Welcome to our Nursery

MOORSIDE

Staff

Mrs Buralnd is our Early Years Leader.

She is joined by our Nursery Team:

Mrs E Thompson

Mrs Tiffany

Mrs B Thompson

When can my Child Start Nursery?

Children can start Nursery the term after their third birthday. It is advisable to register your child well beforehand to ensure that they have a place. We inform parents about half a term before their child is due to start.
Once a place has been offered, we will arrange for you to visit our Nursery to see the environment and meet the staff; you and your child can come to a 'Stay and Play' session.

Before we are able to offer a Nursery place, we shall ask you to bring in your child's birth certificate as this is a necessary requirement before school entry. You will also be requested to fill out a more detailed form and consent information. This is your chance to inform us of any special requirements or concerns that you may have for your child.

At Moorside Primary School and Nursery, the nursery is a purpose-built unit and caters for children between the ages of three and four years old.

Children are entitled to 15 hours free Nursery provision. We provide 3-hour sessions every morning from 8.45am – 11.45am.
If you are eligible, you can access the Governments extended 30 hours Nursery child care. This means that you child would also access Nursery in the afternoons. Moorside Nursery has a total of 24 spaces available in each session.

Hours must be arranged prior to starting and cannot be changed during a term, unless agreed with staff.

For further information please see our Nursery Admissions policy.

Aims

We provide a secure and supportive environment in which every child can flourish and learn at their own pace and in their own individual way. Our role is to stimulate and encourage their development and enjoyment of learning through a variety of different activities in secure indoor and outdoor situations, through child-initiated and structured activities.
We believe that children learn best when provided with interesting and exciting opportunities for play and discovery. They need time to develop and extend their ideas and need skilful and sensitive help from adults to support their learning.
We ensure that the children have positive experiences of success at their own level, in order to give them confidence and motivation for learning in the future.

We encourage children to:

- Develop their attention and resilience to concentrate on their own play or group task.
- Be responsible for their own learning and build on their experiences to become reflective thinkers.
- Grow a love of stories and develop early reading skills.
- Be confident in counting and using numbers.
- See themselves as writers.
- Develop the growth of social skills and empathy amongst the children.

The relationships which the children develop with each other, and with staff members, are central to their happiness and lay the best possible foundations for their future.

What will my child do during a session?

Nursery Session Routines

AM

8.45 – 9.00 Door opens and parents have time to settle their children and if needed, talk to key worker.

9.20 – Circle time/adult directed teaching time (Maths).
9.35 – Continuous provision and independent learning indoors and outdoors.
11.25 – Phonics session.
11.45 – Home time.
Children staying for the full day will have lunch at 11.45.
12.15 - Circle time/adult directed teaching time (Maths or Phonics).
12.45 - Continuous provision and independent learning indoors and outdoors.
2.45 - Circle time/ adult directed teaching time (Maths or Phonics).
2.55 – Story time.
3.15- Home time.

Relationships with home

At Moorside Primary School and Nursery we recognise families as the first and most important educators of their children. We aim to celebrate and build upon all that your child has learnt before joining us at school. We believe that working together with families is the best way to maximise the progress of our children.
Please share with staff your child's particular interests at home and feel free to chat with us about any concerns you might have.
We hope that their first learning experiences at school will be happy, productive and above all FUN!

What is the Early Years Foundation Stage?

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) is a comprehensive Statutory Framework published by the Department for Education. The framework sets standards for learning, development and care for children from birth to five years. There are four Themes to follow: A Unique Child, Positive Relationships, Enabling Environments, Learning and Development. These four Themes then have Principles to put them into practice.

All registered Early Years providers are required to use this framework and complete an EYFS profile for each child at the end of the academic year in which they reach five. During this stage children work towards 'Early Learning Goals'. Most children will achieve or be well on their way to achieving the Early Learning Goals by the end of the Foundation Stage.

Child Led Learning

Well planned play is a key way in which children learn with enjoyment and challenge during the Foundation Stage. For much of the school day children will choose how they play with the educational resources/toys available, this is known as child-initiated play. The children are leading their own learning and during this time the practitioners use their expertise to develop children's ideas and encourage children to work together. Observations and photographs are also made during this time to plan for the children's next steps for learning.

