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Welcome to Foundation Stage



Reception Information Booklet



Flagship School

Welcome to New York Primary School's Foundation Stage

When your child starts in the Foundation Stage at New York Primary school we aim to make this as comfortable and reassuring as possible for both of you. To do this we must work together around the needs of the child.

Our Foundation Stage classes are safe and nurturing places for children to play and learn together.

From birth, you as the parent, together with other members of your family have been your child's first educators and we cherish the opportunity to develop home-school relationships to enable the best for your child.

The help and support that parents give their child at home has a very significant impact on their learning. It is important that all parents chat, play and read with their children. As they start in the Foundation Stage your child will continue to need your support and involvement as this has a significant impact on their cognitive development, literacy and numeracy skills.

We will provide you with regular feedback on their progress and ask that you share information about your child to help us work as partners to support your child's education. You are an essential partner in your child's early learning, we work cooperatively together in a respectful partnership.

We have high aspirations for all our children, we want them to do their best at all times and we support them in achieving this.

We believe that childhood is precious and as such encourage our children to enjoy learning through play, to be curious and enthusiastic, happy, confident and safe, by encouraging them to be independent, resilient, capable and self assured in their learning and by challenging their thinking.

We promote equality and diversity and are a highly inclusive school. We believe each child is a unique child who is constantly learning to be strong, proud and independent through the development of positive relationships with all.

Staff are highly skilled professionals who promote these aims and work hard to create a caring environment where young children are motivated and inspired to do their best.

Children make swift progress in the Nursery and Reception Classes developing self-control and independence in the happy, bubbly atmosphere
Ofsted 2013

Staff



Mrs J Shaw
Headteacher



Miss S Hollywood
Assistant Headteacher
Foundation Stage Leader



Mrs J Potter
SENCO



Mrs N Cole
Nursery Teacher



Miss B Keay
Reception Teacher



Miss C Moffitt
Nursery Nurse



Miss E McAdam
Teaching Assistant



Mrs A Warren
Teaching Assistant



Kayleigh Dunn
School Business Manager



Jackie Wilbraham
Learning Mentor



Carrie Donley
Office Admin

The Early Years Foundation Stage is a distinct and important part in education. It places an equal priority on supporting children's social and emotional development. The Early years are a crucial time for developing children's enjoyment of learning, their engagement and motivation. The needs of this age group are met through a well planned play based approach to learning and development. Staff create a sense of friendly co-operation, setting clear rules and limits and help children to live and learn alongside others.

There are seven areas of learning and each of these work towards the Early Learning Goals at the end of the Reception Year which we aim to help your child to achieve.

Staff plan for teaching and learning to take place both inside and outside the classroom. Well planned learning through play experiences are crucial at this stage. When your child enters the foundation stage they have the right to a broad, balanced, relevant and differentiated curriculum and age, ability, gender or ethnicity will not constrain individual entitlement.

We recognise that all children have needs and are offered access to the full range of curricular experiences, matched to their individual needs.

Play is the work of a young child and through quality experiences your child will learn new skills and make progress towards these Early Learning milestones.

The ways in which a child engages with other people and their environment, playing and exploring; active learning and creating and thinking critically underpin learning and development across all areas and support your child's development as an effective and motivated learner.



In Early Years children learn new vocabulary and knowledge across different areas of learning.

The Prime Areas of learning are fundamental to your child's development and develop quickly in the Early Years, these prime areas include:

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Children's personal, social and emotional development is crucial for children to lead happy and healthy lives. Children will be supported to manage emotions, develop a positive sense of self, set simple goals and have confidence in themselves. Children will learn how to make good relationships, co-operate and resolve conflicts peacefully.



Communication and Language

The development of children's spoken language and use of vocabulary underpins all seven areas of learning and development. Reading frequently to children and engaging them actively in stories will support this development.

Physical Development

Physical Development is vital for children's all round development, enabling them to pursue happy, healthy and active lives. Gross and fine motor skills will be developed through opportunities provided both indoors and outdoors.



