



2025_26
**NURSERY
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 Nursery Staff Team

	<p>Mrs. C. Parker Early Years Co-ordinator Nursery Teacher</p>
	<p>Mrs Y Bell Learning Support Assistant</p>
	<p>Mrs H Neilson Learning Support Assistant</p>
	<p>Miss K Dupree Learning Support Assistant</p>
	<p>Mrs M Lowe Higher Level Learning Support Assistant</p>
	<p>Mrs K Leech Learning Support Assistant</p>

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 8.00 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 8.50am daily.

Morning Session: 8.55am-11.55am

Afternoon Session 11.55am – 3.05pm (Mon-Thu) and 11.55am – 2.30pm (Fri)

All children are offered morning places and the afternoon sessions are only available for those taking up entitled 30 hours or for those parents who wish to pay for extra hours. Within this we offer some flexibility for days you wish to keep children at home – please contact us to discuss costs and space availability.

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





Settling into Nursery

Children do not stay for full sessions when they first start Nursery. To ensure that each child settles in happily, they initially attend for part of the session to allow familiarity and confidence to be built.

Our aim is to encourage the children to become independent, but this process varies from one child to another.

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 Nursery?

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.

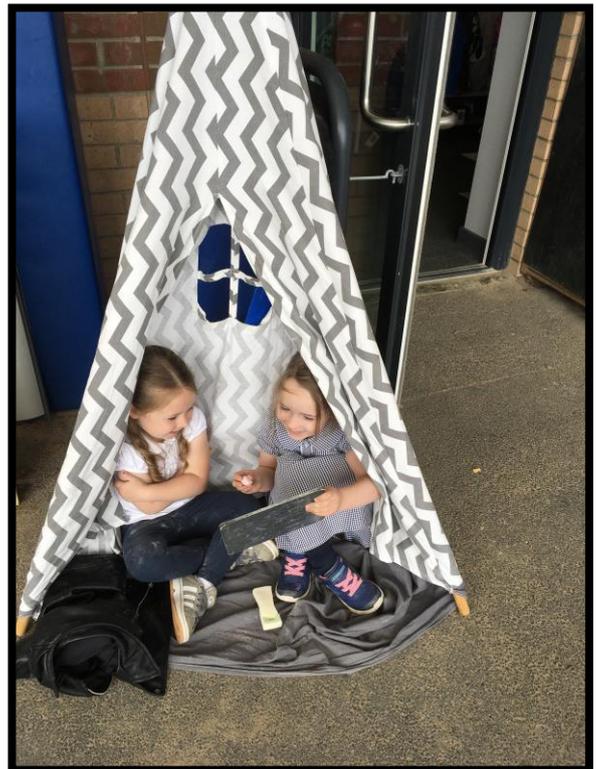
Every child is taught the social skills of sharing and caring, following simple instructions and helped to develop speaking and listening skills.

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.



“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

Uniform is not compulsory in Nursery, however, you do have the option.

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.

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

In the Summer term, we have one trip to the beach. Nearer the time we will send out information regarding timings along with the required slip. Since this is the first trip the children will go on with school we ask as far as possible for all nursery children to be accompanied by a parent or other relative.

As well as our trip in the Summer term 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 Nursery children but you do need to register with the Cool Milk scheme for your child to get this. Please complete the form that is attached. The children are also given a mid-morning snack that normally consists of toast and fruit.

Drinking water is available at all times, so children will need their own water bottles or purchase a school one at a cost of £1.50.



How can you help prepare your child for Nursery?

- Get them familiar with the school building by having a walk past.
- Show them how happy you are for them to be starting Nursery, this will really help with their confidence.
- Talk to them about going to Nursery and remind them that you will always come back for them at the end of the nursery session!
- Listen to their worries and talk about them, it's natural to be worried.
- Show them their clothes and belongings, making sure that they all have their name inside.
- Support them to independently use the toilet, talking about the importance of wiping properly, flushing the toilet and washing their hands thoroughly.
- Drop the dummy– have a 'dummy drop party'! This is very important so that your child develops their muscles for chewing and talking.
- Walk to school! Where possible, avoid bringing buggies. A child who walks to school can develop their independence, responsibility, awareness of the environment and it is a great way to exercise!
- Practise singing some nursery rhymes and songs.
- Encourage self-help and independence through practicing putting their coat and shoes on and washing their hands.
- Establish a morning routine before they come to Nursery; practise getting up, having breakfast and getting dressed.

We know that all children develop at different times. Talk to us for support, we are happy to help!



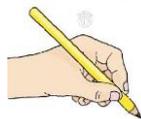


Other Ways You Can Support Your Child

Physical Development

Encourage your child:

1. To climb
2. To walk up and down steps using alternative feet
3. To balance
4. To wave flags & streamers in the air (large movements)
5. To throw and catch a ball
6. To move in different ways eg dance, hop, skip
7. To build
8. To do jigsaws
9. To use a knife and fork
10. To paint and use play dough
11. To fasten/unfasten shoes and coat (Velcro not laces)
12. To use scissors
13. To hold a pencil correctly (tripod grip)



Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Encourage your child:

1. To look after his/hers own belongings
2. To dress and undress independently
3. To go to the toilet independently
4. To brush their own teeth correctly
5. To talk about their feelings

Mathematical Development

Encourage your child:

1. To recognise and name colours
2. To sort everyday objects into sets
3. To count sets of objects
4. To help in cooking activities
5. To play simple board games
6. To explore shapes





Language and Literacy Development

Encourage your child:

1. To develop a love of books.
2. To share books in a relaxed and comfortable atmosphere.
3. To talk about stories, learning new vocabulary
4. To sing nursery rhymes regularly
5. To mark make





Communication

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 have 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.

contactus@dinnington.newcastle.sch.uk

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

Charging Guidance

All pupils staying in the afternoon will can be provided with a school dinner (contact school office for current pricing), however parents are welcome to send a healthy packed lunch instead if they prefer.

Intimate Care Consumables: Nappies and wipes must be provided by the parent/carer. Children with ongoing intimate care needs must have these supplied ready in a bag for the week ahead as a minimum.

Nursery may run a small number of additional experiences throughout the year. Contributions for additional experiences in nursery including visitors and workshops, and visits to external sites will be shared with families as they arise. No invoice will be raised for these contributions. Unfortunately, if the costs of experiences are not covered by parental contributions, then school reserves the right to cancel these.

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.