Adult Led Learning

There will be time allocated each day for adult led tasks. This may be as a whole class or in small groups. The teaching staff set up and lead an activity desired to fulfil certain learning objectives and develop particular skills.

Prime Areas of Learning

Children will be helped to develop a sense of well-being. They will be able to make friendships with others, learn to be self-confident and to tell the difference between right and wrong.

We encourage children to be as independent as possible in selecting activities and taking care of the resources and equipment. We aim to foster respect and understanding amongst the children by making class rules, taking part in circle time and providing opportunities for small group work.

Communication and Language –

Children will be given lots of opportunities to develop speaking and listening skills, one to one, in small groups and as a class. In a range of situations such as circle time and storytelling children learn to listen attentively and respond with relevant comments. We also encourage our children to be inquisitive and ask and answer questions in response to stories we share together. They will show understanding of instructions and learn to express themselves clearly and effectively when speaking one to one or in a group.

Physical Development –

This area of learning helps improve co-ordination, control manipulation and movement. Within the classroom, activities are planned to develop hand eye coordination such as mark making, playing with puzzles, threading, sewing and playing with clay and play dough. Our children have free access to the outdoor area where there are opportunities for climbing, scrambling, balancing and riding wheeled toys. Children are encouraged to recognise the importance of exercise and a healthy diet as well as how to keep healthy and safe. They manage their personal hygiene, dressing and toileting independently.

Specific Areas of Learning

Literacy -

Children will be given opportunities to hear and retell stories, using a variety of books and puppets. We also use Talk4Writing to support children's story telling skills and writing skills. All early attempts at mark making are valued. We support children's phonic development by using Letters and Sounds together with songs and activities to help with learning phonemes.

Mathematics –

During practical activities children will begin to learn to count items one to one, as well as realising other things can be counted such as claps, stamps etc. They will begin to use mathematical language to describe the size and shape of different items, such as big and little, round and circle. They will enjoy cooking activities which can provide many opportunities for mathematical exploration.

Understanding the world –

Children will be encouraged to explore and find out about the world around them through activities in the outdoor environment, as well as looking within the local community. They will use simple everyday technology to beginning to develop skills for the modern world. Children will discuss past and present events in their lives and learn to respect each other's ways of life.

Expressive Arts and Design –

This area of the curriculum includes art, music, dance roleplay and imaginative play. It is linked to many of the other areas, and children are encouraged to express their individual ideas through a wide range of carefully planned activities. These may include painting, collage, construction, singing and playing instruments. We also encourage roleplay and imaginative play indoors and out to support the children's learning.

Outdoor Learning Area

Our outdoor area is an extension of the classroom and we are very fortunate to have this excellent learning resource. Using this encourages skills of negotiation and turn-taking, speaking and listening, scientific enquiry as well as the obvious physical ones. Children have 'free-flow' access to the garden and play outside come rain or shine. Our garden features:

- A large sandpit
- A mud kitchen
- A role-play Wendy house
- Wooden structures for climbing and exploring
- Plenty of opportunities for planting, growing and caring for plants.

We encourage the children to make full use of the outdoors, and to develop their independence by learning self-help skills. Children will need to have a change of clothing, (kept on their peg), wellington boots and a warm coat. A hat and sunscreen is also needed if the weather is fine.

Daily Snack

Each day children are able to choose from a range of healthy snacks, such as fruit and vegetables. We encourage children to serve themselves with food and a drink, of either milk or water, whenever they wish during the session (from a snack bar).
We also organise regular cookery and tasting activities when children can make a variety of (mainly!) healthy recipes and try new foods. Please alert the staff if your child has any particular food allergies of which we should be aware.

Learning Journeys

Each child will have their own Learning Journey where staff can record your child's time in Nursery and how they change / develop. They are a collection of observations, photos and other work from your child.
Your contributions are also very important as they give us a view of the 'whole child'. Please add photos, notes and anything else you feel will help us capture your child's development. You can use the email address fsu@moorside-inf.n-yorks.sch.uk to send us photos of your child's activities outside of school. We have a Parent App called 'Marvellous Me' and will send you messages and updates to celebrate and share your child's learning.

