

# Navigation Primary School



## *The Early Years Foundation Stage*



### **Welcome to Nursery General Information**

**2025 - 2026**

Nursery Staff:

Teachers- Mrs Longworth (0.5) Monday, Tuesday and alternative Wednesdays

Mrs Fleming (0.5) Thursday, Friday and alternative Wednesdays

Teaching Assistant – Mrs Marginson

Contact details: [nursery@navigationprimary.com](mailto:nursery@navigationprimary.com)

# Welcome

Welcome to our school. We hope you find this booklet helpful to answer some of your questions, and make starting school a happy event for you and your child. This will be one of the first biggest steps in your child's life, therefore we believe that a positive partnership between parents/carers and the nursery staff is fostered at this early stage in order to make your child's nursery education a happy and memorable time!

## Session Times

Morning group: 8.45am-11.45am

Afternoon group: 12.25pm-3.25pm

### Coming in

The nursery door is opened at 8.45am. In Nursery we encourage children to become independent as quickly as possible; therefore, we are keen for children to be encouraged to come into school 'on their own'. We find that this helps them to separate from parents and settle more quickly.

### Going home

At the end of a session nursery staff will ensure that each child is seen, one at a time, to their parent/carer within the nursery setting, therefore if someone different is collecting your child please inform a member of staff of the change.

## Clothing

### Uniform

Uniform is not statutory for this age however, children get involved in lots of 'messy' activities, and although protective clothing is worn, accidents do happen, therefore we have suggested a Nursery uniform;

- \* Navy school sweatshirt – with logo or plain
- \* White polo shirt.

Please ensure that your child's uniform is clearly named! We ask that you buy shoes with Velcro unless your child is able to tie their own laces. **Please ensure your child's name is clearly marked in both their clothing and shoes.**

### Spare Clothes

For your own child's comfort we ask that each child is provided with spare underwear and skirt or trousers in a small, named draw string bag that can be kept on their peg. **Please also name all of your child's spare clothes.**

### P.E

We will have a P.E session once a week and ask that on these days children wear shoes that they can take off and put on independently, e.g. shoes with Velcro fastening. They do not need a PE kit.

### General

We will be making great use of the outdoor environment to enhance our learning, therefore we ask children to come to school with a named waterproof coat every day; during the winter months with a named hat and gloves, and a named sun hat during the summer months. We also ask that, on sunny days, sun cream is applied prior to your child coming to school. It is also helpful if you also leave a named pair of wellies at school so we can make the most of the rainy days.

## Milk & Snacks

Every child is entitled to a drink of milk and a piece of fruit each day at nursery. Please inform staff of any allergies. Please send a named, filled water bottle into school every day. This should only be filled with water. As a healthy school, we do not permit juice or flavoured water.

# Illness

If your child is absent from school, please telephone to let us know. The school number is 0161 912 5937. Infections are very easily transmitted to other children at this age, so if you suspect that your child is unwell, please keep him/her at home. If your child has been sick or suffered with diarrhoea, it is recommended that they do not return to school for **48 hours**. We do have some information in school should you need further advice with this. Please also notify us of any allergies your child may have.

# Foundation Stage Fund

We ask for a voluntary contribution of £1 a week, which can be paid into the nursery money box. This money is always greatly appreciated as it allows us to carry out additional activities to enhance child's learning, such as cooking, food tasting, buying 'pets' to watch them grow and develop!

# Parent Helpers

All parents are welcomed and encouraged to take part in school life. We will however ask for parents to help out on special occasions, such as school outings. Your support is very much appreciated. If you would like to help in school, on a regular basis, please see a member of staff for further details. NB all regular parental helpers will be subject to a DBS check.

# Ways to Help Your Child & their Teacher

- If someone else is collecting your child please let us know who this will be. For the purpose of safeguarding, we cannot let children go home with anyone else, including another parent, unless it has been pre-arranged by the parent or carer.
- If you are unable to bring your child to school on time, please telephone the school office (912 5937) to let us know.
- If you need to speak to a member of staff, try to arrive early, or see us at the end of the session once the children have been dismissed.
- Inform staff if anything happens at home which might affect your child at school.
- If your child seems unhappy at school, or worried about something, please speak to a member of staff so we can help.
- Inform the office staff immediately of any change of address or emergency contact number.
- Never use school or staff as a threat.
- Leave toys at home, as they may get lost or broken if brought to school.
- Have your child's name in their coat, hat, gloves, wellies, shoes and uniform.
- Encourage your child to put on, take off and hang up their own coat.
- Please ensure that your child is fully toilet trained before they start school. If your child is struggling with this please inform a member of staff.
- Please teach and encourage your child to use a knife and fork.

# What We Will Be Doing to Help

- We will send you a weekly nursery newsletter detailing what we have learnt and what we will be learning the following week. This will also detail dates to remember and any other information which we may need to share.
- Our staff will be helping your child to settle happily into nursery.
- We will watch your child to check on friends, interests and any worries/concerns.
- We will be assessing how well your child is coping. Do not be upset if this is not immediate – it will be of greater benefit to your child than trying to rush things.
- We will be working with your child to discover strengths and talents.
- We will be creating a happy nursery environment for your child.

