

Jericho Primary School

Nursery Introduction 2023-2024



**a smile is always
returned..**



Head teacher's Welcome



Dear Parent /Carers

I wish to extend a warm welcome to you and your child.

Jericho Primary School and Nursery is a caring community where everyone is dedicated to providing the very best for each child entrusted to our care. Each child is a valued member of the school community and is encouraged to develop in all areas. We enjoy a warm, welcoming, family atmosphere in our school and it is this distinctive ethos in which the children can flourish as they develop their skills, knowledge and confidence. Jericho is growing from strength to strength. We are very proud of our community and recognise the very high standards and expectations shared by staff, pupils, parents and governors alike.

The success of our school is a result, not only of the personal commitment of staff, but the excellent cooperation we enjoy amongst staff, parents and children.

The aim of this introduction booklet is to provide information regarding the key aspects of Nursery Education.

I look forward to getting to know you and your child.

Mr James Blackwell



Welcome



A warm welcome to

Jericho Nursery

The staff and governors would like to take the opportunity to welcome you and your family to the Nursery of Jericho Primary School.

The Nursery is the first year of the Early Years Foundation Stage of your child's education.

Jericho Nursery aims to provide a happy, secure, friendly and stimulating environment, where children learn and have fun together, supported by a team of enthusiastic and professional staff.

As parents, you are your child's first educators. Your child will arrive at nursery as an experienced learner, bringing from home a great deal of knowledge about themselves and their world. We hope to be able to work in partnership with you to build on, and extend your child's developing interests, skills and experiences.

Please read over this introduction booklet carefully, and do not hesitate to contact us if you have any queries.

We look forward to working closely with you this year.

Mrs Allyson Quayle

Head of Early Years



Jericho Nursery



Jericho strives to be a family community. When joining our school community you are entering into an exciting future with us. We have a clear mission and vision for where we want to head to along with a collection of core values that underpin all that we do.

Our Mission at Jericho School is to:

Inspire, nurture and grow the hearts and minds of children today to build the communities of tomorrow.

In our vision of excellence for all we:

- Know all our children well,
- Nurture and grow children who are caring, respectful and unique,
- Provide a challenging, creative and adventurous curriculum,
- Are global citizens who reflect, seek out and embrace the world around us,
- Develop an innovative team who keep one step ahead in an ever-changing world.

Our Values:

- Achievement – going the extra mile so that we can be the best we can be.
- Nurture and Respect – a community where everyone values, supports and invests in each other.
- Adventure - challenging one another to enquire and pursue real excellence.
- Creativity - the ability to dream, take chances, and create the things we imagine.



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About Us



From September 2020 we opened our doors to Nursery children and welcomed them into our Early Years hub. Our Early Years setting offers high quality learning experiences for children between the ages of three and four years. It currently provides a mixture of part-time and full-time places for nursery age children and full-time education for reception aged children. It is the perfect setting to prepare children for life in primary school. All our children will learn alongside each other with Nursery and Reception children sharing resources as well as staff.



At Jericho, we will seek to develop each child's potential in all spheres of nursery education. The Nursery programme offers a wide range of pre-school learning experiences in structured play, language development, art and pre-writing skills, social interaction activities and imaginative play. At Jericho we pay particular attention to promoting a love of reading. Books are shared on a daily basis. The children are provided with a mid-morning snack. It is fully equipped for indoor, outdoor and table-top activities. Our outdoor play area and playground offer a range of activities for outdoor play which the children participate in on a daily basis as well as a large area for horticultural and gardening activities.

Our Early Years Team

We have a wonderful, enthusiastic, highly trained and caring team of staff who teach and support our children.



Mrs Allyson Quayle
EYFS Lead



Mrs Tabitha Barlow
Reception teacher



Mrs Clare Hayes
Nursery Teacher



Mrs Laura Ball
Assistant headteacher and
SENCo



Miss Lisa Borrowdale
Nursery Teacher

Nursery Hours

Our session times will be:

Morning Session: 9am - 12.00 pm

Afternoon Session: 12:00pm - 3:00pm

We admit children who:

- Are entitled to 15 hours free provision
- Are entitled to 30 hours free provision or
- those who wish to pay for sessions or additional sessions.

All 3/4 year olds are eligible for either 15 hours or 30 hours free nursery provision for the term after their third birthday.

For those entitled to 15 hour provision we can offer 5 morning sessions.

For those entitled to 30 hour provision we can offer 10 sessions (full time) across the week.

Parents can top up their 15 hour entitlement with paid afternoon sessions. Our current session rate will be £10.00 per session.

Wrap around care

We also provide a very popular breakfast and after school club for children. Parents are able to drop their child off at breakfast club from 7:30am and can pick their child up anytime after school up until 5.30pm. Costs apply for this. Currently breakfast club is £3.50 and after-school club is £6.00. Parents can book children in for regular sessions or use the wrap -a-round care on an ad-hoc basis. Bookings are made in advance through our online app.

