

Reception 2020

Farsley Farfield Primary School



"The school is a lively, happy place."
Ofsted 2018





Welcome

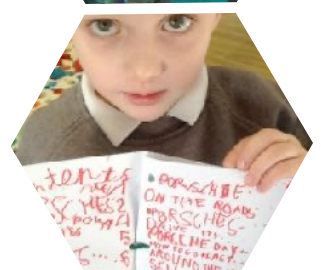
Welcome to our school. I hope that you and your child are looking forward to the big step into full time schooling. This is an exciting and perhaps anxious time but we know that our high quality 'early years' education will be a great start for your child.

Farsley Farfield Primary School is a very good school with strong educational standards, a high level of care, a super learning environment, committed and talented staff and fantastic children. In April 2018 our 'Good' status was re-affirmed by OFSTED and feedback from parents and children is very positive.

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 and independence. Our children gain literacy and numeracy skills upon which to build in the infant classes and beyond.

We are proud of what we have to offer your family and we look forward to many years of partnership to come.

Peter Harris
Head teacher





School Times

Doors open at approx:	8.50am
School begins:	9.00am
Register taken:	9.05am
Lunch time:	11.45am – 12.45pm
Afternoon Session:	12.45pm – 3.15pm

“Your curriculum offers a wide range of learning experiences for pupils and as a result is vibrant, rich and engaging.”

OFSTED 2018

Starting Dates

To help the children settle into school, we don't start all the children on the same day. You would typically get a start date with this booklet, but we await government guidance on arrangements for this September.





"My daughter's confidence has grown so much since joining Reception and we love the fact that she is so enthusiastic about learning."

Reception parent

Early, late or ill?

We aim for 100% attendance and the average is over 96%. Poor attendance or punctuality typically results in poor attainment.



The classroom door should be used to enter school. Although the infant school doesn't officially start until 9.00am, we try to open the doors from approximately 8.50am to allow parents to come in with their child and help them to settle. The doors are locked shortly after 9.05am for security reasons. If you are late, you should please use the main entrance and report to the office to make sure your child is registered. If you wish to collect your child early, you should ensure your child's teacher knows and use the main entrance when you arrive. **Please inform the teacher if someone else is collecting your child.**

Please let us know when your child is away ill by emailing or telephoning school by 9.00am. Our infant admin direct dial number is: 0113 2058133. If your child has an infectious illness you should contact school immediately. **If your child is actually sick, s/he must be kept off school for 48 hours. This is in line with Public Health guidelines. Failure to do so makes controlling outbreaks of illnesses more difficult.**

Holidays should not be taken in term time please unless there are exceptional circumstances. Holiday request forms are available on the website or from either office.

Parking and Road Safety

Families are encouraged to walk or scoot to school and scooter storage facilities are outside the classrooms. If you do need to drive to school, you **must not** park in the staff car park unless there is an agreement in place e.g. due to disability. There is some parking on the ground to the right of the school by the garages, on Westway and down Cotefields Avenue. Beware of residents-only parking - people do get tickets. **Farfield parents are also allowed to use the section of the Pudsey Civic car park nearest school for free at the start and end of the school.**

Always park considerately and please drive very slowly around school. Please don't park with your engine idling as this causes poor air quality.



Farfield's Learning Hive

The school's 'Learning Hive' provides the basis for our ethos, our assemblies and our behaviour systems.

These simple, repetitive messages are introduced in Reception and can be seen throughout school.

It is helpful if parents are aware of these broad aims and perhaps use similar language at home.

Before starting school

We would typically visit nursery settings or do home visits to help transition into school. You would also usually have the opportunity to accompany your child on visits to Reception in July. This year, sadly, is different and home visits will have to be remote Google Meet video chats where possible this summer, followed by visits to Reception in the first week of September. Subject to government guidance nearer the time, we expect to bring children into full time Reception classes in a phased start from the 2nd week of September.

