



Thirsk CP Nursery

2017-2018



Welcome to Thirsk CP Nursery. This brochure is full of information about our Nursery to help all new children and Parents/Carers joining our Nursery.



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A **warm** welcome to Thirsk Nursery

Welcome to Thirsk Community Primary School Foundation Nursery.

We hope you will enjoy your time with us. This booklet has been specially prepared as a guide to help parents / carers of children who are aged 3-4 years and who will be accessing the curriculum in the Foundation Unit. We trust it will be useful in answering some of the questions you have.

Morning session

Begins: 8.40am

Home time: 11.40am

Afternoon session

Begins: 12.30pm

Home time: 3.30 pm

We would like children to be brought to and collected from the Nursery at all times. This gives parents /carers the opportunity to see the children settled in the Nursery and for staff to chat to parents. We have an 'open door' policy but feel that the start of the day is the children's priorities so if you need a longer consultation with staff may we suggest you make an appointment to speak with us at a mutually convenient time. We will **always** be able to make time for you. If you are unable to collect your child at home-time we ask that you let us know who will be collecting them either by telephoning the office or by completing the Parent Consent Board.

Children cannot be collected by any person under the age of 16.



OUR AIMS:

- To have an 'open door' policy to provide a welcoming setting where parents and carers can feel involved in their child's development.
- To create an atmosphere which encourages confidence, self-esteem, self-expression and a sense of security for all our children.
- To work in partnership with parents, carers and other people within the community.
- To encourage the children to find out how to care for themselves and their environment.
- To respect the equal rights of all children and promote tolerance by providing a broad range of experience and resources.
- To build the children's communication skills with both peers and adults.
- To encourage the children to be aware of health and fitness.
- To provide parents/carers with regular information about their child's progress and development.
- To encourage children to choose and plan their own activities and take control of their own learning.
- To use the Early Years curriculum to meet the needs of each individual child through play.



Nursery Team

The Nursery Team includes:

Mrs G Wall-Teacher

Mrs G Bowen- Nursery Nurse

Mrs K Wilkinson - GTA

We have an experienced nursery team who ensure that all the children are supported and are able to achieve their very best. Staff have regular team meetings to plan your child's learning and development.

We work as part of the wider multi-agency team to support all the children, and to "Get it right for every child". We have strong links with the health visitor, school nurse, Social Work and other support services should families and children require this level of help.

On occasion we have secondary school and other students completing work experience and placements within the nursery.

The nursery is very much part of the primary school and we ensure that nursery pupils take part in many of the school activities. We use the gym hall, go to singing practise, have lunch in the hall (Nursery lunch club) and we use the playing fields at the front of the school for games, activities and our all important sports day. An event not to be missed!



DATE OF ENTRY

Your child may start nursery in the term after his/her third birthday.

Dependant on available places.

Emergency Closures

Should the nursery need to close earlier than normal you will be contacted by telephone. If there is no reply we will telephone your emergency contact to come and collect your child. It is vital that you keep us updated with your current telephone contacts.

Medicines

Only medicines prescribed by a doctor that need to be taken 4 times per day may be administered by a member of staff at School as long as an Authorisation form has been completed by a parent / carer, these forms are available at the Office. Medicines will be kept in the Office or refrigerator as necessary. Inhalers will be kept by the child in their class to enable easy access at all times. A spare inhaler should also be sent to the office.

Medicines to be taken 3 times per day, and purchased "over the counter" medicines are not able to be administered at school.

“Just Playing”



In the nursery the children learn through play. Through play, children are forming ideas, solving problems, learning to interact with others, sharing and debating! Structured and focussed play opportunities will develop children’s understanding of the world around them. They will learn lessons for life through this experience. Staff in the nursery will encourage the children’s thought processes and through observation will extend the children’s ideas by providing extra resources, materials and learning opportunities to build on the children’s ideas.

Some Essentials Your Child Will Need For Nursery

Indoor Shoes: It is essential to keep the nursery floor clean and dry as the children enjoy floor play. We would like you to bring a pair of indoor slippers /pumps etc for your child to change into at the start of the session.