In our wrap around care, children are provided with food and we have a wide range of fun activities for them to do and complete with their friends. Please note that we cannot offer free entitlement before or after school hours.



School meals can be provided in school for those children attending. Lunch time will be a part of our morning session as a family table lunch where we learn about manners and using cutlery independently. Lunch is provided by our own school cooks. Menus are sent out termly and are on our website. Currently the cost is £2.50 per day (£12.50 per week) We ensure that we provide enticing, familiar and healthy meals for the children and we can also cater for any dietary requirements that your child may have. Just speak to a member of staff in the office.

If your child prefers a packed lunch that is fine too- but please let the office know. However, we would be grateful if you don't send sweets, fizzy drinks or too much chocolate as we are keen to promote healthy lifestyles for our children. Please do not include anything containing nuts or kiwi either as we often have children with allergies in school.

Settling-In



Before your child can settle into the routine of Nursery life, she/he has to confront two obstacles. The first obstacle is leaving you, and the second obstacle is facing a whole new environment full of other children and adults. It helps to talk about Nursery in a positive manner and to keep reminding your child about the fun activities that will be on offer in Nursery and all the new friends that they will make.

Our objective is to make the transition from home to school as easy as possible. When your child has been offered a place we will quickly make contact with you to welcome you to the Jericho community. We will set you up on our home school app that lets us communicate with you quickly and easily. We will arrange to meet with you and your child at home if possible. We will invite you into school to take part in a stay and play sessions before finally starting Nursery with your full or part-time hours.

We aim to make this settling-in time as easy as possible. The majority of children settle into nursery life very quickly. However, if your child finds this transition difficult we will be sensitive to his/her needs and work with you as a family to help them settle.

Becoming Part of the Jericho Family Our Nursery School Uniform

Become part of our family with our school uniform:

- Purple Nursery sweatshirt (with Jericho Logo)
- White polo shirt
- Black/Dark Grey jogging bottoms / dress or trousers/ leggings
- Black Trainers with velcro fastening (ideally)



Getting Ready To Start Nursery

Getting ready to start Nursery should be an exciting time!

We will always share helpful hints and tips on how to help your child in their learning journey. Here are our top tips on things to work towards before starting.

Things I can do on my own before starting Nursery:

- **Put my coat on and take it off.**
- **Put my shoes/trainers on the correct feet and fasten. (VELCRO fastening only. No sandals or laces)**
- **Know my full name and begin to recognise it.** When teaching your child to write or recognise their name, please start with a capital letter and continue with lower case letters, e.g. Paul / Amy.
- **Recognise everyday colours:** red, blue, yellow, green, orange, purple, pink, brown, white, black, grey, silver, gold. Colours are everywhere and the ability to identify them will greatly support your child's learning.
- **Use kind words and kind actions.** Encourage your child to share and take turns when playing. Use good manners such as saying please and thank you.
- **Use a fork and spoon.** Help your child to be able to feed themselves.
- **Go to the toilet, flush it afterwards, and wash my hands.** Make sure your child can manage at the toilet on their own and can ask clearly when they need to go.



Getting Your Child Ready For Nursery - Some Tips for Parents:

- Play with your child for 10 minutes a day this will help your child develop important skills such as turn taking, listening and sharing.
- Read to your child often. This will help them to develop their listening skills.
- Say/ sing nursery rhymes and encourage them to join in. Nursery rhymes are an important part of childhood and are fun to sing or say together. Learning rhymes is an important early step in understanding how language works and builds confidence for reading.
- Let your child get used to handling various materials such as paint, crayons and dough.
- Talk to your child about Nursery over the summer months- share positive experiences from your time at school or those of older brothers or sisters.
- Give your child opportunities to play with other children and to share their toys and space.
- Give your child opportunities to experience separation from you.
- Give them lots of opportunities to practise self-help skills such as going to the toilet, washing and drying their hands, using a tissue, putting on and taking off their shoes and taking off their coat. This will really help to build on their level of independence and improve their self-esteem.

The Nursery Curriculum



All our children in the Early Years follow daily activities which support them being confident in listening and attention, understanding and speaking. These skills are necessary to learn and have friends. They are also vital for reading and writing.

Every day our young children are encouraged to develop a love of books and reading through shared stories and having a range of quality texts freely available for them to choose.

We support the children's own readiness to be a reader by a daily diet of games, activities and structured programmes that support identifying sounds, rhyming, learning the letters of the alphabet and how to blend the sounds of the letters into words to read and write. Through children's learning through play and the new experiences we offer we introduce our children to a range of new words and vocabulary to support their conversation and writing. We will share information with you throughout your child's time in Reception, we will also put lots of ideas and guides on our website to help you with some learning at home.



In nursery we prepare for mathematics with counting and number recognition. We use numberblocks from the BBC to support children's concrete understanding of number.

