

Loscoe Primary School & Nursery



New Starter Information



Thank you for choosing to send your child to our nursery - we feel very lucky that we have been given the opportunity to educate your child in the first years of their life and we are looking forward to getting to know them as well as working with you as parents/ carers.

We hope that you will find this pack useful in giving you some basic information about how our nursery works and answer any initial questions you may have.

Our Nursery Team



Mrs Hayley Broadbent - EYFS Leader and Nursery Teacher (Wednesday, Thursday & Friday)



Mrs Keleigh Gilooly - Nursery Teacher (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday)



Mrs Debbie Holmes - Teaching assistant



Miss Sharni Toone- Apprentice Early Years Educator

Lunchtimes - Mrs Gillott and members of our midday supervisor team

Session times



8:45 – 11:45 Morning Session

11:45 – 12:15 Lunch time for children who stay all day

- you may provide a packed lunch for your child or a hot school dinner is available at a cost of £3.25 each day

12:15 – 3:15 Afternoon Session

Choosing and altering the hours your child attends for:

We offer funded places in our school nursery for up to 30 hours of childcare. Parents also have the option to pay for additional hours to top up beyond the initial 15 hours entitlement offered for all 3 year olds. The cost of additional hours of childcare is £4.50 per hour.

Unless you pay privately, we only claim funding for the hours your child attends for.

We plan our staffing arrangements around the hours that you originally book when organising your child's nursery place. Due to the need to adhere to the statutory staff ratios laid out in the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) curriculum, we are unable to alter the sessions you have initially asked for at short notice. Should you wish to make any adjustments to the days or hours your child attends, this will need to be done at the start of any school term. Please ask for more details.

At the start of each session

The nursery session begins at 8:45am each day, staff will open the doors to welcome the children from 8:40am. We ask that children are dropped off for the start of the morning session through the gate into the nursery outdoor garden area. A member of staff is always at the door to greet and receive the children from their parents/carers. Any quick messages or information you need to give can be shared with staff at this point. If you feel you need longer to speak to a member of a staff then please ask to make an appointment.

Once they have entered the building, the children have a designated peg (which they are able to identify with a picture) where they can keep their coats and bags. These pegs are designed to be at a height which is accessible for the children and we encourage them to be independent in finding their peg and hanging their things upon it. Staff, are of course, available to help them.

We operate a 'self registration' system where the children are able to find their name and post it into the 'name' box. The children are then encouraged to begin exploring the different learning areas and to socialise with their friends.



Session Activities

Our session consists of a variety of different activities. Much of our time will be spent with free flow learning through play. We also have times set aside for singing, story time and some short, focussed learning activities. This includes early Phonics and Maths activities.

We plan learning through different themes which are then complemented by our core books and core nursery rhymes. These are a series of books and rhymes that we concentrate on throughout the year. The aim is that children become very familiar with these books and rhymes so that they can then begin to retell stories in their own words.

Our current core books are:

Titch - Pat Hutchins

Goldilocks and The Three Bears - Traditional Tale

The Gingerbread Man - Traditional Tale

The Very Hungry Caterpillar- Eric Carle

Walking Through The Jungle - Julie Lacome

Handa's Surprise - Eileen Browne

Our current core nursery rhymes are:

Humpty Dumpty

Baa Baa Black Sheep

Incy Wincy Spider

Twinkle Twinkle Little Star

I'm a Little Teapot

The Grand Old Duke of York

One, Two, Three, Four, Five Once I Caught a Fish Alive

Miss Polly Had a Dolly

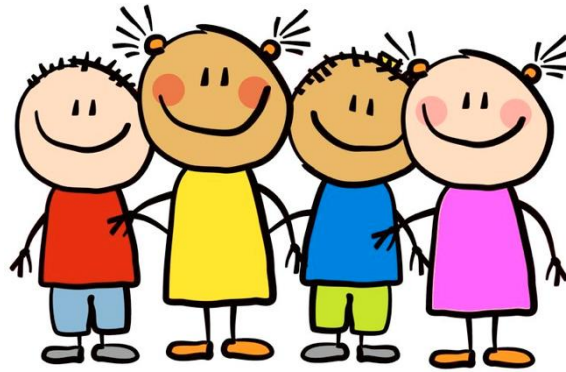
Row, Row, Row Your Boat

The children's own interests are very important to us and we will, of course, act 'in the moment' to further children's learning. Equally if there is a topic or book you think your child would like us to cover then please do let us know.