Supporting your child's learning at home

There are other ways you can support your child at home:

- Ask them what they have been doing in Nursery; show them you are interested and supportive of the things they do.
- Borrow books from school or the library. Reading together and talking about books is one of the best ways you can help in your child's development. It is also an excellent quiet, cosy way to finish off the day before going to sleep.
- Look at words in the environment (road signs, shop names, food packets), developing an interest in what they say and mean.
- Talk about what they see in the world around them and ask questions.
- Play numeracy and counting games during everyday activities.
- Develop independence in dressing themselves and putting on their own coat, socks and shoes.
- From time to time we will send home fun tasks that are planned to support our work in Nursery.
- Come to parent's information evenings and open days to find out more about what we do at Nursery and how you can support your child's learning.

Preparing your child for Nursery

Starting Nursery can be a big step for your child and we want them to settle quickly and feel happy and secure.

You can help by:

- Talking to your child about starting Nursery some weeks before they start, helping them understand they will be coming to school each day.
- Showing your child the photos of the staff and begin to learn their names before they start.
- Using the home visit to build a good relationship with the staff and tell us anything you think is important about your child.
- Supporting your child to start to dress themselves – put on their own coats and shoes etc.

To help settle your child each day you can:

- Help your child find their named coat peg, hang up their bag and coat then help them to find their name card and place it in the basket.
- Encourage your child to choose an activity when you arrive. If they are struggling to settle it can help if you take them to and leave them at the same activity each session.
- Telling the Nursery staff and your child when you are going and leaving promptly.

What does your Child Need?

Please dress your child in clothes you don't mind getting wet or dirty.

Children in Nursery are welcome to wear our school jumper, which can be purchased from the Ripon Uniform shop.

We do provide aprons for messy activities in Nursery but you child will also need;

- A spare set of clothes in case of accidents.
- Splash suit or waterproof trousers and coat.
- Named wellington boots for outside activities.
- Warm coats, hats and gloves in winter and sunhats in the summer.
- It is very helpful if your child has shoes they can fasten themselves such as velcro as we promote independence, encouraging them to learn to put on their own coats and shoes.
- A packed lunch if they are staying all day.
- We can provide a school lunch at a cost of £2.50 per day.

It is important that all clothes and footwear are clearly named.

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities

All staff are trained to support children with differing needs. We see each child as unique and we tailor the learning for every child. If you have any concerns about your child's development, please inform staff so that we can talk through these together.
School have a clear process to support children who have additional needs and we have links with various outside agencies who can also support and advise on children's early development.
If we have any concerns we will discuss these with you and advise on possible ways forward to support your child.
Please see the schools SEND policy and SEND Information report on the school website.

Some Important Points:

- Please make sure you inform us of any changes to your circumstances, phone numbers, address etc.
- Each child must be accompanied by an adult when coming to and from Nursery.
- If you are unable to collect your child please arrange for another adult to do so and inform the Nursery staff.
- Please be punctual at the beginning and end of each session. Young children can be easily upset if they are late or if they seem to have been forgotten.
- If you arrive more than 10 minutes after the session starts, please go to the main school entrance and register your child at reception
- If your child is absent from, Nursery please let us know the reason and when they are expected to return.

Applying for School

Application to school is not done directly through Nursery.
At some point during the Autumn term, **the year before your child is due to start school**, North Yorkshire Council will send us a letter to pass onto you. You will then use this to apply for a school place directly to the Local Authority. The deadline for this is usually in January. You will then be informed by them around the end of April which school your child has been offered a place at.
Shortly after receiving this information you will meet with school staff who will inform you of the transition process into Reception.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding children in our care is of paramount importance and we have all statutory procedures in place to ensure this which cover:

- Behaviour, Attendance and Anti-bullying procedures.
- Staff are all DBS checked and recruited using safe recruitment guidelines.
- Staff only use nursery cameras, no mobile phones or personal cameras.
- Our staff are all kept up to date with safeguarding issues and child protection.
- All health and safety guidelines and safe working practices are adhered to and are integral to our practice.
- Security of the premises including site security and on-site procedures.

Please see the school's Safeguarding and Child Protection policies on the school website.

All our pupils are unique!

The way they look, what they enjoy doing, they learn in different ways at different times. They have individual humour, some are quiet, some are chatterboxes, some are super active, some take things more slowly. But… They are all special to us and we will do whatever we can to ensure that you and your child feel welcomed into the Moorside family and they will develop and progress in our happy environment.