



Loreto Convent School, Gibraltar

NURSERY 2 GUIDELINES

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GENERAL INFORMATION

- We offer an 8.15 am drop off facility in nursery for all parents who have an early start to their day.
- Please ensure your child comes to school on time. The school gates close at 9am. It is important that children become familiar with the nursery routine and arriving at school on time will help your child to settle in.
- Please inform us of any change of arrangements **in writing** to the teacher and the office (email admin@loreto.gi).
- Please ensure that every item of clothing, school bag and lunch bags are clearly and permanently labelled.
- Should your child require a school jacket it is available for purchase from Cosmopolitan Kids – please ensure they are permanently labelled.

STRUCTURE OF THE DAY

We follow a weekly timetable in nursery 2 that covers all areas of a child's development. Although the timetable of daily events stays the same, the topics and activities change on a weekly and monthly basis.

Our nursery routine is designed so that all of our games and activities provide a learning opportunity. The six main areas of development are explored and developed through play and a structured daily routine. If a child is playing on their own, alongside their peers, with friends or as part of a group your child will be learning through play and developing their social skills. Each playtime situation brings about a unique opportunity to learn and develop mentally, physically and socially.

As part of our nursery 2 timetable we encourage both free play and structured games. Arts and crafts are a big part of our daily routine providing great opportunities for the children to improve their fine motor skills, pencil control, colour and shape recognition and explore great sensory experiences.

Each week we include 2 P.E sessions, a Music lesson, a Spanish lesson, Chapel time and a visit to the school library. These lessons help the children integrate into the wider Loreto Convent community. They get an introduction to activities that they will enjoy throughout their time at school.

P.E sessions are held in the school hall or outside in the playground. We introduce some of the basic equipment that they will use when they progress to first school. Music, dancing, games, running,



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aces, balancing, spatial awareness, throwing and catching will be just some of the activities introduced.

Each week our nursery music teacher will come to our classroom and the children will engage in singing, rhymes, rhythms, dancing and trying out a range of percussion instruments. Simple tunes and rhymes are a child's first introduction to important pre reading skills.

Our weekly visit to the school library is always a firm favourite with the children. When we arrive the children sit down and the librarian staff read a story. This is followed up with an accompanying worksheet for the children to colour in. This encourages great listening skills and important pre reading skills.

Every Friday we attend the chapel. The children sing songs and hymns and say prayers. We also say a daily prayer before our snack time.

Once a week we have a Spanish lesson. This lesson covers basic vocabulary such as colours, numbers, shapes and songs.

Each day we take the children to play outside in our covered nursery play area. We have a wide range of toys to choose from and it is always great fun. The children enjoy the more informal nursery setting and they can interact with their peers, playing, talking and sharing toys.

We encourage all of the children to be independent and build up their confidence. This is introduced with the children opening their bags at snack time and clearing their things away once they have finished. We ask the children to put their bag away, go to the toilet and attempt to put on their coats. All of this is done with close supervision and help is given when needed.

Throughout our daily activities we are always tailoring what we do to an individual child's age and ability. A child who is born at the beginning of the school year will have different needs to a child who was born at the end of the year. All of our activities will be adapted accordingly.

Circle time is when we will read stories, sing rhymes and play group games. This encourages the children to share and wait for their turn. Children learn some important social skills when working in a group setting.

Throughout the school year the children are constantly exposed to a variety of games and activities to learn colours, shapes, numbers, letters, sorting, matching and many other skills that they will need as they progress through school.

- Register.
- Teacher led activities.
- Toilet.



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- Snack time.
- Outside play.
- Arts and crafts.
- Circle time.

Areas of learning

COMMUNICATION AND LANGUAGE / LITERACY

- To learn and repeat familiar songs, rhymes and poems.
- Encourage children to listen with interest when stories are read to them.
- Develop an interest in play with sounds.
- Understand 'who', 'what', 'why', 'where' in simple questions.
- Uses simple sentences (e.g. Mummy gone to work').
- Begin to use word endings (e.g. going, coming).
- Children visit the school Library weekly for story reading.
- Has some favourite stories, rhymes, songs, poems and jingles.
- Understands more complex sentences, e.g. 'Put your toys away and then we will read a book'.
- Single channelled attention. Can shift to a different task if attention fully obtained when hearing their name.

MATHEMATICS

- Recites some numbers in sequence.
- Uses some language of quantities such as 'more', 'less' and 'a lot'.
- Begins to recognise some shapes.
- Anticipates specific time-based events, such as mealtimes or home time.
- Notices simple shapes and patterns in the world around them. (eg. 'the sun is a circle').
- Starts to recreate and make up patterns.
- Begins to recognise colour names and can sort them out in different groups.



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PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- To help and encourage seeking out others for shared experiences.
- To encourage them to develop positive relationships and respect for others.
- To develop and express own preferences and interests.
- To express their own feelings, happy, sad, cross, scared and worried.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

- Children will be given opportunities to be active and inactive.
- To develop their coordination, control and movement.
- To develop fine motor skills and finger strength in preparation for prewriting skills in FS1, ie. Pencil control and scissor skills
- To develop gross motor skills, ie. Running, jumping etc.
- May begin to show preference for dominant hand.
- Can kick a ball.
- Imitates drawing simple shapes such as circles and lines.
- Runs safely on whole foot.

UNDERSTANDING THE WORLD

- Has a sense of immediate family and relations.
- In pretend play, imitates everyday actions and events from their own family. (Such as making and drinking a cup of tea).
- Starts to notice features and objects in their environment.
- Children attend Chapel once a week, they say bidding prayers and learn songs and prayers.
- Begins to choose friends
- Enjoys playing with small world toys, such as farms, garages or train tracks.
- Starts to notice features of objects in their environment.



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EXPRESSIVE ART AND DESIGN

- Beginning to use representation to communicate. (e.g. Draws a line and says, 'That's me').
- Experiments with blocks, colour, markings and various textures.
- Begins to make believe by pretending during role play.
- Shows an interest in the way musical instruments sound.
- Joins in singing favourite songs.

TOPICS

The following topics are explored within all the areas of development through games, stories, songs, arts/crafts and teacher led play activities.

- September-Colours.
- October-Autumn.
- November-opposites.
- December-Christmas.
- January-Winter.
- February-Shapes.
- March-Spring.
- April-Opposites.
- May-People who help us.
- June-Summer.

Correct pencil grip is very important for writing activities

