

About our Nursery

Farsley Farfield Primary School



2024-5



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. 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 super 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 2023 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 speaking and listening skills

Aims of our Nursery



**"Farsley Farfield Primary School is a vibrant and happy place to learn."
Ofsted 2023**



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 attending either the morning session, 8.45am-11.45am or the afternoon session, 12.30pm-3.30pm. There are also the options 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).

"[My child] has loved her year in nursery and the fact she is so excited to return to reception is everything. Thank you to the nursery team for giving her the best possible start to school."
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 afternoon 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. Pudsey Civic Car park is free for Farfield parents from 8.30-9.15 and 3.00-3.45.

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 £5.50 per hour (to be reviewed for 2024-5) for the additional time beyond the 15 hour or 30 hour entitlement. 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

We will email you a nursery blog every Friday with curriculum highlights from the week.

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

Nursery parent

“In early years, children develop respectful relationships and talk confidently with their peers and with adults. The early years curriculum supports children’s language and communication skills.”

Ofsted 2023





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 in Early Years is Mrs Tracie Powell. 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.

"The school provides exceptional support for pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND)."

OFSTED 2023





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: 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 (EYLog 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 safety and 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 vomiting and/or diarrhoea, at least 48 clear hours must elapse before returning to Nursery. Please email attendance@farsleyfarfield.org.uk 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 send a spare set of clothing in a bag to be kept at nursery 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 are 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 hall 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 £2.55 per day (subject to governor review for September). 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

Fruit and milk (inc soya or oat alternatives) are provided free of charge for the children to consume independently during each Nursery session. If you do not wish your child to drink milk, please let us know. We encourage children to bring an additional piece of fruit from home.

The Great Outdoors



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, 'upper body strength' playgrounds, 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 superb wooden play structure called 'The Rigs'. 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 and see the three little pigs (Muslim families may opt out of the latter).

We believe that fresh air, exercise, nature and adventure must be important parts of early years education. We were the national Healthy School of the Year 2017 and gained EYFS Healthy School accreditation in 2022.





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 Nursery blog - a window into our world! <https://www.farsleyfarfield.org.uk/category/nursery-news/>

Comments on the blog are very welcome, and we will email you a link when there is something new to view.

“Your dedication to nurturing our child's growth is truly remarkable.”

Parent 2024



Admission to Reception

The online application system for a place in Reception is run by Leeds City Council and is typically open from early November until early January for a place the following September.

Please put these deadlines in your diary - every year, some parents fail to do this and it causes HUGE distress and difficulty. <https://www.leeds.gov.uk/schools-and-education/school-admissions/apply-for-a-primary-school>

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.

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 and usually 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



Emma Tomlinson
Nursery Teacher
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Bex Myers
Nursery Officer
Assistant Learning Mentor
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Jill Spencer
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Lucy Swindlehurst
Special Needs and Disability
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Peter Harris
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Diane Walton
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Farsley Farfield Primary School

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