



Welcome to Nursery at

# Thomas Bewick C of E Primary School

Part of Northumberland Church of England Academy Trust

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**Parent/Carer Guide 2024/25**



## A message from Miss Hodson - Headteacher

We are looking forward to welcoming your child to our Nursery classes at Thomas Bewick C of E Primary School. In this booklet, you will find some information and some reminders for the new school year.

We hope your child is excited about starting in our Nursery classes and we will help them to settle and be happy in school. If you would like to look at our website ([www.thomasbewick.ncea.org.uk](http://www.thomasbewick.ncea.org.uk)), you will be able to read about our ethos and our school.

At Nursery, we recognise that parents are the first teachers of their child, and know them best. The information below is given so that we can work together to help support and encourage your child, so they can make the best start possible to their education and to their life-long learning.

Please contact us by phone or email if you have any further questions.

[admintb@thomasbewick.ncea.org.uk](mailto:admintb@thomasbewick.ncea.org.uk)  
01670 812075

# Clothing

As part of our Curriculum we go outside every day in all weathers to learn. Please make sure your child is adequately prepared with a waterproof coat that has a hood.

At times, children may get muddy/messy even though we provide aprons etc. for messy play (it is fine for them to wear, for example, an Asda purple jumper instead of school emblem one).

All items of your child's clothing must have their name in to avoid mix ups. Children will not need a P.E. kit in Nursery.

Children will need a water bottle brought daily with their name on it. Please fill with water ONLY.

It would be helpful if you could put a spare change of clothes in a bag on your child's peg. We will put any dirty clothes in a plastic bag on your child's peg.

# Attendance

If your child is absent from Nursery please ring the school office on 01670 812075 on the day to let us know, this will prevent your child from being marked as an unauthorised absence. Any sickness or diarrhoea must be followed by 48 hours absence.

If your child has any medical needs, allergies, or any special needs, please inform us and a medical form can be completed with you.



## Collecting from Nursery

You will be asked on your visit to school which family members will be collecting your child from Nursery. If it is someone else, please inform us in advance. Otherwise, we are unable to let your child go with someone we do not recognise, for your child's safety.

**Top Tip:** Make sure the school and nursery have up to date contact phone numbers, especially mobile numbers, in case we need to contact you in an emergency.

## Some "Please do not's..."



- No mobile phones are allowed in Nursery



- No smoking is allowed



- No dogs are allowed on school grounds, unless assistance dogs (this includes the school yards and anywhere within the school gates)



- No bikes/scooters are allowed to be left outside of the Nursery entrance way as staff cannot be held responsible for bikes/scooters left here and going missing. The entrance way is used for teaching groups of children so we cannot use it to store them. Bikes or scooters must be taken home or placed in the bike shelter.

## Top Tips



Please arrive on time for the session (8.30am or 12.30pm). We start with an activity or story that is linked to our learning. Your child may not be able to make as much progress if he/she is late. Doors will remain open for 10 minutes, if you arrive after this time you will need to sign in at the main reception.



Similarly, aim to arrive in plenty of time to collect your child at the end of a session, a few minutes late can seem like an eternity to a child.



We try to open doors from 11.25am and 3.25pm - activities permitting, so that not all parents are collecting at the same time.



If you would like to talk to the Nursery staff at collection time please wait until all of the children have been collected safely.



**Please check information, updates and notices on Tapestry.**

# 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



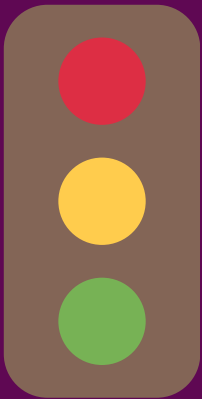
- Putting on socks and shoes



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

It would be very much appreciated if your child was toilet trained before they start Nursery. Your health visitor can support with this.

## Behaviour



Coming to Nursery 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.

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.

# 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 'Tapestry' to share your child's Learning Journeys online.
- You have a username and password to access this and download the app.
- Observations can be seen of your child in school.
- You can send photos/videos and information which will be added to their online journey.
- We often communicate other information on here with things that might be happening in school so you can check it regularly.

