easter – Not only a time for chocolate - but a time also to remember Jesus and the celebration of new life (bunnies and chicks).

### April/May



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- Dear Zoo – This book is a wonderful way to develop your child’s vocabulary, play and attention and listening skills.

### June

- Summer Activities – Here we undertake a lot of water and sand play, messy play and outdoor activities.

**Correct pencil grip is very important for writing activities**

