



**BOROUGHBRIDGE**

Primary School & Nursery

*Making A Difference*



We hope that this booklet provides you with the answers to some of the questions you may have about your child starting Nursery. If you require more information about the school, please ask at the school office or visit our website at [www.boroughbridge-pri.n-yorks.sch.uk](http://www.boroughbridge-pri.n-yorks.sch.uk).

## WELCOME TO OUR NURSERY



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## NURSERY AT BOROUGHBIDGE PRIMARY SCHOOL

### The Staff

Teacher: Miss Alice Penny  
Early Years Practitioners: Miss Loesse Taylor, Mrs Kim Sinclair

### Session Times

5 x 3 hours mornings:	8.30 am – 11.30 am
Lunch club:	11.30 – 12.15 and/or
5 x 3 hours afternoons:	12.15 pm - 3.15 pm

We have 15-hour places as well as a limited number of 30-hour places available, please enquire.

### Lunch Club

We have our lunch on a special table in the lunch hall at 11.30 before the rest of the school have theirs. Children can have a school dinner, paid for via ParentPay, or a packed lunch from home.

### Admission arrangements

Children may start Nursery the term after their third birthday. Application forms are available from the school office. (Please note that Nursery forms are not school admission forms. Parents must request these separately).

You will be invited to visit Nursery with your child prior to them joining us - this will give you a chance to see our Nursery in action and help familiarise your child with their new learning environment.

We will give you a “This is Me” booklet, which we ask you to fill in and bring back to Nursery. This gives us some idea of your child’s likes and dislikes and will help us to get to know them better.

### What makes us special?

At Boroughbridge Primary School and Nursery, we are committed to the Nursery being an integral part of the school, led by a qualified teacher. The vision, values and aims for the Nursery are shared with the whole school, as are the school’s policies, practices, curriculum and ethos.

Through a teacher-led approach with care at the heart of everything we do, we provide an age-appropriate curriculum alongside opportunities and experiences which support and enhance children’s development. Having Nursery as part of the school gives us the ability to plan for children’s learning over the longer term, understand, assess and meet their needs whilst also giving them the best possible preparation for each phase of their education.



## Curriculum

Children in the Nursery and Reception classes follow the 'Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum'. The curriculum is divided into seven areas of learning and is firmly rooted in the principle that children learn through play, problem solving, investigation and discovery. Children follow their own curiosity to explore their interests and staff take their lead to support them in their learning. Although there are activities planned to challenge the children, they are also free to engage themselves in child-initiated tasks and games.

These seven areas of learning and development are grouped into prime areas and specific areas. The prime areas are important because they lay the foundations for children's success in all other areas of learning and of life:

- Personal, Social and Emotional Development
- Physical Development
- Communication and Language

The specific areas provide the range of experiences and opportunities for children to broaden their knowledge and skills:

- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the World
- Expressive Arts and Design



## Routines

Children are encouraged to be as independent as possible. On arrival, we ask that they locate their name card in order to register their presence. They may need your assistance with recognising their name initially.

After registering, children are encouraged to get busy and choose what they would like to do in the classroom. They will then come to sit on the carpet for morning carpet time – this is usually a story, a discussion and some singing around a topic or theme. Through a teacher-led approach we encourage good sitting, listening and turn-taking in preparation for starting Reception. We also hold a short whole-group phonics and maths session during the day. Children may work in small groups or one to one with an adult on occasion.

Children have access throughout the session to all the Nursery provision - both indoor and outdoor areas. Please be aware we do go out in all weathers!

During the course of the session the children will sit for snack. This consists of a drink of water or milk and a serving of fruit or vegetables. Children do have access to water throughout the session.

**We ask that children do not bring toys or valuable items from home.** It can be very upsetting for them when they get lost or damaged. However, we do encourage special items or photos to show of a special day out that we can share with the group.