Spare Clothes: Please provide a labelled bag containing a complete change of labelled spare clothes to keep in nursery in case of any accidents.



Jacket/Coat: We aim to go outside most days. It can be chilly in the playground whatever the season.



Learning is a fun and messy business and from time to time your child’s clothes may get dirty, please don’t send your child to nursery in good clothes. You can buy a nursery sweatshirt from the office (See price list)



Nursery Newsletters

We regularly send home a Nursery Newsletter to keep you up to date on various activities and events in the nursery. You will also receive copies of the whole school Newsletters. Please also keep in touch with nursery and school events via the school website.



Learning Journeys

Children are observed at play throughout the year. Information gathered helps to inform children's profiles and plans for future learning. Parents are welcome to see these journeys at any time. There are parents' consultations evenings/open day's during the course of the year so that you are fully informed of your child's progress. Staff will also enjoy talking to you informally to you on a daily basis.

What to wear

School uniform is not compulsory in the Nursery but for statutory school age children we do encourage parents / carers to support the wearing of school uniform. Uniform is not only a very practical idea but gives the children a strong sense of belonging, which really supports their personal, social and emotional development. School sweaters can be obtained from the office. It is essential that all uniform be clearly named in lower case letters. We realise that this is a tedious job for parents but it really does save us valuable time and enables children to identify their names and begin to take responsibility for their own belongings. Many thanks for your help with this matter. 😊

To help your child to become an independent dresser, providing clothes, which are easy to put on and take off, e.g. polo shirts as opposed to formal shirts, shoes with Velcro fastenings rather than laces will all support this aim.

Nursery Lunch Club

Morning and afternoon children have the opportunity to stay for lunch club. We have special MSA's who look after the children. The children can order a hot lunch (£1.60) or alternatively bring a packed lunch to school. They will eat in the main dinner hall, which gives them experience of a dinnertime session before they start full time school and really helps to take away fears they might have about this part of the day as they reach Reception age. The cost for the session is; £3.40 and an extra £1.60 if a hot meal is required. (24hrs notice required for a hot meal) For children attending for 30 hours please see the attached form.

Morning children will finish the lunch session at **12.30pm**

Afternoon children wishing to have a lunch need to arrive at school at **11.40**

Snack Time

Children will have a snack time when we will enjoy a drink and small snack together. This will be in the form of a circle time and children will take charge of giving out, snack mats, juice, milk and biscuits. This snack time is an important part of each child's day.

Throughout their time at nursery, children will be given opportunities to: listen to stories, sing and take part in a range of musical activities, learn about their local environment, care for animals and plants, take part in a range of physical activities.

Examples of daily activities which the children can choose to take part in are:

- sand and water play, playdough, painting, junk modelling, gluing,
- jigsaws, drawing, board games, construction toys e.g. Lego,
- imaginative play e.g. Home Corner (but this can become a travel agent, a shoe shop, a builders' yard), role play e.g. dressing up, small world toys such as the farmyard, or the garage, computer and various ICT toys, listening centre, writing table, story corner and we have lots of fun outside!
- Investigation and exploration are key elements of the play provided outdoor classroom. Here sand, water, guttering, variety of relevant materials are available.



There are lots of other activities, which crop up. No wonder your child comes home tired!

Although your child may take home a painting, the great majority of play activities undertaken in nursery do not result in an 'end product'. The children get pleasure and experience from the process of 'doing'. The lack of a picture to take home does not imply the lack of work or learning on the child's part. The P.A.C.T book and planning displayed in the Nursery will help keep you up to date on your child's activities.



And finally...

Children should grow and be nurtured at this precious time in their lives; we need you to be part of this experience. We would be delighted if you want to be involved in the life of the nursery.

Should you wish to speak to staff they will always make themselves available at the beginning and end of each session, so do not be afraid to approach staff and have a chat.

We all look forward to meeting you and your child.