

Thornhill Primary  
School  
Foundation Stage



Nursery  
2018 - 2019

## **Welcome**

Starting school is a really special and exciting time and we appreciate that you may have many questions to ask. We aim to provide as much information as possible in this brochure; however there will also be lots of opportunities to discuss any of your thoughts, queries or concerns with the Early Years team. Throughout the year, our Leadership team will also be available to offer support at any time, should you need it.

The leadership team at our school is:

Mrs Lawson	Headteacher
Mr Gunning	Deputy Headteacher
Mrs Kuevi	Assistant Headteacher

Mrs Gleghorn & Mrs Peak are based in the school office, as soon as you enter the building, and will be happy to assist you.

The school telephone number is: 01582 863516

## **Meet the Nursery Team**

Miss Mistry	Nursery Teacher
Mrs Robson	Nursery Nurse
Miss Breheny	Teaching Assistant

## **Starting Nursery**

We are expecting you will be given this booklet during your home visit or your child's first day at Nursery visit. If there is any information you would like, that we have not provided, please ask. There will be plenty of time to look around and ask questions on your visits to the school.

Do talk about starting Nursery with your child so that he/she knows what to expect. Let them know that it is a friendly place and something to look forward to. When you are visiting, join in with the activities, show your child the toilets, where to wash their hands, how to use paper towels, where to find a drink of water, where to play and which adults to ask if they need help.

Please come and enjoy yourselves!

### **Keyworker Information**

Your child will be assigned a key person. The role of the Key Person is to ensure that every child's learning and care is tailored to meet individual needs. To engage and support parents and/or carers in guiding their child's development at home. Also, to help families to engage with more specialist support, if appropriate.

### **Start Dates and Settling In**

Start Date an Your child's start day will be.....

Their key person is .....

Their email is .....

Your child will start slightly later, this is to enable us to greet you individually and find your child's key worker.

Settling into Nursery is an important time for young children and their families. For some children this will be the first time they will have been left with another person and often the first time they have been left with another person in a large environment. At Thornhill Nursery we aim to make this process as smooth as possible. All children and families are unique and as such their individual needs are taken into account throughout the settling in process .

## The School Day

### Nursery

The times of the sessions are:

Morning - 8.45 to 11.45 am

Afternoon - 12.30 to 3.30 pm

It is very important to ensure that your child arrives at school on time. Being late for school can be upsetting for your child and can disrupt their learning for them and others. Children who are on time have a more positive start to the day.

It is also very important that your child is collected on time. All children must be collected by an adult (18 years or over). If the adult collecting is not you (the parent or carer), please notify a member of staff

### **The Early Years Foundation Stage Principles.**

**A unique child:** Every child is a competent learner from birth who can be resilient, capable, confident and self-assured.

**Positive relationships:** Children learn to be strong and independent from a base of loving and secure relationships with parents/ carers and practitioners.

**Enabling environments:** The environment plays a key role in supporting and extending children's development and learning.

**Learning and development:** Children develop and learn in different ways and at different rates and all areas are equally important and inter-connected.

**We actively plan to put these principles into practise as they underpin all the work we do with children on a daily basis.**

## **The Curriculum: Areas of Learning and Development**

All learning activities take place either in class areas or in our outdoor learning environment. Your child will follow the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum which is made up of seven areas of learning and development:

### **The Three Prime Areas of Learning:**

1. Communication and Language
2. Personal, Social and Emotional Development
3. Physical Development

### **The Four Specific Areas of Learning:**

1. Mathematics
2. Literacy (Reading and Writing)
3. Understanding of the World
4. Expressive Arts and Design

### **Communication and Language**

- Speaking and listening - children listen in a range of situations and respond & comment appropriately.
- Understanding - children can follow instructions and ask and answer questions about their learning.
- Expressing thoughts, feelings, needs and ideas - Children can talk about past and present events as well as talking about their interests and ideas with other.

### **Personal, Social & Emotional Development**

- Making relationships - children play cooperatively and form positive relationships with classroom adults and their peers.
- Self-confidence and self-awareness - children are confident to try new activities and ask for help when needing support.
- Managing feelings and behaviour - children can recognise how their behaviour affects others and can understand and follow rules.