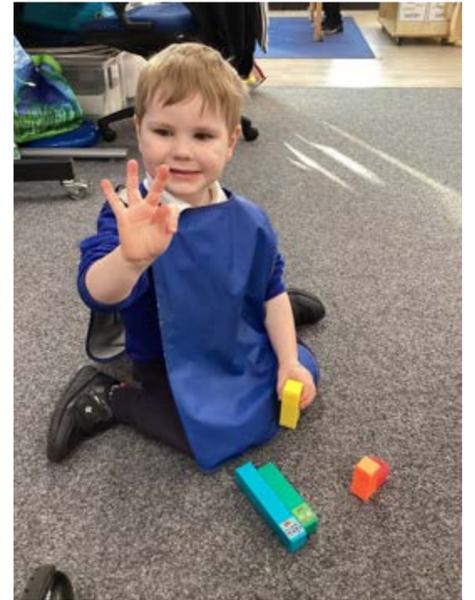
The Specific areas of learning include the essential skills and knowledge for children to participate successfully in society, providing important contexts for learning. The specific areas include:

Literacy

It is essential that children develop a lifelong love of reading. Children and adults will develop this love through sharing and talking about books together. Children will develop their ability to listen, hear rhymes, and have conversations about books, developing their vocabulary. By the end of reception, children will have developed their ability to read independently.

Mathematics

Children will develop positive attitudes and interests in maths, looking for patterns and relationships, spotting connections and having a go. We aim to develop a strong grounding in numbers to excel mathematically. Overtime they will develop a deep understanding of numbers to 10 and the relationships between them. Children will also develop their use of spatial reasoning skills across all areas of maths including Shape, Space & Measures.



Understanding the World.

Children will make sense of the world around them and their community. Opportunities and experiences will give children a chance to build important knowledge and vocabulary to understand our diverse world.



Expressive Arts and Design.

Children will have opportunities to engage with the arts to develop their imagination and creativity. Children will develop their ability to interpret and appreciate what they see, hear, observe and respond.

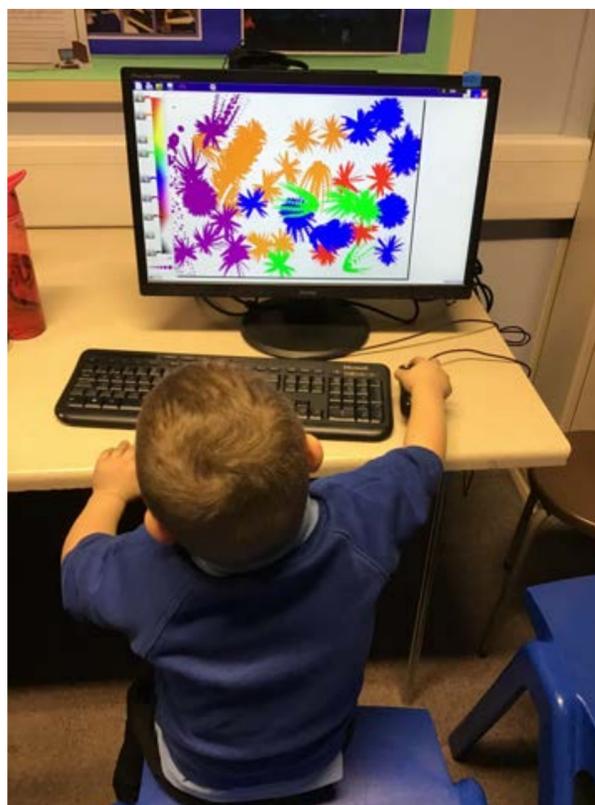
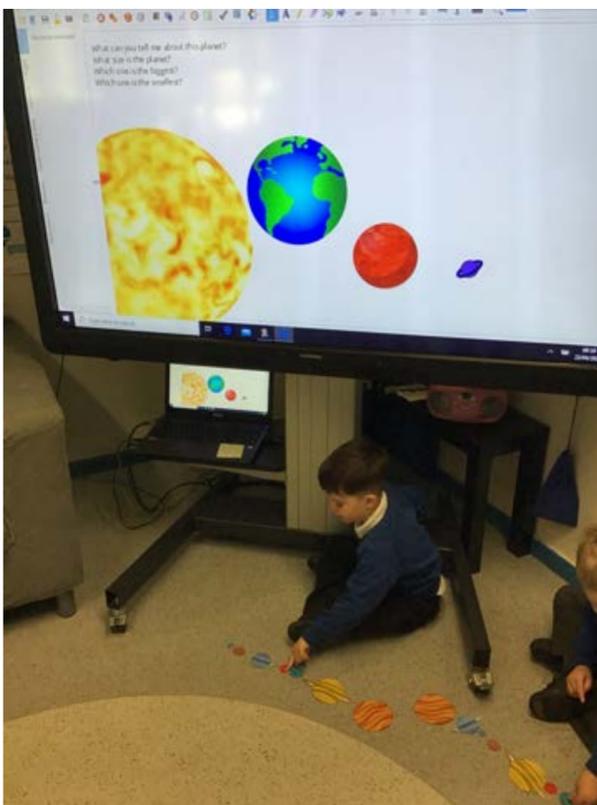


