



Meet the Manager – Westbury House School

Meet Michelle, Nursery Manager at Westbury House School! Michelle has worked in Early Years Education for nearly fifteen years, in mainstream and SEND schools in the UK and abroad. After two years as a Deputy Manager working in a Special Educational Needs pre-school, she completed the Early Years Professional Status Post-Graduate degree and was promoted to Manager.

Keep reading to find out more:

What is something that drew you to join Westbury?

One of the key aspects that attracted me to join Westbury was the shared passion, dedication, and ethos that permeates the entire school. Westbury is a place where everyone, from the leadership team to the teachers, is deeply committed to providing the best possible education and care for children of all ages.

The nursery's mission aligns closely with my own values and professional aspirations, which made the decision to join an easy one. I was particularly impressed by the collaborative spirit at Westbury, where innovation in teaching methods and a child-centred approach are consistently prioritised. This environment not only fosters academic excellence but also ensures that every child is supported holistically, allowing them to thrive both inside and outside the classroom.

How would your staff describe you?

My staff would describe me as personable, hard-working and passionate.

What have you been most proud of in your teaching career?

Working as a team and receiving an Outstanding Ofsted Award in all areas. This was received due to the dedication of a team that supported new ideas and was determined to succeed. It was incredibly fulfilling to see our hard work recognised at such a high level, and it reinforced my belief in the power of teamwork and collaboration in achieving excellence.

What are the qualities of a successful leader?

Dedication, resilience, and confidence in own abilities are key to being a successful leader. A successful leader trusts their judgment, learns from experience, and is not afraid to take calculated risks.

What is something that you've found to be unique to Westbury Nursery?

The commitment to providing the best start to a child's educational journey by ensuring children enjoy coming to Nursery, whilst developing their independent skills and a love of learning.

At Westbury Nursery, there is a deep understanding that the early years are foundational in shaping a child's future attitude towards education. The staff here are passionate about creating a positive, engaging, and supportive atmosphere where children feel safe and excited to explore new ideas and challenges.

The curriculum is thoughtfully designed to be both stimulating and adaptable, allowing each child to develop at their own pace while discovering their interests and strengths.

How do you think a nursery manager can make a real difference to a child's development?

Being a present Manager is important in developing positive relationships with the children and families, understanding their stages of development, and ensuring the Nursery provides tailored education for individual children and their abilities. It is paramount to be up to date with the latest legislation and bring in new ideas, create and deliver a stimulating and caring curriculum for the foundation stage.

What are you most looking forward to at Westbury Nursery?

I am looking forward to the unique and varied set of events we have planned for the academic year! Our nursery children get the chance to participate in exciting, themed events and benefit from being able to join whole-school celebrations. To name a few, Harvest Festival, Recycling Week, Christmas Jumper Day will be fantastic in the nursery.

Who/what inspired you to teach?

My daughter! I was working previously in healthcare and I became fascinated with her development and interested in how children learn through the foundation stage. She joined a fantastic Nursery where the team was so professional and insightful, they inspired me to study child development and train as an Early Years Teacher. The Early Years Sector is often misunderstood and overlooked, it would be great for this to be recognised equally as important as all stages of education, if not more so!