

St Aidan's RC Primary School



Nursery Parents' Information Booklet 2021

Welcome to St Aidan's RC Primary School

You and your child are setting out on a new, exciting and what may seem a slightly daunting journey as you allow us to become part of your child's life.

There will be many new things to learn for us all as we get to know each other and respond to your child's developing needs, this journey is a partnership, as parents and carers, you are your child's first and most important educators, we are here to support you as much as your child in this new stage of development.

Hopefully this booklet will help make the transition from home to nursery a positive, happy and memorable experience.





Our Mission

In the love and truth of Jesus we grow.



Our mission statement runs through everything we do at St Aidan's RC Primary School, we are committed to ensuring all children achieve their full potential in all that they do. Our aim is to provide a happy, stimulating environment where children feel safe and secure enough to lead their own learning, confidently take risks and respond to challenges as they explore, investigate and learn.

We constantly review our provision in response to the changing needs of our children, parents and the wider community whilst maintaining our family ethos and equipping our children for the future.

General Information:

Our contact details are:

St Aidan's RC Primary School
Moorhouse Lane
Ashington
Northumberland
NE639LR

Telephone: 01670813308

Email: Admin@st-aidans.northumberland.sch.uk

School Website: www.st-aidans.northumberland.sch.uk

Acting Head Teacher: Mr M Moran

Acting Deputy Head Teacher: Mrs J Teer

Chair of Governors: Miss A Howe



If you need access to the school during the school day, please ring the bell on the front door and a member of staff will be pleased to assist you.



Parents as Partners:

As your child begins nursery it is vital that we work together to ensure a smooth, relaxed and happy transition in order to develop your child's growing confidence and eagerness to learn.

Before Your Child's Start Date: (or for your child's first day)



Please complete the 'All About Me' booklet enclosed in your pack, tell us anything and everything about your child.

Complete the office pack and the Tapestry form.

Let school know of any allergies, illness, special needs etc. If you have any further concerns regarding your child (e.g. any additional needs) please do not hesitate to contact school, so that we can ensure a smooth transition.

From Your Start Date Onwards:

- Make sure you talk to nursery staff whenever you have anything you feel they need to know about your child, if you aren't dropping off or collecting your child from nursery please feel free to send a little note or to phone school to leave a message, remember things which may appear insignificant to us as adults can be major incidents in a three year olds life!
- **Tapestry:** an online learning journal where parents and teachers can share pictures, videos and news about your child.
- **Learning Journals:** a book which will travel from nursery to home containing activities, photographs and snippets recording your child's development.
- **Activity Days:** will take place throughout the year giving you opportunities to join your child in nursery to see what we get up to!
- **Educational Visits:** we have visits out and about at times and ask you to please join us!



There is a regular newsletter sent out and you can access the school website as well as receive information via parent mail. You are invited to the weekly whole school collective worship whenever you are free to join the wider school community and there is a termly Mass to which you are all welcome.

How to help prepare your child for nursery:

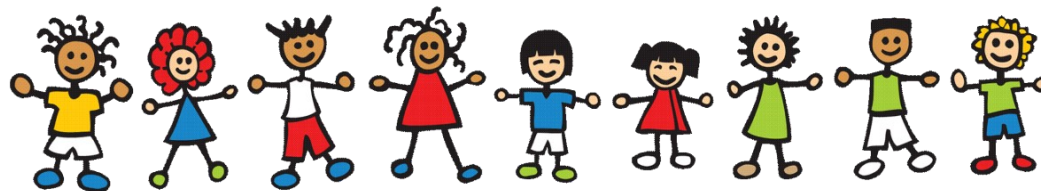
Independence is an important skill to have when starting nursery.

Can your child...

- Put on his/her coat?
- Hang his/her coat on a peg?
- Use the toilet?
- Tidy up after him/herself?
- Share toys and equipment?
- Listen well and follow simple instructions?
- Understand the meaning of 'no'? Say 'please' and 'thank you'?

Although it will inevitably take longer to get ready; encouraging your child to do things for him/herself is very important. Help your child to be in the right frame of mind for nursery by setting a good early bed-time routine which includes a story time and a chance to talk about the days events.

Never threaten your child with nursery or nursery staff, always be positive about nursery.



What is nursery all about?

Nursery is all about playing, having fun, exploring, experimenting, getting dirty, making friends, making mistakes, trying things out and asking lots of questions!

This is how we learn, through practical experiences, with experienced teachers who build upon all these lovely experiences to extend our learning and help us make sense of the world in order that we are ready for the more formal stages of our education in the future.



Ways to help your child along the learning journey:

- Allow your child to make mistakes, to learn by trial and error.
- Take time to have discussions about what they see, hear and feel.
- Share story books.
- Count anything and everything! Look for numbers when you are out and about on buses, car number plates, door numbers etc.
- Help your child give meaning to the marks they make, this can be in the sand, mud, glitter, flour, salt, foam, with chalk, paint, pencils, pens and



crayons.

- Point out the signs around us help your child to make sense of them all both pictorial and written signs.
- Have fun!!!

Nursery Sessions

We are so excited to be able to now offer the 30 hours entitlement. Should you wish to use your 30 hours entitlement please feel free to discuss this with the office staff who will guide you in checking eligibility. In September 2021 everyone will access the morning session and those taking up the 30 hours entitlement will continue for lunch and access the afternoon session which will provide opportunities of a wider curriculum.



The morning session lasts for three hours. It is very important that the session start is punctual so **please be as prompt as possible** at both the beginning and end of the session.

Morning session: 8.30am-11.30am

Afternoon session: 12.15pm-3.15pm

On your child's first day ONLY we will ask that they start the session half an hour later (ie 9.00am) so that they avoid the hustle and bustle of the cloakroom on their first day and staff are more able to help!

No two nursery sessions are the same, as we respond to the needs of the children on a day to basis. The session will always start with dough disco, registration, collective worship and a circle time where we work in smaller groups and focus on learning new skills such as counting to 10 etc. The children will then spend the majority of the session in free flow play between the indoor and outdoor learning environments, engaging with carefully planned activities.



- The majority of children do choose to wear our school uniform however this is not compulsory. Please ensure all jumpers/ cardigans are clearly named. All children will need a pair of named wellies and a suitable coat.



Nursery Lunch:

For those children accessing the 30 hour provision you will need to bring a packed lunch or order one from our school kitchen. These can be pre ordered online by you at home or through School Grid at registration time.



Look out for our Instagram account:
[instagram.com/staidansashington](https://www.instagram.com/staidansashington)

For visual updates on our creative curriculum.