Getting to know you

Building a relationship with your child is very important to us. To do this, we like to talk to the children about their homes and interests. We supply every new starter with an 'all about me' page. If you can fill this in, providing as much information as possible about your child, and return it to us as quickly as possible we find it very helpful, particularly in the first few weeks, in helping us get to know your child.



Parent Meetings

A parents' evening is held in the Autumn and Spring terms and a written report is issued at the end of the summer term, however, we are always happy to talk to you at any time during the year about your child's progress. This can be an informal chat or an appointment can be arranged.

In a school led nursery the teacher is considered to be your child's key worker but we pride ourselves on being a 'close knit' team and anyone of us will happily spend time discussing any concerns or questions you may have.

Snacks & Drinks

During each session, the children will be provided with a small snack and they will also be offered a drink of milk. We aim to offer a variety of fruits over a week. We understand that some children don't like certain foods but we do try to encourage them to 'try out' the taste of new foods.

If your child has a particular food allergy/ intolerance or a specific dietary requirement please let us know as soon as possible.

Children are also encouraged to drink water at any other time they feel they need a drink during the session. Please provide your child with a named water bottle. This will be sent home at the end of each day.



Toilet Training

The toilet facilities in the nursery are designed for the children to be able to access independently whenever they need to.

We understand that not all children will be totally toilet trained when they start with us. We will happily work with you to help in any way we can during the toilet training process. To help with this, it is important that you send your child in clothes that they can manage easily themselves whilst toilet training; for example, jogging bottoms or leggings that are quick and easy to pull down.



'Accidents' are not a problem but all we ask is that you supply plenty of spare clothing so that we can easily change your child if needed. If your child is still using nappies/ pull ups we can change these during the session/ day but for us to be able to do this, you need to supply us with nappies, wipes and nappy bags etc as we do not have supplies of these items in Nursery.

Uniform

Uniform is not compulsory in nursery and children are free to wear any sensible clothes of your choice. However, many parents prefer their child to wear school uniform as this helps establish a 'going to school' routine.

Details of school uniform are available at the main school office or in the 'parents' section on the school website.

www.loscoe.derbyshire.sch.uk

In order to allow your child to be independent, we would ask that footwear is either '**slip-on**' or **fastens with Velcro/ buckles**. Lace up shoes/ boots/trainers are very difficult for your child to manage and also have safety implications if the laces become untied.



Illness

Young children are very susceptible to germs and bugs. If your child is ill, we would appreciate it if you could email or phone the school to advise us of their absence.

In order to avoid the spread of nasty illnesses amongst the other children and staff it is school policy that:

- If your child has or recently had a high temperature, they do not attend nursery for at least **24 hours** after the temperature has returned to normal.
- If a child has sickness and/ or diarrhoea, a child **must not** be sent to nursery for **48 hours** after the last bout of sickness or diarrhoea.

The school's full medical policy is available on the school website.



Medicines

Derbyshire County Council Policy is that schools are only allowed to administer prescribed medicines.

Unfortunately, we are not able to give your child non-prescription pain killers (eg Calpol) and we would ask that you do not bring these to school.

We are able to administer prescribed medicines which are labelled with a named prescription label. In this case, you will need to complete a consent form available from the main school office.

If your child suffers from asthma, please advise a member of staff.

Inhalers can be left at nursery or provided daily on the days your child attends. We would just need one consent form completing when your child first starts with us.

We are a 'Nut Free' setting and we have children who attend our nursery and school who have severe nut allergies. Please support us in keeping all of our children safe by ensuring that your child does not bring anything in a packed lunch which contains nuts. This includes some chocolate spreads and items such as crepes which may contain Hazelnuts.



Transition to our school nursery

Our aim is to ensure a happy transition for all children who join us at Loscoe C of E Primary School and Nursery. We therefore offer a flexible transition to nursery, one which is tailored to meet the individual needs of a child. This can be in the form of some additional short transition visits or a staggered start when they join us. We have found that this is particularly beneficial for children who join us for 30 hours as the full week can often be difficult for some children. Please speak to member of the nursery team to share any concerns which you may have regarding your child's transition to nursery.

