

About our Nursery

Farsley Farfield Primary School



2015-16



Welcome to our nursery...





Welcome to our school. I hope that you, and your child, are looking forward to the big step into Nursery. This is an exciting and perhaps anxious time but we believe that high quality nursery education led by a fully qualified teacher and Nursery Officer is incredibly valuable for your child.

Farsley Farfield Primary School is a really good school with strong educational standards, a high level of care, a superb learning environment, committed and talented staff and fantastic children.

We offer an early years education based upon play and first hand experiences with skilled adult interactions. These lay strong foundations of improved speaking and listening, social awareness, self confidence, independence and early literacy and numeracy skills upon which to build in the Reception classes and beyond.

Very best wishes,

Peter Harris

Headteacher

Welcome





- To provide an attractive, stimulating environment where your child feels secure, safe and happy.
- To provide a wide variety of first hand experiences helping your child to develop physically, socially, intellectually and emotionally.
- To encourage your child to become independent, to make choices, to be self-motivated and to try out new activities for themselves.
- To draw upon your child's previous experiences and to build upon them.
- To develop caring, open and supportive relationships between parents, children and staff.
- To encourage your child to help others, and to look after equipment properly - especially their own belongings.
- To lay foundations for the development of early literacy and numeracy and build upon existing speaking and listening skills.

Aims of our Nursery





Foundation Stage

Our Foundation Stage is a fabulous place for any child to start their education. Consisting of spacious Nursery and Reception classes, the Foundation Stage has a very creative and play-based curriculum. Areas of provision are carefully planned to provide your child with a broad range of experiences; some of these are teacher directed, but many of these are self-directed. This is supplemented by class sessions promoting early number skills and phonics.

We have a 26 place Nursery with children attending either the morning session, 8.45am-11.45am or the afternoon session, 12.30pm-3.30pm. There is also the option of 2½ day places (Mon-Wed or Wed-Fri) including lunch*. You can arrange with our on-site private nursery 'Little People' for your child to be taken to Nursery and be collected as necessary (see section on Extended School). **Please speak to us if you would like to discuss paying for additional hours at our nursery.**

"I am very pleased with (child's) progress and am so happy that he had the best experience of nursery at Farfield."

Parent of Nursery child 2013

"Thank you for all your hard work and patience helping (child) settle in - she now really looks forward to coming to nursery."

Parent of Nursery child 2014



For parents' convenience, you may collect your child up to 15 minutes before the end of the session. **Please note that the car park at the side of Nursery is for school staff and families with disabled children only.** Be aware of residents-only parking immediately along Cote Lane. If you need to park a car on neighbouring residential streets, please ensure that you don't block driveways or stray into permit areas.

The school adopts the same admission criteria as Leeds Children's Services for older children, i.e. siblings and proximity (children with acute special needs and those referred to us directly through Social Care have priority beyond this).



* We are required to charge £2.50 per hour for the additional time that the 2.5 day children are at Farfield beyond the 15 hour entitlement. This equates to £3.75 per week. Please could parents pay at least half a term in advance for this, making cheques payable to Leeds City Council. Unfortunately there cannot be refunds for non-attendance.



The Nursery Curriculum

Our Nursery is part of the school's Foundation Stage covering children from 3-5 years of age and including the Reception classes. The areas of learning in the Nursery are carefully planned to meet the Early Learning Goals, which is a legal requirement by the government for all children in the Foundation Stage.

**"... Learning is fun and
is a key reason
why standards in
mathematics are good
and rising quickly.**

OFSTED 2013

The areas of development covered are:

1. Literacy
2. Mathematics
3. Understanding the World
4. Expressive Arts and Design
5. Personal, Social and Emotional Development
6. Physical Development
7. Communication and Language





Special Needs

Farsley Farfield Primary School takes inclusion and children's special needs very seriously. Our Inclusion Team is led by Mr David Cooke, the Assistant Headteacher. Mrs Cath Fulton, a Reception teacher, is part of the Inclusion Team, with particular responsibility in the Foundation Stage (Nursery and Reception). Mrs Julie Simmons is funded to give additional support and advice around SEN for staff, children and families in Nursery and Reception.

If your child has special needs, or you are concerned about their development, please speak to us as soon as possible, and regularly after that, so that appropriate provision can be put in place.

Equal Opportunities

All children will have equal access to all areas of the curriculum and Nursery life as a whole.

"Pupils make good progress overall and achieve well."

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Self Registration

When your child arrives at Nursery, please help him/her to find their name card on the unit. Your child will soon be able to recognise their own name, find their name card independently and place it in the basket.

Profiles

Each child will have their own individual profile which is a record of their work, experiences, activities and progress during their time at Nursery. Most of the recorded observations and assessments are now online using a service called **Tapestry**: parents are able to view pictures and videos of their child in nursery and can contribute comments and observations of their own.

Toys/Sweets

Please discourage your child from bringing toys to school as loss or damage causes upset. Story books may be brought from home but please name them clearly. Sweets are not allowed.

“The stock answer when I ask ‘tell me about your day at school’ is ‘can’t remember,’ so for me (Tapestry and the blog) is invaluable and a great way to stimulate chat at home.”

Parent of Nursery child 2015



Safeguarding

Child Protection is led by Mr Harris, but is a collective responsibility. We work closely with the Children's Centre, Social Care and other agencies to support the well-being of our children.

Sickness and Absence

Please let us know when your child is away ill, especially if he/she has an infectious illness. If your child has sickness and/or diarrhoea, 48 hours must elapse before returning to Nursery. Please leave a message on our Nursery telephone number 0113 2058136.



