



# Welcome to Ferryhill Station Primary School: Nursery



## Welcome to Ferryhill Station Foundation Stage

### Our Vision:

We aim to give your child the best start in their educational journey and we are committed to providing learning that is engaging and enjoyable. We encourage children to explore, investigate, express themselves and make lots of friends. The support that staff give children and the stimulating learning environment enables children to achieve to their full potential and become confident, competent and independent learners.

Visitors are warmly welcomed and we would like to show you around our Foundation Stage Unit so that you can see for yourself the fantastic learning that takes place.

We value our relationships with our children and their families. We believe that it is children's best interests that we develop positive relationships with parents and carers and we encourage you get involved in your child's education by coming in for events such as 'Stay and Play' sessions, parents meetings, etc.

We operate a 'Open Doors' policy so please do not hesitate to come and speak to us about any concerns or worries.

We recognise that all children are unique and have different needs. In order to help your child settle into Nursery, we will work with you to organise visits and introductory sessions that are tailored to your child's requirements. We would also like to arrange a Home Visit with you, so that we can meet and get to know your child and you before they start school.

### Organisation of Early Years Foundation Stage

The Foundation Stage is made up of the Nursery and Reception children. Miss Rooke is the Foundation Stage Leader and teaches in Foundation Stage, supported by teaching assistants. We are committed to providing the care and nurture your child deserves to help them settle into school, enjoy their time here, and fully access learning.

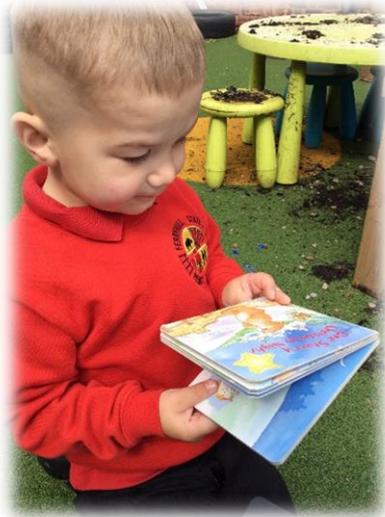
**Nursery runs from 8.30am- 11.30am, Monday to Friday**

**You can drop your child off at the Foundation Stage gate at 8.30am. A member of staff will be there to greet your child and you.**

**Pick up time will be at 11.30am. Please be on time so your child does not get worried!**

If you are going to be unavoidably late, please contact the school (our phone number is given at the end of this booklet) to let us know.

During the session, your child will take part in small group sessions and they will have the opportunity to learn through play activities, supported by staff and learning from each other.:



Children will also have the opportunity to work in our well-resourced Garden which has been designed just for the Foundation Stage with lots of exciting things to do:



### **Attendance and punctuality**

It is important your child comes to school every day to help them learn and develop their friendships with other children. However, if your child is genuinely ill or has an infectious condition please keep them at home and inform the school of the reason on the first day of absence.

It is also important that your child comes to school on time each day to avoid missing learning and to set good habits for punctuality. However, if you bring your child to school late for unavoidable reasons, you must sign him/ her in at the office, stating the reason for lateness. If you need to take your child out of school early for any reason, then you will be required to come to the main office to sign.

### **Healthy snack**

Children have their own water bottles and they are able to access these throughout the day. We also provide a daily snack of fresh fruit and a carton of milk each day.

### **Early Years Pupil Premium**

Our school receives funding from the Government to help with the cost of providing education and we receive additional funding (known as the pupil premium) for pupils whose families receive certain benefits. It is in all our interests that we obtain as much money as we can from funding to support

children's education. Therefore, we urge you to let us know if your child is entitled to additional funding. Eligibility forms are available from the office- please could you fill this in if you are in receipt of benefits and the school office can make checks for eligibility. Rest assured that the information you provide will be treated with the strictest confidence and safe keeping.

