

How to Help at Home



You can help your child to learn through the little things you do with them, for example:

- Everyday conversations, make-believe play, games with numbers or letters, reading together and involving them in the things you are doing, such as household chores and talking with them about it
- We will teach Read Write Inc (phonics programme) in a fun and active way. Look out for stickers being sent home so that you can say the sounds attached to them (more information to follow)
- Continue to count everyday objects and your child to say each number name as they touch and count. Encourage your child to use their fingers when counting also
- To support your child with their independence when getting dressed, please ensure they wear shoes that are easy for them to put on such as those with velcro fastenings. Encourage your child to try putting on their own coat and shoes
- Develop their independence in preparing their own snacks and pouring their own water as well as using a knife and fork. You'll be amazed at what they can achieve at an early age
- We love to be outdoors in all weather so please bring a pair of wellies to stay at school with your **child's name** clearly marked
- Please ensure that your **child's name** is in every piece of clothing to prevent items from getting lost
- We ask that children do not bring toys to nursery as they can become easily lost or broken
- We like to make your child feel welcome in nursery, so we ask that you bring a family photograph which can be displayed in the nursery setting. This enables us to talk about family life and the people who are important to us
- If you have any unwanted quality books, we would appreciate them as we can use them for our nursery library.
- We collect a donation of **50p a week (or £3 per half term)** for the nursery fund. This helps us to buy ingredients for play-dough, baking, toast, and other exciting items for our play. Thank you!

Dates for the Diary



Date	Event
Monday 25 April	Return to school
Friday 26 May	Break up for half term
Monday 6 June	School closed
Wednesday 8 June	Nursery AM Visit to Hall Hill Farm (nursery closed to all PM children)
Wednesday 15 June	Nursery PM Visit to Hall Hill Farm (nursery closed to all AM children)
Date to be confirmed	September 2022 Reception Intake Induction
Friday 1 July	School closed
Week beginning Monday 11 July	Transition Week
Friday 22 July	Break up for Summer holiday

We regularly use Facebook, text and email to update and remind parents of events.

Please ensure that the office have your current mobile and email address.

Curriculum Overview



SUMMER TERM 2022



Nursery



Dunston Hill
Community Primary School

Ready



Respect



Kind



Welcome



Welcome to our Summer Term Curriculum Overview which aims to give you an insight into what is happening in our nursery and ways in which you can help your child and get involved with school life.

We continue to have a very supportive, knowledgeable and caring nursery team, who are dedicated to providing the best possible school experiences for your child. As each term starts we welcome new families and children and it always a pleasure to see our older children taking on responsibilities through supporting their new friends into feeling settled within their new environment, routines and of course playing together.

Your child's teacher is Mrs Warrilow who is ably supported by key workers, Mrs O'Hara and Mrs Walton. Mrs Warrilow has her planning, preparation and assessment time each Friday. This will always be covered by Mrs Bootland who is very experienced in Early Years. This term, your children will also be taught by Miss Patterson who is a trainee teacher from Gateshead SCITT (School Centred Initial Teacher Training). She has already settled in well and is enjoying spending her time with our children; getting to know them through play and exploration.

We are Learning



In nursery we continue to focus on the three Prime Areas of learning. Staff plan activities based on what they have observed the children doing in their play, focussing on their interests.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

During the first weeks of the Summer term we will be helping our new children settle into Nursery, helping them to feel confident and happy in their new environment, and establishing nursery routines. We continue to model and talk about being kind to everyone, following routines and boundaries whilst looking after our nursery—both indoor and outdoor. Our focus this term is on living in the wider world and we will be helping the children to think about their community and the simple responsibilities they have as well as any groups they are part of out of nursery.

Communication and Language

Our weekly texts will introduce and use new vocabulary. We will have a focus on the development of full sentence use to encourage children to extend their use of vocabulary and communication skills. Opportunities will be given to talk such as discussing events in nursery and from home using a wider range of vocabulary such as the special times they have shared with their families. We will be developing the use of questions to help children clarify their understanding. This term we will be learning about farm animals and stories surrounding them. We are excited about our visit to Hall Hill Farm in June (details to follow).

Physical Development

We continue to develop our manipulative skills through a range of fine motor activities and simple ball games. Large motor movements will be developed outside using obstacle courses, balance beams and changing directions when travelling. We always promote hygiene through, for example, hand washing eating healthy and oral hygiene. We will also explore our very own Forest School which naturally supports our physical development.

In nursery we also teach the four Specific Areas of learning through play which include: Literacy, Mathematics, Understanding the World and Expressive Arts and Design.

Our Curriculum



The Early Years Foundation Stage Framework (EYFS)

Teaching within the Early Years follows the Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage. This revised framework was effective from September 2021. Staff use Birth to 5 Matters in order to support the implementation of the EYFS framework. Teaching within the Early Years focuses upon seven key areas of learning.

We follow a HighScope Curriculum with an emphasis on active learning which means our children have direct, hands-on experiences with people, objects, events, and ideas. The Nursery team support children's choices of activities, play with them at their level, focusing on their strengths, and encourage them to find solutions to their own problems. We believe that children are entitled to a diverse, challenging and effective curriculum that:

- Responds to individual needs
- Acknowledges their natural enthusiasm and their need to be active learners
- Builds on previous experiences
- Supports and develops their thinking and learning
- Provides appropriate experiences and activities across all areas of learning and development.

Assessment—Online Learning Journals

We are delighted to have launched our online learning journey tool called Tiny Tracker. This enables us to record the progress of our children in the form of an online learning journey called Tiny Tracker; this will include photographs of your child and their work along with notes detailing the learning that has taken place. There is also an opportunity on Tiny Tracker for you to share what your child has done at home which we would encourage as it promotes further communication and language in nursery.

Learning at Home



Nursery Library

Your child is encouraged to borrow a book from our nursery library which holds an array of engaging books that your child can choose with their key worker. We ask you to support your child by following the guide which is provided in your child's library book wallet. Please ensure that your child uses this opportunity regularly so that their reading skills and a love of reading is developed from an early age.

Interests at home

We love to find out what your child has been doing outside of nursery, therefore we welcome photographs or messages of what's been happening, allowing us to share in your child's experiences. There will also be occasions when your child is asked to participate in additional 'homework' such as collecting natural items so that we can explore them further in nursery, information about this will be sent home when required.