



Miss Emma Street

ABOUT ME

From September 2026, Miss Emma Street, our current Deputy Nursery & Pre-School Manager, will be stepping up into the role of Head of Nursery & Pre-School.

Miss Street has been a valued member of our school community for over 13 years. During this time, she has demonstrated exceptional commitment to our youngest learners, consistently modelling the care, professionalism and high standards that underpin our Early Years provision. Her qualifications include a BA (Hons) in Early Childhood Studies and Early Years Teacher Status, and she brings both expertise and genuine passion to the role.

Outside of school, Emma values the time she spends with friends and family. She loves exploring new places through travelling, especially extreme day trips. She enjoys theatre visits, running and, for quieter moments, reading.

We're excited to share that, from September, our Nursery & Pre-School is rebranding to 'Explorers' Corner, Lancing Prep Worthing'. This change won't affect our daily operations – it's simply a step towards giving our beloved Nursery & Pre-School a clearer, more focused identity.

To help you get to know Miss Street better, we placed her in the spotlight and asked her a few questions.



What makes the approach at Explorers' Corner, Lancing Prep Worthing, unique to early years education?

Explorers' Corner, provides a learning environment that focuses on the unique child. We understand that every child develops differently and we support those individual needs and interests to ensure a positive start to their educational journey.

Our Nursery and Pre-School is situated within the main school, which allows us to be part of the school community and gives us access to an extensive environment. Within the Early Years, we have a team of highly qualified and experienced staff, with high staff-to-child ratios. I believe we provide a family feel within the Nursery and Pre-School and have a personal approach.

Our children have large spaces to explore and all children aged 2-4 years mix together throughout the setting to play and learn together and from each other. The children benefit from specialist teachers and sessions such as Art, Science, Music and PE. They also participate in weekly Italian lessons with our Head, Mrs Milling. We use the facilities at Lancing College to take our Pre-School children swimming.



How do you create a nurturing and supportive environment for every child?

A nurturing environment grows from building strong relationships, and an atmosphere where every child feels genuinely seen and valued. We ensure that secure relationships are developed at the very start of a child's learning journey at Explorers' Corner. Children are invited in for settling sessions and all families are offered a home visit to begin to build and develop relationships.

Staff get to know and work with each child at Explorers' Corner, they use simple strategies such as following the child's lead, chatting to them about what they are interested in and use positive, encouraging language to help each child understand and manage their feelings. All children are allocated a key person.

Our curriculum is built around children's interests, offering creative, hands-on learning opportunities. The environment is designed to promote collaborative play, exploration, challenge and choice to nurture confident, resilient learners. We have cosy spaces for comfort and open-ended resources that promote independence and curiosity.

Our inclusive practice ensures that every child's background, interests and developmental stage are respected, while close partnerships with families create continuity between home and Nursery/Pre-School.

What does a typical day look like for children in your Nursery and Pre-School?

We provide a structured day that balances routine with freedom, and adult-led learning with child-initiated exploration.

Our Nursery and Pre-School day runs from 8:30am-3:30pm, with the option of Wraparound care before and after these hours (8am-8.30am and 3.30pm-6pm). We provide a relaxed start to the day with doors 'open' between 8:30-9.00am to ensure time for children to transition and settle at their own pace.

There is a mixture of child-initiated and adult-led activities. Our focused adult-led activities include creative arts, cooking, music or movement.

We offer a free-flow play environment which allows children to explore indoor and outdoor areas with open-ended resources, supported by adults who extend learning through conversation and modelling.

We have a large garden with plenty of space to encourage physical development, risk-taking and nature exploration. We also have use of the main school field with forest school area, and the indoor gym space.

Children have a mid-morning and mid-afternoon snack and are provided with a hot cooked meal at lunchtimes, prepared by our in-house chefs, and we eat in the school dining hall with Reception and Pre-Prep. This is a social occasion that promotes independence and healthy habits.

Daily small group time focuses on activities such as story sessions, phonological awareness, nursery rhymes and singing or maths games. There is time for quiet time and naps depending on a child's age or need.

At home time, we ensure a calm transition by communicating with families, and sharing the day's highlights.





PICTURE ABOVE LEFT TO RIGHT: MS EMMA MASHFORD (DEPUTY HEAD ACADEMIC AND HEAD OF PRE-PREP), MISS VICTORIA WARNER (EYFS CO-ORDINATOR & RECEPTION CLASS TEACHER) AND MISS EMMA STREET (HEAD OF NURSERY & PRE-SCHOOL)

How do you support children’s individual learning journeys and developmental milestones?

We support individual development by recognising that every child progresses in their own way and at their own pace. We truly get to know each child, their interests, strengths and stage of development, and use this to shape personalised experiences.

Every child has an online learning journal through Tapestry, which celebrates their progress. Tapestry allows parents to view photos, observations and care diary entries for their child’s day.

Staff observe children, listen carefully, and document what they show interest in and what they are ready for next. Termly reports are written to provide children with individual next steps, which are learning goals tailored to each child’s strengths and needs. These are shared on Tapestry and we invite families in to discuss these with their child’s key person. Regular communication with families ensures continuity between home and Nursery/Pre-School, helping us celebrate achievements and identify emerging needs together.

Through warm interactions, adults scaffold learning in the moment, modelling language and extending play. The environment is designed to offer open-ended opportunities that children can access in their own way, allowing them to explore at their own pace and follow their curiosity. We use visual timetables and visually labelled resources to support their understanding.

What are you most excited about for 2026 and 2027?

I am excited to launch Explorers’ Corner at Lancing Prep Worthing to create an even more joyful, engaging and high-quality Nursery and Pre-School for all involved.

I look forward to continuing to work with our current families and welcome new children and families joining Explorers’ Corner in the near future.

