



2025_26

RECEPTION INFORMATION PACK

CONTACT:
01661 822457
contactus@dinnington.newcastle.sch.uk



Introduction

At Dinnington First School, we believe that a caring and stimulating environment is essential to the development of your children. Through our vision and values we aim to provide a nurturing and safe environment in which children can thrive.

Our vision and values underpin everything that we do:

Learn, Enjoy, Succeed Together....

Dinnington R.O.C.K.S

- **Resilient:** To create independent learners who are self-motivated, problem solvers and life-long learners. To **LEARN** through working hard, being determined, motivated and adaptable.
- **Open to new experiences:** To inspire enthusiasm for learning for life; to provide an inspirational range of experiences to develop the whole child both in and outside of the classroom; for children to **ENJOY** learning and embrace new experiences and challenges and discover 'what makes them tick'.
- **Community Spirit:** To be a welcoming and inclusive school. To create rounded children for the future who see the benefits of collaboration and teamwork in the pursuit of happiness and success.
- **Kindness:** To actively teach kindness, consideration and respect so that it permeates our lives and the lives of others; To promote self-belief and belief in others; To acknowledge that everyone is different but to celebrate our differences. To understand we need to be kind and look after ourselves, others and the environment.
- **Success:** To provide a progressive, sequential curriculum across all subject areas and to cater for the differing needs of all our children in terms of knowledge, skills and abilities. To celebrate everyone's successes in all areas of life. We recognise that we all have different strengths and are proud when we work hard and when we **SUCCEED TOGETHER.**

"We pride ourselves on being a welcoming and inclusive school where we acknowledge everyone is different and celebrate our differences.

We look forward to getting to know you and your child/ren and welcoming you into the 'Dinnington family'."

Caroline Ash – Head Teacher



The Reception Staff Team

	Mrs. C. Parker Early Years Co-ordinator Nursery Teacher
	Mrs C Tustin Class 2 Teacher
	Miss A Fletcher Class 3 teacher
	Mrs S Gibbs Learning Support Assistant
	Mrs M Lowe Higher Level Teaching Assistant
	Mrs L Old Learning Support Assistant
	Mrs K Leech Learning Support Assistant
	Mrs N Coxon Learning Support Assistant

If you would like to see who else works at our school please visit the 'About Us' section of our school website:

[Dinnington First School - Home](#)



Times of the school day

Our school site is open from 8.00am in the morning and there is ample parking in surrounding estate for those that need to drive to school to drop children off.

Classroom gates open at 8.45am daily.

Daily Session: 8.50am - 3.20pm (Mon-Thurs)
8.50am - 2.30pm (Fri)

Fee paying provision (Out of School Club) is available from 7.40am until the start of school
and from the end of the school day until 5.45pm

In Early Years we work hard to make sure the outdoor environment is exciting and engaging for the children and spend a considerable amount of time organising our resources. With this in mind it is gratefully appreciated if parents supervise their children carefully before and after school.

Attendance

Regular attendance and punctuality has a positive impact on your child's progress. If your child is ill please inform school by telephone, email or the Reach-More-Parents app to let us know. If someone else is collecting your child you need to inform the office or the class teacher





Curriculum

The children follow the EYFS framework. This will lay a secure foundation for future learning through learning and development that is planned around the individual needs and interests of the child. Early Years Education is a most valuable introduction to school life and is of the utmost importance. It welcomes, settles, nurtures, challenges and prepares your children for the following years.





How do children learn in Reception?

Children in the Early Years Foundation Stage learn by playing and exploring, being active, and through creative and critical thinking which takes place both indoors and outdoors. At each session, paints, dough, sand, water, home corner, book corner, drawing, colouring, singing, group games and a variety of outdoor activities are available.

Every child is taught the social skills of sharing and caring, following simple instructions and helped to develop speaking and listening skills.



Following the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework your child will be learning skills, acquiring new knowledge and demonstrating their understanding through areas of learning and development.

The first three Prime Areas are:

- Communication and Language
- Physical Development
- Personal, Social and Emotional Development

These Prime Areas are those most essential for your child's healthy development and future learning.



As children grow, the prime areas will help them to develop skills in four specific areas which are:

- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the World
- Expressive Arts and Design



Learning is planned around various themes that are based on key early learning and the children's interests. The activities that the children will be involved in maybe adult led or child initiated. Each day we have a phonics focus based on the Read Write Inc programme which you will be asked to practice at home and support your children's progress. www.ruthmiskin.com



“Play is the highest form of research.” *Albert Einstein*

At Dinnington First School we are committed to providing a caring, stimulating and challenging environment where every child feels safe and happy.