### **Leo the Lion**

At the weekends, children have the opportunity to bring home a special puppet 'Leo' that they can read stories to and share their time with. Leo also has a diary which your child can draw, write and place photographs in to let the rest of the class know what he has been up to whilst at your child's home.



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### **Outdoor Play**

We value outdoor play, believing it is important for children's health, development and well-being. At Ferryhill Station Primary, our Foundation Stage children access their own Garden which is rich in resources and provides them with valuable learning opportunities. Whilst they work outside, children are supervised and supported by adults.

Children will have the opportunity to work in the Garden everyday throughout the year, except in extreme weather conditions. Therefore, they will need a warm coat for cooler weather and suitable shoes. We provide wellies and waterproof suits for water and sand play.



### Getting involved

We are keen to work in partnership with parents and carers and encourage you to support and get involved in your child's education. We will invite you to come along to events such as watching your child take part in sessions, 'Stay and Play' sessions, and, Christmas Performances.

Staff enjoy hearing about all the lovely things your child has been doing and learning beyond school. We have special 'wow' vouchers which you can fill in to let us know about all the wonderful things your child has been doing with you at home and when out and about.

### Parents Meetings

You will be asked to attend termly Parents Meetings, in which we discuss your child's progress over the term. You will also be given an annual report at the end of the year.

### Educational Visits

To enhance our curriculum, and to provide children with valuable learning experiences, we organise a range of educational visits, such as going to visit a farm and a trip to local shops. You will be given written notice of any visits we plan and we will ask for your consent. Staff carry out risk assessments prior to taking children on trips and we ensure adequate supervision of children at all times.



### Accidents

Although staff take great care in looking after children, accidents do happen at times. The vast majority of accidents are not serious and a first aider will treat your child and we will inform you of what has happened at the end of the day. If we feel an accident is more serious we will phone you to let you know. If your child bumps or cuts their head, we will always let you know immediately.

**It is very important that we have up-to-date phone numbers in case we need to contact you during a session. Please inform our school office if you change your phone number.**

### Medicines

Staff will administer medicines that have been prescribed by a doctor, dentist, nurse or pharmacist.

Written permission for each medicine will be asked for from parents/ carers before medication is given.

Prior to your child beginning school, you will be asked to provide details of any allergies or medical conditions your child has.

### **Mobile phones**

Staff do not use their mobile phones during working hours and we stipulate that parents and carers do not use phones when in the vicinity of children at school. This is for safeguarding reasons.

### **Photographs**

Parental consent is sought for taking photographs when your child begins school. Staff request to take photographs to record children's activities and achievements and these are placed in their individual Learning Journals and work books which parents/ carers have access to. On occasion photographs are used for wall displays, during presentations, in brochures and on the website. Parents can withdraw consent for photographs to be taken at any time.

### **School Uniform**

Our school uniform comprises:

- a red sweat- shirt or cardigan
- a white or red polo shirt or shirt/ blouse
- grey trousers or skirt
- children can wear red school dresses or school shorts in warmer weather. Also, a sun cap or hat is advisable on sunny days.
- a warm coat with a hood is needed in cooler weather as children will have the opportunity to work in the Garden.

Please ensure all items of clothing have names written in.

It is school policy that jewellery is not worn by children at school.

We look forward to working with you and your child in September. If, at any time, you have a concern, please do not hesitate to contact the Foundation Stage Team.

School Contact details:

Head Teacher: Mrs J. Sones

Deputy Head Teacher: Mr T. Leake

Early Years Lead: Miss G. Rooke

Ferryhill Station Primary School

Chilton Lane

Ferryhill

Durham

DL17 0DB

Main Office – **01740 651291** (Miss Smith is our Office Manager)

Website – [www.ferryhillstationschool.co.uk](http://www.ferryhillstationschool.co.uk)

Email: [ferryhillstation@durhamlearning.net](mailto:ferryhillstation@durhamlearning.net)

Useful websites to help prepare for starting school:

[www.theschoolrun.com](http://www.theschoolrun.com)

[www.mumsnet.com](http://www.mumsnet.com)