We also focus on personal, social and emotional development, communication language and literacy and physical development as these are the foundation to enabling children to access the whole curriculum as they move through school.



HOW DO I FIND OUT HOW MY CHILD IS GETTING ON? We have an "open door" policy where parents are welcome to discuss their child, either informally – both before and after school, by telephone or by appointment. We strongly believe that co-operation between parents and school staff is vital in creating a secure, happy and caring environment essential for successful learning and development. We work to establish and maintain an ethos where children feel secure and will be listened to in an open positive atmosphere. We ensure the children know that they can approach any member of staff if they are worried or in difficulty. Please let us know if anything may have upset your child or altered their mood prior to coming to school, (they have fallen out with their brother/sister on the way to school, their pet has died, they had a late/restless night) however small it may seem! There will be an opportunity to meet with your child's class teacher each term. These meetings will be held at different times throughout the year to enable as many parents as possible to attend. Details will be available nearer the time. At the end of the academic year you will receive a written report detailing your child's progress.



Pastoral Care, Child Protection and Safe Guarding

We keep all our children safe. This is our number one priority. Safeguarding is the action we take to promote the welfare of our children and protect them from harm. Safeguarding is about ensuring that everyone is safe from harm – safe from bullying, safe from people who could abuse, safe from discrimination or harassment – and that we all feel safe in our environment. It is everybody's responsibility. Everyone who comes into contact with children and families has a role to play. Safeguarding covers a broad agenda and aims to achieve the following:

Prevention: positive school atmosphere, teaching and pastoral support to pupils.

Protection : by following agreed procedures, ensuring staff are trained and supported to respond appropriately and sensitively to Child Protection concerns.

Support : ensuring children are growing up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care and taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes.

Mrs Penny Leck is the first designated teacher for Safeguarding/Child Protection and Mr James Blackwell and Mrs Laura Ball are the second designated teachers for Safeguarding/Child Protection. There is also a named school Governor with responsibility for Safeguarding. We are all here to help look after you and your family throughout your time at Jericho.

BEHAVIOUR POLICY

We believe that good behaviour and discipline within our school are essential if children are to learn and teachers teach effectively. As staff we work hard to create a supportive and calm school environment in which the rights and responsibilities of everyone within the school community are understood, valued and upheld. The Behaviour Policy applies to everyone within the school community; pupils, staff, governors, parents, carers and visitors.



- At Jericho we aim to:
- Create a welcoming and co-operative school community in which relationships are based upon mutual support, respect and trust and where everyone feels valued;
- Foster children's self-esteem and confidence through encouragement and positive feedback, to enable them to become increasingly independent as learners;
- Provide a secure and enriching environment where learning can take place with enjoyment;
- Provide opportunities that encourage the children to work co-operatively together;
- Develop the children's awareness and sensitivity towards living things and the world in which we live.
- To provide a consistent and fair approach to behaviour, which is adhered to by the whole school community.
- To ensure adults act as appropriate role models.

Our approach to behaviour and discipline in school is built on four fundamental beliefs. This is that everyone in our School has:

- The right to be respected by others;
- The right to learn and to teach;
- The right to feel safe;
- The right to be heard
- The right to be happy.

We believe these rights are most likely to be achieved when there are clear rules and people understand their responsibilities.

The full Behaviour Policy is available on the school website www.jericho.cumbria.sch.uk

Parental Involvement



Nursery is an exciting and important experience for you and your child. During his/her year at nursery a variety of opportunities arise for staff and parents to share and celebrate each child's success and achievements.

Every morning and at the end of each day parents/carers will have the opportunity to speak to their child's teacher and they will have the opportunity to see their child interacting with their friends and maybe see some of their recent creations and displays. Staff may also take this opportunity to highlight a particular event that has occurred through the session.

We create an online Learning Journal for each child with photos, videos and observations summaries. You will be able to view this electronically and send in your own magic moments from home! We find this is a great way to ensure parents and school really work together as your child blossoms and grows in their learning and development.



Parents are invited to participate in a number of workshops during the year to show how they can support their child's learning at home. Parents will be invited to assist on trips. We also celebrate the story of the First Christmas and even get to visit Santa. Parents and grandparents can come and enjoy special experiences with their child. Diversity is embraced in school with opportunities for parents to visit for other celebrations such as for Diwali and Chinese New Year.

More formal Parent / Teacher Interviews are also held during the nursery year. This is an opportunity for staff and parents to engage in discussions concerning each child's development and progress through the nursery curriculum.

We also encourage parents to help if available by accompanying the children on trips, reading with their child, and helping out at any school events or coming in to help with a topic such as "People Who Help Us".

Our school has an active Friends of Jericho fund raising committee and parents of the children from the nursery are welcome to join this organisation to help at fund raising events throughout the year.



Jericho Primary School

Windsor Court, Whitehaven

CA28 6UX

01946 514545

www.jericho.cumbria.sch.uk

admin@jericho.cumbria.sch.uk



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