# HOW YOU CAN HELP YOUR CHILD AT HOME

## APPROACHES TO LEARNING

### Foundation Stage Early Learning Goals

The children begin to work on the following areas of learning as soon as they enter nursery. These then carry forward into reception. We will explain this further at a welcome meeting in September.

Prime areas of learning:

- ❖ Personal, Social and Emotional Development
- ❖ Communication and Language
- ❖ Physical Development

Specific areas of learning

- ❖ Literacy
- ❖ Mathematics
- ❖ Understanding the World
- ❖ Expressive Arts and design

At the end of every week we will let parents know what we will be covering in each of these areas. We will ask for support with practising specific **key skills** at home. Sometimes, simply knowing what is happening at school and talking with your child is of enormous benefit. Please come and ask if you are unsure of anything.

Children's progress is monitored through a programme of continuous, planned observations. Parents will be informed about their children's learning through regular consultation meetings and a written report at the end of the school year.



## **COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY**

### **Speaking and Listening**

It is very important that young children master the skills of **speaking and listening** as it has a huge impact on all other areas of their learning. At Navigation, we use many strategies to encourage oracy. Circle time is a planned focus session which builds self-confidence and provides a platform for speaking and listening.

Children use talk in their imaginative play as a way of expressing themselves and refining their ideas. Talking together helps children make sense of the world around them.

### **Reading**

At Navigation we welcome your involvement in helping your child to read. It is of great value to read stories to your child and to enjoy books together. Learning to read takes time. The most important thing is that we foster an enjoyment of books and encourage the development of good reading skills.



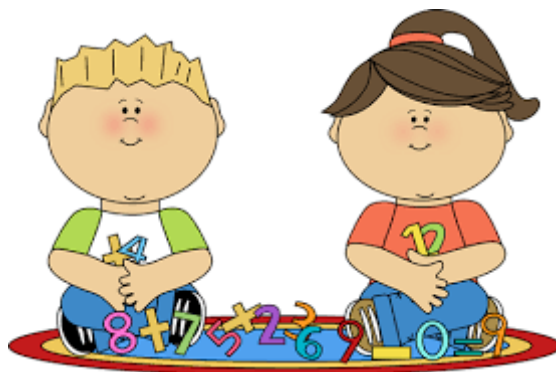
## **MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT**

**Mathematical development** is approached through stories, structured play activities e.g. playing shop, singing and counting rhymes as well as a range of practical games and activities.

Across the curriculum, children will have planned opportunities to sort, match, count, classify, measure and compare in order to develop the appropriate language relating to mathematics.

Again, there is much that can be done at home to support progress in Numeracy. Young children love counting and there are many opportunities to do this through their daily routine e.g. counting the stairs up to bed, counting fingers and toes.

Games, such as number snap, snakes and ladders or simply looking for numbers when out and about are all valuable ways of helping children become confident with numbers.



### **Fine Motor Skills Activities**

Below are a selection of activities that will support your child in developing their fine motor skills. It is these skills which will help your child to hold a pencil correctly and to draw with ease and accuracy.

Upright working surfaces such as vertical chalk boards, easels for painting, magnetic boards (or fridge), large piece of paper attached to the wall, windows and mirrors or white boards promote fine motor skills.

#### **Play Dough**

Moulding and rolling play dough into balls – using the palms of hands facing each other and with fingers curled slightly towards to palm.

Rolling play dough into tiny balls using only the finger tips.

Using pegs or toothpicks to make designs in play dough.

Cutting play dough with a plastic knife or with a pizza wheel.

#### **Scrunching, Squeezing, Tweezing, Picking Up and Lacing**

Tearing newspaper into strips and then crumpling them into balls.

Scrunching up one sheet of newspaper in one hand – this is a fantastic strength builder.

Using a plant sprayer to spray plants, (indoors, outdoors) to spray snow (mix food colouring with water so that the snow can be painted), or melt 'monsters'. (On paper draw monster pictures with felt tips, then spray with water and watch the colours run when sprayed.)

Picking up objects with large tweezers (can buy from kitchen department in Asda!), e.g. picking up Cheerios, small cubes etc in counting games.

Shaking dice by cupping the hands together, forming an empty air space between the palms.

Using small sized screw drivers.

Lacing and sewing activities such as stringing beads, Cheerios, pasta tubes etc.

Using eye droppers to 'pick up' coloured water for colour mixing or to make artistic designs on paper.

Rolling small balls out of tissue paper, then gluing the balls onto construction paper to form pictures or designs.

Turning over cards, coins, checkers, or buttons without bringing them to the edge of the table.

Making pictures using stickers or self-sticking paper reinforcements.

### **Self – Care Skills**

Buttoning, lacing, tying, fastening zips, carrying, locking/unlocking a door, winding a clock, opening and closing jars, sweeping the floor

### **Scissor Activities**

When scissors are held correctly, and when they fit in a child's hand well, cutting activities will exercise the very same muscles which are needed to manipulate a pencil in a mature tripod grasp. The correct scissor position is with the thumb and middle finger in the handles of the scissors, the index finger on the outside of the handle to stabilise, with fingers four and five curled into the palm.

Cutting junk mail

Making a fringe on the edge of a piece of paper.

Cutting play dough or clay with scissors.

Cutting straws or shredded paper.

Use a thick black line to guide the following:

Cut off corners of a piece of paper

Cut along curved lines

Cut lines with a variety of angles

Cut figures with curves and angles