Our uniform consists of a grey sweat top or cardigan with our hive logo, a white polo top, shirt or blouse, grey trousers, skirt/pinafore and red chequered summer dress. Embroidered tops are available from Whittakers uniform shop on Farsley Town Street. Your child will need a white T-shirt and black shorts for P.E.



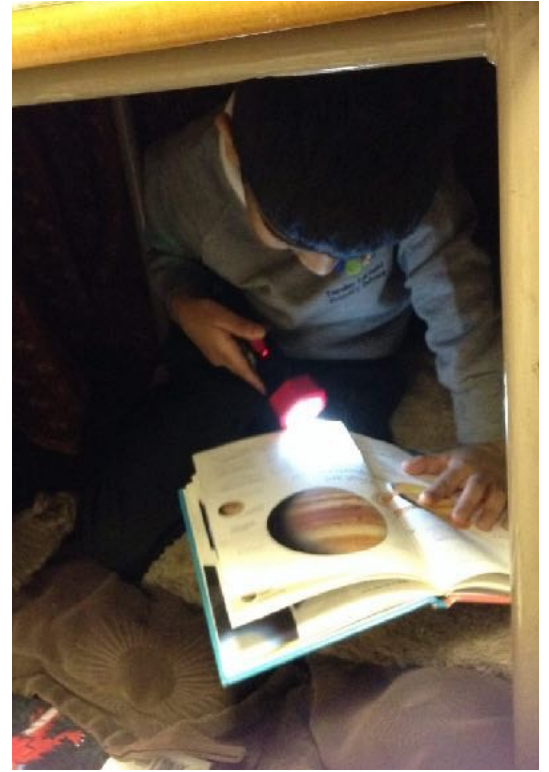
"We couldn't have hoped for a better teacher for our child's first year."

Parent of Reception child

Planning in the Moment

The curriculum in Reception builds upon that of the Nursery within the parameters of the Early Years Foundation Stage guidance. Over the past few years, we have moved away from more rigid curriculum planning in the early years towards an approach called 'Planning in the Moment' that skilfully builds upon children's interests and provides a brilliant engaging curriculum.

Children will take it in turns to be a 'focus child' for a week and families will be encouraged to help us to provide a curriculum that particularly addresses his or her interests and needs. Other children naturally join in with their peers' interests and ideas and our staff will skilfully develop learning from a wide range of starting points.



"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

A window into our world

"(My child) is enjoying school but is not very communicative (surprisingly!) regarding what he actually gets up to at school. The photos, emails, messages and web postings are great!"

We are very proud of our extensive class blogs, accessed by email link or from the front page of our school website: www.farsleyfarfield.org.uk

These blogs are generally updated at least weekly, and they provide parents with an up-to-date insight into the learning that the class has been engaged with. As your child moves through the school, the blogs provide a world-wide audience for their work and classes always appreciate comments from friends, parents and extended family. Please register your email address for regular alerts about blog updates.





“Just wanted to say thank you. My child has progressed incredibly during their first year and this wouldn't have occurred without having such fantastic support from Farsley Farfield. I honestly cannot fault the school in anyway. The support offered is second to none and you can clearly see the teachers and headmaster care for the children's well being and their futures: all in all an outstanding school.”

Parent comment

Outdoor Play

All Foundation Stage children have access to outdoor provision in all weathers! Please ensure your child has appropriate footwear/coat/sunhat/sun cream. We do have some wellies and waterproofs to share. We aim to make the best use of our fantastic school grounds and your child may sometimes come home with some of our mud!

In the main Reception play area we have naturalistic, sculptured tree trunks to climb in, on and around and a fabulous mud kitchen to play in. We also have access to other play areas such as our fort, sensory garden, tyre park, play equipment for upper body strength and the infant yard (for bike/trike/scooter fun). There is a conservation area with pond, a developing area called 'The Wild Side' and a wide variety of trees.

As well as the wonderful play spaces around the infant building, the children will have ample opportunity to visit our unique 'Farfield Farm' project, beginning with harvesting in the autumn term. There is also scope for den-making in the trees on the top field. Reception go on a number of trips, often using the school minibuses.