## What your child needs to bring to Nursery

- A pair of named wellies
- A backpack with a change of clothes (including pants and socks)
- A named water bottle
- A named waterproof coat
- A named sunhat in the summer months

We are proud to encourage Nursery children to wear school uniform as it gives them a sense of belonging as part of our school community. This should be a navy sweatshirt or cardigan, a white or pale blue polo shirt, and comfortable shoes and bottoms (e.g. leggings, joggers or shorts). No jewellery should be worn.

Children often arrive home from Nursery with a splash of paint, glue or mud on their clothes even though an apron has been worn. Please do not send your child to Nursery in their best clothes.

## Where are our Early Years classrooms?

We are situated at the front of the building with our own spacious outside area. Our Nursery contains a purpose-built kitchen which allows us to bake and cook whenever we can. We also have access to the outdoor play equipment at the front of school as well as easy access to the Millenium Gardens and our orchard which we use for Forest Schools. Being centrally located in Boroughbridge we can easily walk to the local shops, library, cafes and churches. Occasionally we make trips using the Community Care mini-bus to places like Newby Hall, Studley Roger and Minskip farm shop.



The Nursery environment is carefully planned and organised to support children's development in all these areas. Our aim is to provide children with the practical experiences they need at this stage in their lives. Outdoor experiences are a fundamental part of this provision and for that reason, we ask that children come to Nursery in practical clothes suitable for spending time outdoors whatever the weather.

## Keeping you informed

Parents Evenings are held twice during the school year. We will discuss how your child has settled and their progress so far. You are also welcome to make an appointment with Miss Penny at any time if you have any concerns you would like to discuss.



We aim to keep you informed about events in the whole school by ensuring that you receive copies of any general letters, and our regular newsletter. We will let you know what topic we are covering with the children each half term so that you can support their learning at home. You will be sent regular emails updating you about events taking place at school or in Nursery so please be sure to check these. We also use a photo sharing app called Class Dojo to share pictures and class news. You will be sent an invitation to Class Dojo when your child starts Nursery.

## How you can help your child at home

There are lots of things you can do at home to support your child's learning. Spend a little time each week sharing stories and singing simple nursery rhymes and songs. This will give your child some of the skills they need to start reading in the future. Can they guess what is happening from the pictures? Can they re-tell familiar stories in their own words? Count anything and everything around the house and out and about (as you climb the stairs, or choose the apples when shopping). Help your child to read numbers on front doors and price labels and encourage them to read familiar signs in shops.



## And finally

Children must be dropped off and picked up from the Nursery door. For health and safety reasons, parents are not allowed to park in the staff car park. **Please inform us if anyone else is to pick up your child. We will not be able to release your child to anyone other than you unless you have previously informed us that person will be picking up.**

Before your child joins us in Nursery you can help them feel more confident by practising the following:

- Using the toilet, cleaning themselves and pulling up trousers. **Children must not come to Nursery in nappies unless they have a medical need. If they do have a medical need, school must be informed prior to them starting Nursery.** We are happy to support with accidents and do not expect children to be perfect!
- Attempt to put on and take off coats and shoes.
- Wash and dry hands.
- Knowing when to say 'please' and 'thank you', listening to and respecting others.
- Have some basic knowledge of early numbers and colours.

N.B we teach phase 1 phonics in Nursery, which is all about listening carefully to sounds, appreciating patterns and rhyme in preparation for learning to read. If your child is interested in learning about letters and writing, please teach them the letter sound, not the letter name (e.g. s = sssss, not *guh* or *ess*) as this will be how they are taught to say the sounds when they get to Reception. If you would like more information on how we teach phonics at school, you can find lots of resources here:

<https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/>

(we do not explicitly teach the letters in Nursery, this will start in Reception. This is only if your child is interested in learning letter sounds and you would like support with this.)

We hope that you and your child will enjoy a happy and fulfilling time with us. We aim to provide a challenging and stimulating environment, in which children can become motivated, independent learners, who value the contribution of themselves and others. We look forward to working with you to ensure that your child's education has the best possible foundations.

Alice Penny (Nursery teacher): [a.penny@boroughbridge-pri.n-yorks.sch.uk](mailto:a.penny@boroughbridge-pri.n-yorks.sch.uk)

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