



**Aston Lodge
Primary School**

Show Pride • Reach for the Stars

Welcome to Foundation Stage 1



Aston Lodge Primary School

Lodge Lane
Aston
Sheffield
S26 2BL



0114 2872432

Executive Head

Ms D Humphries

Head of School

Mrs L Stones

Nursery Teacher

Mrs R Nurse

Teaching Assistants

Mrs N Wilkinson (Every morning & lunchtimes)

Mrs J Moore (All Day)

Nursery Sessions

Morning: 8.50am - 11.50am

Afternoon: 11.50am - 2.50pm

All day: 8.50am - 2.50pm

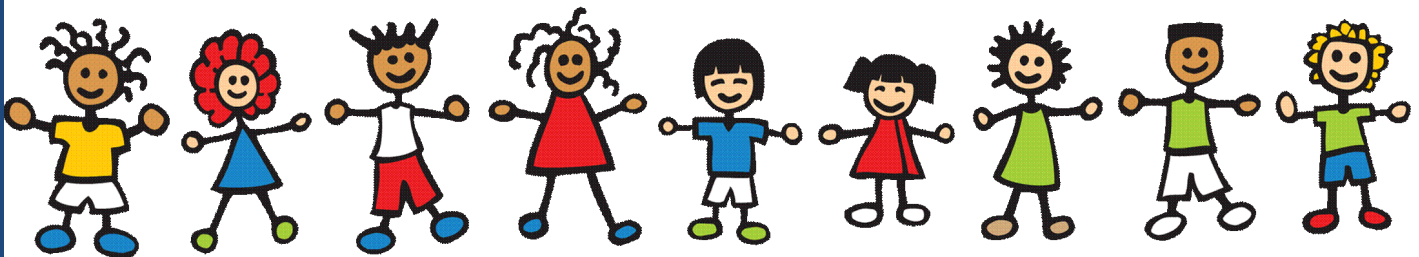
About Foundation Stage 1 (Nursery)

Foundation Stage 1 is the foundation to children's learning. They learn the basic skills in all areas which will be built on and developed in Foundation Stage 2 (Reception). Foundation Stage 1 is an important part in your child's education as it is the basis of all learning that will take place as your child progresses through school.

In Foundation Stage 1, the children mainly work within three 'Prime areas' of learning which are Personal, Social and Emotional Development, Physical Development and Communication and Language. These are very important areas of learning. Children need good development in these areas to help them progress in the other areas of development, called 'Specific areas'. The 'specific areas' are Mathematics, Literacy, Expressive Arts and Design and Understanding the World. These are always catered for through the continuous provision in nursery so the children will be working within these areas but more of a focus on these areas comes as they move through the Foundation Stage.

The children will be able to explore and develop their skills through a selection of structured play activities and child initiated activities but will also be expected to work in small focus groups led by an adult. We also encourage confidence and independence in the Foundation Stage, expecting the children to follow rules and routines and be independent in self care.

We also spend time with the Foundation Stage 2 children and members of staff as we work as a whole team. We regularly join together for singing and other activities and events.



Admissions



Your child will be offered a place at Nursery the term after their 3rd birthday. They will be entitled to 15 hours free nursery provision per week, which is

5, 3 hour sessions. Some children will be entitled to 30 hours provision. This is based on a means-tested basis. Please ask for further information on this. If you are not entitled to 30 hours provision but would like more than 15 hours, you have the option to pay for extra sessions throughout the week (subject to availability).

Extra sessions are £10.

We would recommend that you keep some continuity in the days when you send your children to Nursery, for example, I would recommend that they attend at least every morning or afternoon to allow them to settle into routines better and build up positive, more confident relationships with children and adults in the setting.

It would be appreciated if you could contact school when your child is absent, informing us of the reason for absence. If a child is absent for a long unexplained period of time, then that place may be re-allocated to another child on our waiting list.

Please could you let us know if someone different will be collecting your child from nursery.

Access to the Nursery

Our Nursery is very secure. There is a buzzer on the front gate if you wish to enter and it is closed. We can then electronically let you in by unlocking the gate from the inside. The Nursery door is always locked but a member of staff is always on hand to let you in and out of the building.

There is a secure scooter/bike park next to nursery where the children can park up if required.

Toilets

We do ask that children be toilet trained when they start Nursery. However, we do recognise that this isn't always possible and we do have changing facilities, especially as we know that accidents do happen! However, if you feel that your child won't be toilet trained, please speak to a member of staff and discuss your child's needs further.

What your child will need for Nursery



- A bag clearly marked with your child's name on - containing a set of spare clothes and some baby wipes. This can be left in Nursery.
 - A pair of wellies (During appropriate times)
- Sensible outdoor shoes (the children use climbing equipment and bikes on a daily basis).
- Please don't send your child in their 'best' clothes as we do have messy activities and do lots outdoors!
- In the summer could you please ensure your child has a sun hat and has sun cream on. In winter they will need warm, waterproof clothing.



