

About our Nursery

Farsley Farfield Primary School



2020-21



tes

**schools awards
2017**

Winner

Healthy school of the year





Welcome

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. In 2017, we were declared national **Healthy School of the Year** in the TES School Awards and in 2018 we got another very good Ofsted report.

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





- 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 adult directed, but many of these are self-directed. This is supplemented by group phonics and sessions promoting early number skills. Other planning is 'in the moment': building on the interests of the week's focus children in a dynamic and personalised manner. We never know where the children's interests will take us...

We have a 26 place Nursery with children traditionally attending either the morning session, 8.45am-11.45am or the afternoon session, 12.30pm-3.30pm. There is also the option of 2.5 day places (Mon-Wed or Wed-Fri) including lunch* or more full time, 30 hour places (subject to eligibility). You can arrange with our on-site private nursery 'Little People' or a child minder for your child to be taken to Nursery and be collected as necessary (see section on Extended School).

**"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

"Children are born with a natural desire to explore and learn and practitioners can support them in this. We do this by creating an enabling environment (both physical and emotional) and through the relationships and interactions that the children experience. We do not plan ahead, rather we remain "in the moment" with the children as they explore and learn. We observe carefully, and enhance the learning whenever we spot a 'teachable moment'."

Anna Ephgrave, teacher and author



For parents' convenience, you may collect your child up to 15 minutes before the end of the session: doors open at 3.15. Please note that the car park at the side of Nursery is for school staff only unless there are prior arrangements e.g. for disabled children or parents. Be aware of residents-only parking immediately in front of the Junior building. 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:

- Children with Education, Health and Care Plans (statutory recognition of SEND) or Looked After by the Local Authority
- Siblings
- Distance

* We are required to charge £4.40 per hour for the additional time beyond the 15 hour entitlement. (This does not apply if you are eligible for the free 30 hours scheme.) Please pay at least half a term in advance for this using Parent Pay. 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 contribute to meeting the Early Learning Goals - a legal requirement by the government for all children in the Foundation Stage.

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

**"Thank you for creating
such a fun-filled and
exciting curriculum....he
absolutely loves coming to
nursery."**

Nursery parent

Please see the Nursery blog for regular curriculum postings.





Special Needs

Farsley Farfield Primary School takes inclusion and children's special needs very seriously. Our leader for inclusion (SENDCO) is Mrs Lucy Swindlehurst. Mrs Swindlehurst is a very experienced SENDCO who will be able to advise colleagues and families and secure appropriate provision. Our 'lead practitioner' for children with autism is Mrs Nicola Harding. Our 'local offer' as regards SEND is on the school website.

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 we put in place what is needed for your child.

Equal Opportunities

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

"Staff make every effort to know my child and find the best ways to meet his needs. I am so happy with their efforts, I really couldn't have asked for more"

**Parental comment to
Ofsted 2018**





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, support them to write their name and then 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 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.

“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

Toys/Sweets

Toys from home (other than clearly named books) are not allowed in school as loss or damage causes upset. Sweets, chocolate **and nuts** are not allowed. Please don't bring cakes or sweets in for birthdays (see Food Policy on the website).



Safeguarding

The Child Protection Team is led by Mr Harris, but safeguarding is a collective responsibility. We work closely with families, our Children's Centre, Children's Services 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, at least 48 clear hours must elapse before returning to Nursery. Please call school on 0113 2058133 to advise school of absences.

Birth Certificate

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



"(Child) has loved every minute of being in nursery; I cannot thank all the staff enough for their care, support and encouragement."

Parent of Nursery child



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. **Your child may, nevertheless, still get a little muddy at times.** Outdoor experiences are essential - we often go out in 'bad weather'. Wellies are a key part of the uniform at our school!



Please name all items of clothing

Please name all items of clothing including coats, shoes and wellingtons.

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 for full 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 will be £2.25 per day. Meals should be paid for in advance online using Parent Pay (we will give you details to register and activate an account in September). 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 day/session to add to our shared fruit bowl. This is supplemented by free fruit from the school. Milk is provided 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.



The school's huge grounds are magnificent and a breath of fresh air in these days of concrete and congestion. At Farfield, we have a fort, a tyre park, a new 'upper body strength' playground, 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 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 expansive 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. We were the Healthy School of the Year 2017!





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.

"The school is a lively, happy place. .. Your curriculum offers a wide range of learning experiences for pupils and as a result is vibrant, rich and engaging... Parents and carers are also very happy with the school's work. "

OFSTED 2018



Admission to Reception

The online application system for a place in Reception is run by Leeds City Council and is open from 1st November 2020 until 15th January 2021. **Please put these deadlines in your diary - every year, some parents fail to do this and it causes HUGE distress and difficulty.** Details of the application process are here: <https://www.leeds.gov.uk/docs/2021%20Leeds%20Primary%20Junior%20Coordination%20scheme.pdf>

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 receive a form from your local authority, e.g. Bradford. You may add Farfield as a preference on this form despite the school being in another area.

We usually hold a meeting for parents, typically 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 school farm, 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 and Pudsey Cluster, the centre hosts pre- and post-natal services, a flourishing baby and toddler group and a wide range of other activities and courses for parents and families. The Children's Centre can be contacted on 0113 2058134.



Additional Childcare

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 or these can be searched on the [Leeds Family Information Service](#) website.

Key Contacts



Cath Fulton

Nursery teacher

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Diane Walton

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Infants: 0113 2058133

Juniors: 0113 2058130

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