## **Physical Development**

- Fine and gross motor skills children can show good control and coordination with large and small movements.
- Health and self-care - children can manage their own personal hygiene and personal needs successfully. They recognise the importance of exercise and a healthy diet.

## **Mathematics**

- Number - children recognise record and order numbers.
- Calculating- Children can add, subtract, share and double.
- Shape, space and measure - children can begin to identify 2D and 3D shapes as well as explore time, position, capacity and weight through practical activities.

## **Literacy**

- Early reading skills - Children can use Phonetic strategies to decode regular and irregular words. Develop strategies to understand story and read some irregular words e.g. the, said, was.
- Early writing skills - Children can make marks for meaning and then develop onto using phonetic strategies to sound out and record words and simple sentences.

## **Understanding of the World**

- Understanding people and their local community - Children will focus on past and present events in relation to themselves and family.
- Exploring aspects of the wider world - Children will compare similarities and differences in relation to places, objects, materials and living things.
- Using different technologies- Children can use a range of technology in school and at home.

### **Expressive Arts and Design**

- Being creative - Children sing songs, make music and dance, and experiment with ways of changing them.
- Using a variety different materials - Children can safely use and explore a variety of materials, tools and techniques, experimenting with colour, Design, texture, form and function.

### **The Outdoor Learning Environment**

In the Early Years Foundation Stage, children are encouraged to carry out their daily learning activities both inside and out, whatever the weather! In our outdoor learning environment, we ensure that children can access all areas of learning and have lots of fun whilst making great progress!

### **Accidents and Accident Reporting**

All accidents requiring treatment are recorded in our accident book. Whoever collects your child will be asked to sign this book and given a copy of any action taken this is to confirm that they have been informed of what has happened. If in our opinion a child requires medical treatment we will contact you immediately. Please make sure we have up-to-date contact numbers .All our nursery team are first aid trained.

### **Absence**

We ask that you ensure your child makes full and regular use of the place offered them. If for any reason your child will not be able to attend, for example due to illness, or a holiday please could you telephone to let us know. In the event of unexplained absences, decisions may have to be made to withdraw a childs place if it is not being used, so that it may be offered to another child. Notwithstanding the above, it is expected that parents/carers use their discretion and if their child remains unfit due to illness e.t.c to contact the nursery staff. Should your child become ill at nursery we will contact you as soon as possible so that they ca be collected.

## **Safety and Security**

A security system operates in our Nursery please help us to maintain a safe and secure environment. All visitors are asked to report to reception to sign in and wear a name badge. Please ask a member of staff to let you out of the Nursery, this is to ensure no child leaves by mistake. If anyone different is collecting your child please inform the nursery team when leaving your child. If in the event that you cannot collect after drop off please call the nursery to let us know. If it is someone who has not collected before we can use a password for added safety. We will not let a child home with anyone else unless your permission has been given.

## **Toys from Home**

Occasionally children like to bring a toy from home to show other children or an adult in nursery, or just for security. Please discourage this as much as possible, treasures can easily misplaced or lost causing upset for the child.

## **Fruit and snack**

Each day we provide a healthy snack for children to have during the session sometimes this will be made by the children themselves or provided by the nursery staff. If your child has any allergies or dietary requirements please let us know so we can accommodate this. To help with this and the cooking the children may do in nursery we ask for a donation of £3 each half term. In addition to this children have free fruit and milk available each day.

## **Parents**

Communication with Parents and Carers is very important to us at Thornhill Nursery School. This is a partnership between school and home which begins on home visits and we hope develops and continues through your child's stay at school. Your main point of contact in nursery will be your child's key worker, please feel free to come and talk to us if you have any worries or concerns - sometimes a chat is all that is needed to put your mind at rest. If you are unable to come in our email is provided and we will endeavour to get back to you as soon as is possible.

Throughout your child's stay with us we hope to provide opportunities for you to join us during some sessions for songs, stories, games, and celebrations as well

as more formal opportunities to discuss your child's progress, share their achievements and discuss any worries you may have.

### **Newsletters and Noticeboards**

We try to keep you informed about events in Nursery through learning Journey letters and our notice board. We also ask that you look at the weekly newsletter on our school website. This will keep you informed of activities and information relevant to the school .Communication in a two way process, so if there is anything you would like to know please ask .

We hope that both your child and you have a very happy and exciting time with us at Thornhill Nursery.