Nursery Uniform

The children wear the same uniform as the rest of the school.

- A pale blue polo shirt
- Grey/Navy/Black trousers, skirts or pinafore dresses
 - Blue gingham summer dresses
- Navy School jumper or cardigan with school badge
 - Comfortable, suitable footwear

Uniform can be purchased from Pinders or Crystal Peaks Market.

Book Bags

Book bags can be purchased from Pinders or Crystal Peaks Market along with the uniform. Please check your child's book bag daily as we may put letters and party invitations in there. Your child should bring their book bag to Nursery everyday. They need to bring their book bag into Nursery and put it in their drawer. In your child's book bag you will find a home-school communication book. This book is there to write any concerns or questions you might have if you are not able to speak directly to a member of staff.

Nursery Library

We have a library area near the entrance in Nursery. Please feel free to borrow books whenever you would like. Please sign them out on the clipboard provided. This is to help encourage your children to have a love for reading



and to want to borrow different books to the ones they may already have at home.

Learning Journeys

Whilst your child is in our Nursery, staff will carry out observations of your child and record them in a Learning Journey. This will show the progression that your child has made in different areas of the curriculum over their time in Nursery and help staff to plan for the next stage in your child's development. You can have access to this document whenever you like and I would encourage you to come and have a look every few weeks or so to see what your child has been doing in Nursery. Your child will take home their Learning journey when they leave to move into school.



We encourage parents to contribute to the Learning Journeys and we ask that you send in photographs (annotated on the back) sharing achievements of the children, fun days out you have had, birthdays, Christmas, other special occasions etc. This then becomes a shared document that really does track the progress and development of your child's time in Nursery. Your contributions are just as important as ours!

Snack

Children have access to a snack area throughout the day. There is always a choice of milk, fruit and water. We may have wraps, brioche, bagels, muffins, waffles, pancakes and other finger foods and occasionally if it is someone's birthday, we may share a treat they have brought in. Your child will be encouraged to select their name from the snack area when they have their snack. (This is to encourage name recognition).



Could you please inform staff of any allergies and medications your child may have.



Please can we ask parents to contribute just 10p per session to help towards the cost of providing the children with this varied range of snacks? It is also used to buy food on special theme days and other occasions. This can be paid weekly or termly. More details of this will be sent home once your child starts. Thank you.

Arriving at Nursery



Morning sessions

As the children arrive at Nursery we have a 'self-registration' system. The children will come in and find their name and place it on a cup for water or a carton of milk. This is to indicate which they will be having for their snack and also informs us who has arrived.

The children will then be encouraged to sit and write their name. We understand that for many this will just be a 'scribble' but as the weeks and months go on you will start to see some progress. All of these 'jobs' are there to help the children to recognise their name.

We would encourage you to stay with your child to complete their 'jobs' at the beginning of the session and settle them into an activity before you leave. However, we understand that this is not always possible and the staff will be there to help those children.

Afternoon sessions

As the start of our afternoon session includes children leaving, our routine is slightly different. As the children arrive at nursery, they will need to find their name and put it on their preferred drink and then go and have their lunch. The nursery staff will ensure that the children do their self-registration jobs after the register.



Key Workers

'A key person has special responsibilities for working with a small number of children, giving them the reassurance to feel safe and cared for and building relationships with their parents.'

(The Early Years Foundation Stage 2007)

Your child's 'Key Worker' will be allocated when they start Nursery and a letter will come home in your child's book bag. Your child's Key worker will be observe your child on a regular basis and put together their Learning Journey. However, we are all there for you to discuss concerns with or share achievements so if your child's key worker is not available and you wish to discuss something, please feel you can talk to any member of staff as we work as part of a team.

Ultimately, I (Mrs Nurse) am responsible for your child and their learning so please let me know if there is anything in particular you wish to discuss and we can find time to do so.

Home-Nursery Soft Toy

In Nursery the children have a cuddly lion called 'Percy Pride'.

Once the children are settled the toy will go home with a different child each day/weekend/school holiday.

The toy comes along with his diary for you to record what he has been up to!

This project is to help develop the children's speaking and listening skills as they feedback to the rest of Nursery what they have been up to.



Parents evening

Parent's evenings will take place during the Autumn and Spring terms. If you feel that you need to discuss any problems or issues at any other time throughout the year, please arrange an appointment and this can be arranged.

Joining with Foundation Stage 2

Once the children are settled, we will meet up with the children in Reception for different activities such as: using the smart board, singing, parachute games, etc. We find that this helps with transition as most of the children from our Nursery will attend Aston Lodge School the following year.

Transition to School

Although the Nursery has regular contact with the school and the Reception class the children who will be admitted to Aston Lodge Primary School will have many visits into the classroom during the last half term of Nursery. This will give them time to experience at first hand school routines and an awareness of a class working environment.



Children who will transfer to other schools in the area will be notified by those schools concerning their school visits and other information you may need.

We hope both you and your child will enjoy the experience that Nursery offers, and that your child will be very happy during their time with us!