Wrap around care

Once children have settled into nursery and are happily attending for their regular nursery sessions , they may be able to access our wrap around care. Breakfast Club is open from 7:30am until 8:35am and After School Club from 3:15pm until 5:15pm. This is charged at £4 per hour. Breakfast is offered to children for the morning session and a small snack in the afternoon session. Special dietary requirement can be catered for providing staff are given sufficient notice prior to attending the club.

Please be aware that due to strict ratios of children to staff in the Early Years Foundation Stage (as set by the Government) we are only able to offer a limited number of places for children in the Early Years (Nursery and Reception classes). If a space should not be available for the sessions which you require, parents are able to place their child on a waiting list for when a place becomes available.

Bringing in Toys

We understand that sometimes children will need to bring in a toy or teddy from home to comfort them and help them feel settled.

Sometimes it can be difficult to 'keep track' of where the child puts their own things during a session so we ask that they only bring in one toy (preferably with their name on).

Thank you for your co-operation with this.



How you can help your child at home

Where possible spend time asking your child about their day, what they have been doing, who they have played with and discussing the things which they have enjoyed. Try to share snippets from your own day with your child, modelling language and vocabulary to extend the range of words which your child already uses.

Enjoy reading a story each day at bedtime, encouraging your child to discuss the story and characters and to begin to make predictions about what might happen in a story. If you are not already a member of the local Library Service, this is a great way of regularly accessing a range of stories.

Promote a love of music and singing songs such as nursery rhymes and clapping along to the rhythm of music. This again further develops spoken language and communication skills as well as developing listening and attention skills.

Support your child with self help skills such as going to the toilet and handling their own self care such as washing their hands independently. Give your child opportunities to put items of clothing on or themselves, including putting on their own coat and shoes and fastening these up.

Find opportunities for your child to identify and name colours, numbers to 5, to identify their own name and to explore drawing and mark making with different tools such as pencils, pens, paint brushes and sticks.



The Learning Journey at Loscoe

C of E Primary School and Nursery

In Nursery we follow the statutory Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum. Alongside this, we use 'Development Matters' as an assessment tool to identify whether a child is on track with age related expectations for the seven areas of learning. Please see the attached sheet to see what the developmental expectations are for a three or four year old during their time in Nursery.



Throughout the time that your child attends our Nursery we will collect samples of work or photographs of what they have been doing. This creates a personal 'Learning Journey' providing a picture of your child's achievements at school. You can also help by contributing to their learning journal. We value any contribution that you would like to make to helping us create a true picture of what your child can do.

To collate and share this information instantly with parents we use 'Tapestry Online Learning Journal'. We have found Tapestry to be an invaluable resource as it enables all parents to have instant access to their child's Learning Journey at home. You will be able to see the ongoing progress that your child is making, as well as sharing your own observations and photographs of special activities at home.

Tapestry is also a great tool to use as a discussion point with your child to discuss their day at Nursery.

In this pack there is a form to complete and sign and our Tapestry Agreement to view. We ask that this is completed as soon as possible please.

Once parents have been set up with a Tapestry account you will receive an activation email to active the account. There is a Tapestry App which can be downloaded to your mobile telephone, if you have an iPhone or Android telephone.



Class Dojo

We also use the online platform Class Dojo as a communication tool to share information between school and home. You will receive an activation email when your child starts Nursery. We will inform you of any special events via Class Dojo so please ensure that you activate your account and check for updates regularly.

Communication

It is very important to us that both you and your child are happy - please let us know if you are concerned about anything at all or if there is ever anything we can help with.

The Nursery team can be contacted on:

Squirrels@loscoe.derbyshire.sch.uk

School office: 01773 713396

General School email: info@loscoe.derbyshire.sch.uk

You can also contact staff via the message function on Class Dojo. However please note that only the staff member who the message is sent directly to will be able to view your message. Staff will respond to messages and emails within working hours on their days in work.

We look forward to welcoming your child to our school in the new school term and to the start of a great partnership between our school family and yours.