Children in Foundation 2 (Reception) will be introduced to RE through stories and circle time.

Children also learn about ICT, through the use of the Interactive Whiteboard, laptops, Chromebooks, iPads and remote control technology and use it to support and document their learning.

The skills of the Foundation Stage staff means that an imaginative theme or topic will enable many areas of learning to take place.

Teachers use these activities to find out what children can do now and plan for what they will learn next. We will share these targets with you at Parents Consultations which are held regularly throughout the year and in an annual report at the end of each school year.



Woodland Visits

We take regular visits to the woodland area in the school grounds as part of our curriculum.

We aim to deliver nature based learning to develop all aspects of children's development. We believe that young children are powerful learners, who are driven by their own curiosities and ideas about the world around them and that they learn best by involving them in the experiences in Nature.

Why Woodlands?

- The natural environment develops advanced opportunities for motor control, fitness, co-ordination, balance and agility.
- Children have the opportunity to develop their imagination and creativity which in turn fosters language and collaborative skills.
- Exposure to the natural environment also helps children to improve their cognitive skills developing awareness, reasoning and observational skills.
- Children who play in nature have more positive feelings about each other.
- The natural environment stimulates social interaction between children, mixing in an informal setting to build relationships.



The Early Years Foundation Stage Profile

Staff will spend time playing and learning alongside your child, noticing what they can do and what they know to inform both parents and staff of how children are learning so that we can meet their needs. We can then plan activities and support that will develop their future learning.

On entry to Reception, all children will complete the statutory Department for Education (DfE) Baseline Assessment.

The Early Years Foundation Stage Profile is the statutory assessment for children at the end of the Reception Year. The Early Learning Goals support staff to make a holistic, best-fit judgement, and their readiness for the Year One Curriculum and this will be used to support your child's transition into Year One.

Parents will receive a report at the end of the year which states if their child is meeting expected level of development.

At New York Primary School we also have a well established Basic Skills programme. Your child will be given the opportunity to develop the skills necessary to become confident in their own ability to read, write, spell, and understand the number system.

Where a pupil has additional needs, we seek to address these and are committed fully to inclusion, supporting our pupils who may have Special Educational Needs either throughout or at any time during their school career. By monitoring each child's work and play we quickly establish the needs of any child. We are committed to equality of education opportunities irrespective of a pupil's race, culture, religion or gender.



Learning Journeys

Each child begins their learning journey when they start in our foundation stage classes. These records are an excellent home/school link and are designed to record your child's achievement during their time in the Foundation Stage and are presented to your child when they leave the unit.

We will collect examples of the learning your child has undertaken whilst in the unit, this will take the form of annotated photographs, examples of work and observations; detailing how we can plan for their next steps in learning.

We also have an online Learning Journey 'Seesaw' in which parents can see their child's learning journey from home and make comments about their learning. Alongside viewing observations, you will also be able to add your own pictures and comments of experiences that your child has experienced at home.

Children in Foundation 1 & 2 will each receive a homework pack to support the work carried out in school. Regular home-school activities will be sent home for you to complete with your child. These activities provide us with important information towards your child's learning development.

At New York Primary School we have an expectation that parents will engage with their child's learning and development as part of their learning and development as part of their parental responsibility.

Twitter

Each class has an active Twitter account that is used to share learning with our school community. Follow us on @Newyorkprimary

Nursery - @NYPSButterflies

2 Year Offer - @NYPS@YO

30hr Provision - @NYPS30Butterfly

Reception Class One - @NYPSTheBees

Reception Class Two - @NYPSDragonflies

Useful Information

Arrangements for dropping off and collecting children.