“Teaching in the school is consistently good, with some teaching being outstanding.”

Ofsted 2018



Special Needs

Farsley Farfield Primary School takes inclusion and children's special needs very seriously. Our school SENDCO is Mrs Lucy Swindlehurst.

If your child has special needs, a disability 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 Reception life as a whole. Our school has a mixed ethnic intake and a higher proportion of children with significant SEND than is typical. We regard the diversity of our school community as a real strength and asset.

"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."

Reception Parent

"...an inclusive school that celebrates learning and progress for all"

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Learning to Read

Learning to read is the most essential target for all our children and is a team responsibility: teachers, support staff and parents.

Children will engage in daily phonics sessions. These short, active, multi-sensory lessons will introduce all the letters and sounds needed for reading. We will let you know which sounds we are learning - please support this at home.

Your child will receive a reading book when they have settled into school and have been introduced to early aspects of reading. To help your child, you can read story books together talking about the pictures and pointing to the words as you read. Please keep all the reading materials provided by school together in the child's book bag.

We aim to listen to children read once a week and records of this, and their progress, are shared with parents in their reading records. Parents should add their own comments and return the record.

You will be provided with instructions for any reading and homework activities given to your child. We run a 'Reading Workshop' early in October to help parents support their child's reading and work with us to ensure that EVERY child succeeds.



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Profiles and 'Tapestry'

Each child will have their own individual profile: a record of their work, experiences, activities and progress during their time in Reception. Increasingly, this profile is held online through a system called 'Tapestry'. Parents are able to view and contribute to these secure online profiles from home. More details of this will be given as your child starts school.

Communication

We are very keen to work in partnership with parents. Each child will have a 'communication book' that will be sent home every week and will enable us to share any issues.

The informal start to the day is often a good time to pass on information, but longer chats are always welcome by appointment. Teachers can also be contacted by telephone before or after school and there is an answer phone service on the Reception classrooms' own dedicated line: 0113 2058137. Alternatively contact the teachers on the email addresses given on the back page of this booklet. Teachers will typically try to respond within two working days.

There are two planned Parents' Consultation Evenings per year, usually in October and February/March. **If you have any concerns, however, please contact us as soon as possible - don't wait for Parents' Evening!**



Food and Drink

We strongly recommend that children eat school meals - especially now that they are free until your child is in Year 3! Our take-up of school meals is well above average.

Our school meals are nutritionally balanced and are prepared from scratch on site. Halal and vegetarian diets are catered for. Lunch is served as a 'family service' set meal: typically consisting of a hot main meal followed by a dessert. The vast majority of infant children take a school meal every day. At least one meal a week is meat-free for everyone.

Your child will be offered free fruit at school and most families choose to supplement this with additional fruit from home. Children can drink water at any time and have a bottle of milk in the middle of the morning session. School milk can be paid for yearly or termly. It is subsidised but still currently costs £10.00 per term (unless you are entitled to it free as you are on certain benefits). If you do not want your child to have school milk, please let us know.

Even though school meals are free in Reception up to Y2, please do apply for 'Free School Meal' status as this brings funding into school and may be beneficial for your family in later years. Due to life-threatening allergies, please do not bring nuts into school.

"Absolutely love the school so far. Very happy with progress and the regular updates we receive. Thank you so much. "

Reception Parent



Winner
Healthy school of the year

Key Contacts



Infant telephone:
0113 2058133

Reception telephone:
0113 2058137



Sabrina Pinnock
Reception teacher



Emma Puddiphatt
Reception teacher



Peter Harris
Head teacher



Helen Dennison
Learning Support



Karen Longhorn
Learning Support



Diane Walton
Administrator



Rebecca Myers
Nursery Officer
PPA cover in Reception



Lucy Swindlehurst
SENDCO

All email addresses are:

forename.surname@farsleyfarfield.org.uk