



Welcome to Nursery at

James Knott C of E Primary School

Part of Northumberland Church of England Academy Trust

Parent/Carer Guide 2022/23



A message from Mrs Mullen - Headteacher

We are looking forward to welcoming your child to our Nursery class at James Knott C of E Primary School! Starting Nursery is an exciting time for children and we hope that they enjoy this step in their learning journey.

We are here to support you as parents/carers through this step too, so please don't hesitate to contact us with any questions or queries you may have.

In this booklet you will find some information and some reminders for the new school year. If you need any further information, please check our school website at www.jamesknott.ncea.org.uk or alternatively you can contact us by phone or email using the details below:

Email: adminjk@jamesknott.ncea.org.uk

Telephone: 01670 813219

Meet the staff



Mrs Balme - Teacher

Mrs Jobling - Teaching Assistant



The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)

We are part of the *Early Years Foundation Stage*, which the children begin in Nursery and finish at the end of Reception.

Our learning is made up of seven areas of learning within the Development Matters curriculum:

- Personal, social and emotional development
- Communication and language
- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the world
- Physical development
- Expressive arts and design



Outdoors

- We spend a lot of our time in the outdoors, which is a great place to learn and explore!
- Children need to bring a coat to school every day, even if the sun is shining.
- School shoes need to be appropriate for all weathers.
- We have some spare wellies in school but if a pair of your child's wellies could stay in school, this would help (please put their name inside).
- In hotter months, please apply sun-cream to your child before school and send them in with a sun hat.
- Please name all jumpers and cardigans as they all look the same.



Supporting your child's transition

Prior to your child starting Nursery, it would be a big help to your child if you could support them in the following:



- Putting on their coat



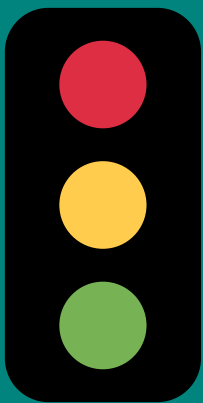
- Putting on socks and shoes



- Support your child to use the toilet on their own and to wipe their own bottom and wash their hands afterwards.

It would be good if children were toilet trained before they start Nursery. Your health visitor can support with this.

Behaviour



Coming to school is part of learning how to get on with others. Nursery staff appreciate that new children will need time to adjust to new rules and expectations and will always use positive encouragement and praise to support children with their behaviour.

We use 'Good to be Green' and teach the children 'Good sitting', 'Good Listening' etc. We talk to them about making the right choice.

There are times when your child may be given time out to think about their behaviour.

A 'Learner of the Week' is selected each week to celebrate achievements.

Uniform

All children are expected to wear school uniform. Children should wear:

- White polo shirt
- Black trousers or skirt
- Jade green sweatshirt or cardigan
- Black shoes (not trainers)
- In the summer, green/jade checked dresses are also available
- Your child will also need a book bag



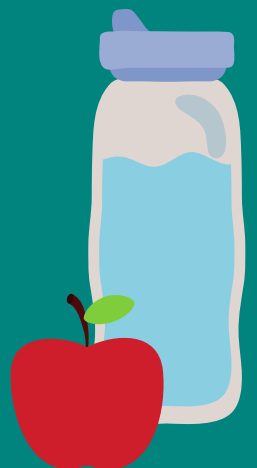
Nursery can be a creative and therefore a very messy place! We do insist that the children wear aprons whilst painting but they may get glue or pen on themselves.

Jewellery is not allowed to be worn for school.

Uniform can be ordered online from www.michaelsehgal.co.uk and can be delivered to your home address or school. For more information, visit our school website.

Water, Milk and Snacks

- Children will be offered a healthy snack at school. There is also the option for your child to have milk.
- Children should bring a named bottle of fresh water with them to school every day, especially when the weather is warm (no juice or pop).
- Please let Nursery or office staff know if your child has any allergies or special dietary requirements.



Parent/Carer Hub

To help make sure that you can get quick and easy access to all of the information you need about your child's school, as and when you need it, we've created the Parent/Carer Hub - a dedicated area on our school website where you can find:

- Term dates
- Menus and information about Free School Meals
- Uniform supplier details
- Copies of letters and newsletters
- Useful links and app login details
- Homework timetables
- e-Safety information

The Parent/Carer Hub is updated regularly and will become a valuable tool for you to find all of the most up to date information as your child progresses through our school. Find the hub at www.jamesknott.ncea.org.uk.

Social Media



James Knott C of E Primary School is on Twitter.

You can find and follow us at [@JamesKnott_NCEA](https://twitter.com/JamesKnott_NCEA)

School Meals

Children who attend Nursery who qualify for the government funded 30-hour childcare provision are entitled to a free school meal while they are at Nursery.

All other children who attend Nursery can choose to either bring a packed lunch into school with them from home, or parents/carers can pay for their child to receive a hot lunch.



Speaking and Listening

Speaking and listening are at the heart of children's learning. Children need to be confident speakers and active listeners in order to learn about the world they live in.

Conversation with parents has been found to be one of the most important factors influencing children's achievement.

From the very earliest stages parents are teaching their children to communicate, through playing, chatting, singing, commenting and questioning. Parents are modelling speaking all of the time.

Here are some ways to develop your child's speaking skills:

- Talk to your child face to face, explaining what you are doing, what will happen next, why you are doing certain things.
- Encourage your child to talk about what they are doing and explain why they are doing things.
- Take turns in conversations with them and encourage them to listen to your contribution. 'My turn.....your turn.....'
- Show them how to listen by looking at the person who is speaking – good eye contact is vital.
- Take time to answer your child's questions, model being a good listener!
- Ask them questions; get them to ask you questions.
- Limit dummy use to bedtime only, as this will restrict speech development.
- Limit screen time e.g. tablets, phones, television.
- Read a bedtime story every day and share the pictures.

And finally, please do not hesitate to speak to a member of staff if you have any questions or concerns, we are here to support in any way possible.



Tapestry

- We use an online app called 'Tapestry' to share your child's Learning Journey with you.
- We need an email address to set up your Tapestry account. Please let us know if you are experiencing any difficulty accessing Tapestry at home.
- Observations can be seen of your child in school to see what they are learning.
- You can upload photos/videos to your child's Tapestry account which is really useful for us to see what they are interested in and what they have been doing at home.
- We often communicate other information on Tapestry with things that might be happening in school so please check it regularly.



Arbor Parent Portal

In addition to Tapestry, at James Knott C of E Primary School, we use an application called 'Arbor' to manage all of our pupil data.

The Arbor Parent Portal allows parents and carers to register their child for a club or trip, book parents evening slots, and manage payments all from their phone or computer. We often use Arbor to send out key information and updates from the school.

To find out more and sign up for a free account, visit the Parent/Carer Portal on our school website: www.jamesknott.ncea.org.uk.



Checklist

- ✓ Please put your child's name in everything!
 - ✓ Read to your child as often as possible - we need to work together.
 - ✓ Please arrive promptly for your child's session time.
Morning session: 8.30am - 11.30am
Afternoon session: 12pm - 3pm
- 30 hour provision:** 8.30am - 3pm (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday)
and 8.30am - 12.30pm (Wednesdays)
- ✓ Regular attendance is really important. If your child is poorly or will not be attending Nursery for any reason, please telephone the school office to let us know.
 - ✓ Please help them learn to be independent, washing hands, dressing for school, fastening zips and shoes.

If you have any questions or concerns about your child starting Nursery, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us!

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