Foundation Stage children are dropped off and collected from the Foundation Stage yard where a member of staff will greet them.

- When dropping off and collecting please be prompt as children can become very anxious if they are not collected on time.
- Please do not smoke or vape in the school grounds or on the path outside school.
- For health and safety reasons please do not allow your child to play on the equipment that has been set out for our sessions.
- Please do not bring dogs into the school grounds.
- Let us and your child know if someone else will be collecting them. We will not allow your child to leave with an unknown adult.

Times of the school day

Foundation Stage 2 - Reception

Children may attend breakfast club from 8.00am.

8.55 – 12.00 Gates open at 8.50am

12.00 - 1.00 Lunch

1.00 – 3.30 - Gates open at 3.25pm

From January in their reception year, Reception children will be invited to take part in after school clubs. information will be sent out in December and are assigned on a first come, first served basis.

Absence

Regular attendance and punctuality is crucial for every child. If your child is unable to attend because of illness we ask you to telephone us on the day of absence, followed by a note of explanation upon the child's return to school.

The School phone number is 0191 8141788.



Settling In

Many of the children starting in our reception class will have been in the nursery class during their nursery year. They will also have had the opportunity to learn in the Reception classrooms as part of their 'meet the teacher' transition day. This will have gone some way to helping your child feel comfortable with the staff and secure in the classrooms but will not automatically mean that they will be confident to be left for the full session on their first day. Obviously the time it takes for children to settle varies greatly and we want children to feel safe and secure, which is why we are flexible and responds to children's needs on an individual basis. Children start staying for full days on the third day of term, having spent a half day in Reception in small groups.

Personal Possessions

If your child wishes to bring something to show us or to have in school we have a special place to keep them. However, we cannot take responsibility for items that are lost in school and we would be grateful if precious possessions & toys were kept at home.

Reception Uniform

We have a school uniform that all children should wear.

This consists of

- A royal blue sweatshirt or cardigan with school logo, available from the Emblematic
- Grey trousers, pinafore or skirt
- Sensible footwear
- Summer uniform of blue/white checked dress, white polo shirt and shorts.



PLEASE ENSURE THAT ALL ITEMS OF UNIFORM ARE CLEARLY LABELLED WITH YOUR CHILD'S NAME, as you can imagine, items do go missing from time to time and whilst we will do everything we can to find them when they are mislaid, if they have a name in them they are easier to match to their owner.

You can now order uniform online - please visit the school website and follow the link. Or go directly to the Emblematic Website

PE KIT – For Foundation 2

Children should be equipped with correct uniform for the activity and time of year.

We recommend

- Black sand shoes for indoor work, such as dance or gymnastics, occasionally children are asked to work in bare feet.
- Plain white t-shirt or polo shirt
- Plain dark shorts without buckles, zips or attachments.



PE Equipment should be clearly labelled and stored in a small bag. It is useful to allow this to remain in school throughout the week, taking it home at weekends to wash.

Equipment

We encourage children to take home reading books, library books and homework in a school book bag which can be bought at the school office for £6.00.



Jewellery

In the interest of safety no jewellery should be worn at school, other than one small pair of stud earrings and a watch. Studs should be removed for PE lessons and children should be able to do this themselves or leave studs at home. Teachers can take no responsibility for loss of items brought to school.

Dinners

School meals are provided by Hutchinsons, an education specialist provider. They use seasonal produce, sourced regionally and locally to provide exciting, tasty and healthy meals for all pupils. Our Kitchen Manager, Jane, has worked with our school for many years and produces great food from the quality produce Hutchinsons provides. All lunches are prepared on site using fresh ingredients. A Food Explorers concept is designed to link nutritious fresh food with fun learning around the farm to fork journey.

School meals are free for pupils in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 through the Universal Free School Meal system. .

Please ensure that you have completed the relevant paperwork online to register. North Tyneside Free School Meals -

<https://my.northtyneside.gov.uk/category/238/free-school-meals>

If your child would prefer a packed lunch from home please encourage them to choose a healthy option for their lunch boxes. i.e. cereal bars, yogurts and fruit rather than chocolate biscuits. No fizzy pop or sweets are allowed in school. We are also a nut free school.