We will spend time getting to know your child/ren and aim to make the transition from home to school as easy as possible.

We ensure that children are provided with the opportunity to learn through high quality play.

At the heart of our Early Years approach, we believe that play is the best form of learning as through this, children develop a variety of lifelong skills.





School Uniform

We are very conscious that school clothing can be expensive. With that in mind we have kept school branded clothing to a minimum. Our uniform consists of the branded school top teamed with a plain white or blue t-shirt and leggings or tracksuit bottoms - **all named please**. Trainers or shoes suitable for outdoor play with Velcro are ideal for enabling young children the freedom to participate in all activities safely. Please bear in mind that comfortable clothing that is easy to use for the toilet and that won't hinder climbing and play is advised. **The children do not require a PE kit because our uniform can be worn for active learning.**

Most items can be bought from High Street shops.

Below are our uniform suppliers if you wish to use them:

Emblematic Ltd

Website : <https://emblematic.co.uk/longbenton-store/dfs/>

Ciel

Website : <https://www.cielschooluniform.co.uk/dinnington-first-school/>

(Shop on Gosforth High Street)

As we all know accidents do happen, so we ask all parents to provide a named bag of spare clothes to leave in the cloakroom so we may easily change your child.

Remove jewellery before school – your child will engage in lots of active play.

Visits & Outings

Throughout the year we have various outings related to the themes eg the Winter Gardens and Hall Hill Farm, we need your permission for these and nearer the time we will send out information regarding timings along with the required slip.

As well as trips we supplement our curriculum throughout the year with special visitors coming into school such as Zoolab.



Refreshments throughout the day

Milk is provided free for children up to the age of 4 years old but you do need to register with the Cool Milk scheme for your child to get this. When your child turns 5 years, milk is provided at a small cost (Cool Milk leaflet is attached). Water is available at all times and children are provided with their first school water bottle free of charge - which must be brought into school every day. The school is part of the national fruit in school scheme and children are given a piece of fruit to eat every morning.

How You Can Support Your Child

Physical Development

Encourage your child:

1. To be aware of others & obstacles – move safely
2. To play ball games
3. To balance on eg 1 leg, a plank
4. To build upper body & core strength
5. To move in different ways – hop, dance, climb
6. To hold a pencil correctly (tripod grip)
7. To build and discuss shapes
8. To do jigsaws
9. To use scissors correctly
10. To use cutlery
11. To draw and mark make





Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Encourage your child:

1. To dress/undress independently
2. To go to the toilet independently
3. To fasten/unfasten shoes and coat (Velcro not laces)
4. To clean teeth regularly
5. To try a variety of foods (good food choices)
6. To look after their own belongings
7. To build resilience and perseverance
8. To understand what is right and wrong
9. To be kind and play cooperatively
10. To talk about their feelings & consider the feelings of others

Mathematical Development

Encourage your child:

1. To sort everyday objects into sets
2. To rote count beyond 10
3. To count sets of objects
4. To subitise small numbers (recognise how many without counting)
5. To recognise numerals to 10
6. To help in cooking activities – using scales together
7. To play simple board games (use a die)
8. To name, talk and manipulate shapes
9. To recognise simple patterns



Language and Literacy Development

Encourage your child:

1. To develop a love of books.
2. To share books in a relaxed and comfortable atmosphere, following words with an adult
3. To talk about what they have heard using new vocabulary
4. To hold a conversation – back & forth exchanges
5. To talk using full sentences
6. To use initial letter sounds (play 'I Spy')
7. To sing nursery rhymes and songs regularly
8. To write name using correct letter formation



Communication and Payments

If you have any problems or concerns that might affect your child in any way, come and talk to us.

During term time there will always be a staff member visible during drop off and collection who will be happy to pass on any information to the class teacher. For a longer chat appointments can be made through the school office.

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Messages from the school are shared through an online system called Reach-More-Parents.

As far as is possible we try to operate as a cashless school. To help with this we use an online payment portal linked to Reach-More-Parents for payments.





And Finally...

I hope you find the information in this pack useful.

To the children:

We are really looking forward to getting to know you as a person. You will have lots of fun, make many friends, have new adventures and learn so much along the way.

Parents/carers:

We look forward to working with you and your child.

We hope these years will be a happy time for everyone and that your child will flourish in the environment we provide.

If you have any problems or worries, please do not hesitate to come and see us so that we can sort them out together.



Enclosed are forms for you to complete to give us more information about your child.

Please also inform us of

- Any health problems and allergies e.g. Elastoplast.
- Any dietary requirements e.g. vegetarian.