Birth Certificate

When your child starts Nursery, please bring along their birth certificate so that we can verify their age.



Dress

Please send your child into school in clothes that you are not worried about because, however much care is taken, accidents with paint and glue do happen. If your child does get paint on their clothing, the best way to remove it is with cold water, a tablet of soap and a soft brush. Never put stained articles straight in the washing machine.

Named Clothing

Could you please name all items of clothing including coats, shoes and wellingtons? We can supply some waterproof suits for playing in the school grounds in muddy conditions. **Your child may, nevertheless, still get a little muddy at times.** Outdoor experiences are essential - we often go out in 'bad weather'.



Toilet

We encourage and support the children to use the toilet independently. If this is a problem, please speak to a member of staff. Elasticated waist trousers may be easier for your child to manage.





School Meals

Those children that attend 2.5 days are able to have a school lunch. This is served in 'The Blue Room' and is a set meal (with a vegetarian or halal option) provided in traditional 'family-service' style. The staff on duty model and encourage good eating habits and manners.

The cost of a school meal is currently £2 per day (subject to governor review for September). Meals should be paid for in advance by cheque or online. To register for online payment, please contact Mrs Walton (see back page). Parents can, if they wish, send a packed lunch instead. Children from Reception to Year 2 get a free school meal; sadly, this fantastic scheme does not extend to Nursery.

Fruit and Milk

We encourage the children to eat fruit and so we ask you to send one piece of fruit each week. This is supplemented by free fruit from the school. We provide milk free of charge for the children to drink independently during each Nursery session. If you do not wish your child to drink milk, please let us know.

"Throughout the school pupils are polite and respectful.

Social skills are effectively developed from Nursery onwards. For example, Nursery children set cutlery, ate pretend food and practised

good manners."

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The Great Outdoors

The school's huge grounds are magnificent and a breath of fresh air in these days of concrete and congestion. At Farfield, we have two adventure playgrounds, a fort, a tyre park, a huge number of trees, a conservation area with a pond and a range of other habitats. We also have plenty of space for sports, games and dens!

We have the main Foundation Stage outside play area with a mud kitchen and a new naturalistic wooden area of sculpted tree trunks to play in/on/under/through and around. We also have sand pits, staging, role play areas, water play and lots more. The grassed area next to the Foundation Stage includes a fort and a sensory garden with lots of space for energetic play. The infant yard is sometimes used for more extensive bike play or balls. We visit the conservation area and its pond to see tadpoles and we go to the wonderful on-site Farfield Farm in the spring for planting activities and to help harvest in the summer and autumn. We may also visit the chicken enclosure to collect eggs.

We believe that fresh air, exercise, nature and adventure must be important parts of early years education.





Partnership with Parents

We encourage parents to help in school both in and out of the classroom in a variety of ways. Any help, whether it is single gesture or a regular occurrence, is valued highly by the staff as there is always something to do in our busy school! Please contact the office if you would like to volunteer.

We are always available for an informal chat to discuss any problem and hope that you will feel able to approach us at any time.

Please register your email address with us so that we can keep you informed about news from school and the nursery.

We also have a very active Foundation Stage blog - a window into our world! <http://fffoundation.primaryblogger.co.uk/>

Comments on the blog are very welcome, and we will email you when there is something new to view.

Please look out for 'Stay and Play' and 'Stay and Read' sessions to which parents are regularly invited.

"Links with parents are outstanding so that almost all parents who completed the questionnaire would recommend the school to others."

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Admission to Reception

Whilst at Nursery, you should receive a School Preference Form from the Leeds Education Authority (sent to your home address). This must be completed and returned by the given date - usually in January. If you have not received a form by the end of October, please contact the school office. **Please put these deadlines in your diary - every year, some parents fail to do this and it causes HUGE distress and difficulty.**

Having a place in Nursery does not guarantee you a place in our school. Places for school are centrally allocated by Leeds Children Services. We are a popular, often over-subscribed school and demand for places is high. Despite increasing our intake from 50-60 from September 2011, parents of children living outside Farsley may find it hard to secure a Reception place at this school. Most recently, new families needed to live within about a mile of the school to get a place in Reception.

If you live outside the Leeds area you will not automatically receive a form and must apply through your own local authority. If you require any help, please ask at the school office.

We will hold a meeting for parents, usually in June, before the children start full-time school in September to give out information about the transition from Nursery to starting school.

Extended School



Farfield is very much an 'extended school': we have a Children's Centre, private on-site childcare, a café, a youth club and a very wide range of extra curricular activities for older children.

The Farsley/Calverley Children's Centre, based in our infant building, runs both universal and targeted support services for local families with children 0-5 years old.

Working with partners such as the NHS, the centre hosts pre- and post-natal services, a flourishing baby and toddler group in partnership with the school, and a wide range of other activities and courses for parents and families. Our nursery often does joint work with the Children's Centre. The Children's Centre can be contacted on 0113 2058134.

Little People - a privately run on-site nursery - offers before-school, after-school and holiday care. The facility is open 7.30am – 6.00pm every weekday and every day during school holidays except bank holidays.

Telephone Little People on 0113 2566495 or visit www.littlepeoplenurseries.co.uk for more details. Our school office and our Children's Centre also have details of local child-minders.

“Links with other partners are outstanding and greatly enhance provision.”

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“There is an excellent partnership between the host school and the children's centre. This facilitates

joined-up working that is beneficial to families across the age range and is having a positive impact

on children's readiness for school.”

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Key Contacts



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