New York Primary school has worked hard to achieve the National Healthy Schools Status and aim to promote healthy eating at our school and we ask that you support us in this aim.

Fruit

Every child is given the option of having one piece of fruit each day free of charge as part of the Fruit in School programme.

Milk

Milk is available for all children. This is provided free of charge for children until the age of 5. Please go online to www.coolmilk.com or phone 0844 854 2913 to register your child for milk.

Water

All children in FS2 are provided with a water bottle to keep in school, giving them access to drinking water whenever they choose.

Getting ready for school

Before your child starts school, it would be extremely helpful if they are able do some of the following:



- **How can you help us?**
- Bring your child to school on a regular basis.
- Share experiences about your child with your child's key worker and through our Online Learning Journey.
- Dress your child suitably for messy, active play and the weather.
- Inform school of any changes to home circumstances – particularly contact numbers.
- Support our routines and behaviour expectations

The Road to School

This tracker helps you and your child prepare for school.

Everyone starts school with different abilities - your teacher will help you progress at your own level.

Speaking & literacy

- I like to read stories & look at picture books
- I am able to talk about myself, my needs & feelings
- I am practising recognising my name when it's written down

Listening & understanding

- I am able to sit still and listen for a short while
- I can follow instructions
- I understand the need to follow rules

Writing skills

- I like tracing patterns & colouring in
- I enjoy making marks
- I am practising holding a pencil

Sharing & turn taking

- I can share toys & take turns
- I like playing games with others
- I like interacting with other children

Counting skills

- I enjoy practising counting objects
- I like saying number rhymes & playing counting games
- I can recognise some numbers when they are written down

Going to the toilet

- I can go to the toilet on my own, wipe myself properly & flush
- I can wash and dry my hands without any help

Routines

- I have practised putting on my uniform & getting ready to leave on time
- I have a good bedtime routine so I'm not feeling tired for school
- I'm learning to eat at the times I will on school days

Interest in the world & new activities

- I enjoy learning about the world around me
- I am interested in exploring new activities or environments
- I like asking questions

What are you looking forward to the most?
Is there anything you're unsure of?

Independence

- I am happy to be away from my mummy, daddy or my main carer
- I can put my belongings & look after my things
- I am happy to tidy my belongings & look after my things
- I am feeling confident about starting school

Getting dressed & undressed on my own

- I can button & unbutton my shirt & use a zip
- I can put my own shoes & socks on
- I can change into my PE kit & put my coat on

Self-care

- I know when to wash my hands
- I can wipe my nose
- I can ask for help if I don't feel well

Eating

- I can use a knife & fork
- I can open my packed lunch on my own
- I am confident at opening wrappers & packaging

School bus

Remember - learning is not a competition, children learn at different rates. For more ideas to help prepare your child for school, talk to your childcare practitioner.



Am I ready for school?



Tips for parents

When your child starts primary school there are a number of skills that they should ideally have mastered. Use this sheet as a guide to help track their progress.

Self-care

- I know when to wash my hands
 - I can wipe my nose
- I can ask for help if I don't feel well

Speaking & literacy

- I am interested in reading stories & looking at picture books
- I am able to talk about myself, my needs & feelings
 - I am practising recognising my name when it's written down

Getting dressed & undressed on my own

- I can button & unbutton my clothes
- I can put my own shoes & socks on
 - I can put my coat on & use a zip

Interest in the world & new activities

- I enjoy learning about the world around me
 - I am interested in exploring new activities or environments
 - I like asking questions

Eating

- I can use a knife & fork
- I can open my packed lunch on my own
 - I am confident at opening wrappers & packaging

Writing skills

- I like tracing patterns & colouring in
- I enjoy experimenting with different shaped scribbles
 - I am practising holding a pencil

Going to the toilet

- I can go to the toilet on my own, wipe myself properly & flush
- I can wash & dry my hands without any help

Independence

- I am happy to be away from my mummy, daddy or my main carer
- I am happy to tidy my belongings & look after my things
- I am feeling confident about starting school

Listening & understanding

- I am able to sit still and listen for a short while
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- I can share toys & take turns
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