

DOVECOT PRIMARY SCHOOL



Welcome to Early Years
(Nursery and Reception)

Learning together, growing together

PURPOSE OF THIS BOOKLET

- ✧ To explain what will happen when your child comes to Dovecot Primary School.
- ✧ To explain the school uniform.
- ✧ To explain the daily routine and assessment in the Foundation Stage.
- ✧ To explain the lunchtime arrangements if your child is in Reception.
- ✧ To provide the link to school for any questions etc.

Our mission statement is:

Learning together, growing together

Our Vision

- We strive for excellence in all areas of school life.
- We deliver a broad and challenging curriculum which is rich in opportunities and enables all children to reach their potential.
- Children are at the centre of our school and our team is dedicated to the education and wellbeing of each individual. We are a safeguarding school.
- We aim to engage and motivate our children so that they can experience the joy of discovery, the excitement of solving problems and the magic of creativity.
- Our children feel secure and valued and we take pride in their work and achievements.
- We expect high standards of behaviour and promote good relationships which provide a framework in which our children can grow into confident, conscientious and responsible members of society.
- Our school lays the foundations for lifelong learning and future success in life through high expectations.
- We recognise the pivotal role our school plays in developing community cohesion, creating opportunities for all and building strong and positive relationships within the community.

MEET THE STAFF - EYFS

Mrs Dornan – EYFS Lead & Reception Teacher

Mrs Matthews - Nursery Teacher

Mrs Warrilow - Nursery Nurse - Reception

Mrs Metcalfe - Nursery TA

Miss Russell - EYFS Apprentice

Nursery and Reception work as an EYFS unit, meaning the children will have contact with all adults in Early Years. We will share rooms, resources, and an outdoor area. We will also have separate lessons and levelled activities to ensure all children are challenged.

KEY WORKERS

What is a Key Worker?

- Will be a member of the EYFS team from your child's class.
- They have special responsibility for a set number of children.
- Their aim is to ensure that your child's needs are recognised and met, as well as building secure bonds.

Main Duties:

- Help your child(ren) settle in.
- Talk with parents/carers about your child.
- Keep an extra special eye on how your child is settling in in the first few weeks.
- Provide your child with emotional support if required.
- Work together with the parents to support your child.
- Observe children, complete records and monitor your child's progress alongside the class teacher.
- Initial key workers may be subject to change based on children's developing relationships.

STARTING SCHOOL - RECEPTION

- * This year all Reception children will start school on Monday September 6th
- * In order to settle the children into school life as easily as possible **all children will start full time from this same date.**

SCHOOL TIMES

- * The morning learning session for Reception is from:
 - * 8:45am until 11:45am
- * The afternoon learning session for Reception is from:
 - * 1:00pm until 3:15pm
- * Reception children all stay in school for lunch, and attend full time. We have a soft start between 8:45 and 9:00 to allow children to come in and settle before our day begins, the EYFS door will be open and staffed for this 15 minutes.
- * At Dovecot Primary school we aim to give the children the best possible start to their education and therefore ask you to be on time for every session.
- * For children of this age routine is key, so please ensure your child attends consistently and is collected on time.

ROUTINES

- ✧ As the children begin their school journey, they are encouraged to develop into independent learners.
- ✧ Children will come in and leave through the **first door on the Early Years yard**. **Late children (after the EYFS door closes at 9) must report to the school office to receive their mark**. If you are *collecting your child early* (i.e. for an approved medical appointment they must be *collected from the office*).
- ✧ It would help the teachers and the children if they are able to fasten and unfasten their own coats and recognise their own names.

LUNCHTIME

- * Once your child will be in school full time you will be expected to choose what you would like them to do for lunch.
- * The children can stay in school for a school lunch, or bring a packed lunch.
- * The school dinner menus are available from the school website.
- * A vegetarian option is available each day.
- * **Please make us aware of any allergies your child has or develops immediately and in writing, thank you.**

FREE SCHOOL MEALS

- * All children in Reception and KS1 receive free school meals under the universal FSM offer, however the Government still provides funding for 'Free School Meals' or pupil premium pupils.
- * In the packs in September there will be forms to fill in for 'Free School Meals'.
- * We ask that you fill in the forms even if you think you are not entitled or your child will not be having school dinners.
- * For every eligible child registered for 'Free School Meals' the school receives around £1000 extra which will be used for your child's education.

UNIFORM

- * Please note - our school uniform provider is now **West Derby School Wear**. Uniform is available from the store or via their website. There is a letter in this pack containing the options available and the price list.
- * West Derby School Wear also provide tracksuit pants in the school colours. These are excellent for Early Years children as they are easily able to change/toilet independently, as well as being comfortable for play based and outdoor learning. Children can also wear black or dark grey tracksuit pants available from supermarkets.

UNIFORM

- * Additionally you will require:
- * Black school shoes - Velcro is preferable to help support independent changing, please no laced sports shoes.
- * Black, grey or white socks or tights
- * Purple school book bag (again available at West Derby School Wear)/bag large enough to carry A4 paper.
- * Coats - please provide a warm, waterproof coat.
- * As we do a lot of our learning outdoors, in all weathers, it is also advised to send wellies.
- * Please ensure long hair is tied back and jewellery is limited to stud earrings for health and safety

P.E. KIT

- * Shorts or tracksuit bottoms (children can remain in tracksuit pants if wearing as part of their EYFS uniform)
- * T-shirt
- * Black pumps
- * Bag
- * **No football kits or lace up shoes please.**

- * To help staff during PE lessons please help to teach your child to dress and undress themselves over the summer.

- * Currently children will wear their PE kit all day on PE day

LABELS

- * To help the class teachers we do ask that all clothing is clearly labelled with the children's name, including PE kits, water bottles and book bags.
- * Although we will do everything we can to find lost property, we cannot be held responsible for missing items.

THE 7 AREAS OF LEARNING IN THE EARLY YEARS FOUNDATION STAGE

In EYFS (Reception and Nursery) there are 7 areas of learning which we cover throughout the year.

- * Personal, Social and Emotional Development
- * Communication and Language
- * Physical Development
- * Literacy
- * Mathematics
- * Understanding the World
- * Expressive Arts and Design
- * All of these areas are explored further in your Curriculum Parent pack.



PLAY IN THE FOUNDATION STAGE

- ✧ Play is an important part of the daily routine in the Foundation Stage.
- ✧ Play in the Foundation Stage is well planned by the EYFS team and is aimed at developing the children's ability to explore their learning creatively.



PLAY IN THE FOUNDATION STAGE

- * The play that the children engage in helps to enhance their learning, as they are continually building and expanding on what they know through a wide variety of activities.
- * We have access to two classrooms and a large outdoor area to ensure your child gets the best learning from their play.



ASSESSMENT

- ✧ Throughout the school year the children in Reception and Nursery will be assessed using Development Matters and, at the end of Reception, the Early Learning Goals.
- ✧ The Development Matters statements form the basis of planning and the activities within the Foundation Stage.
- ✧ You will be informed of your child's progress at parent meetings, and on their achievement against the Early Learning Goals through a formal report at the end of the school year.

OBSERVATIONS AND GDPR

- * As part of the assessment process we take photographs of the children completing activities. These will be put in the child's [online learning journal](#).
- * As a school we also have the [school website](#), a [Twitter account](#), a [school Instagram](#) and [Class Dojo](#). These sites are used to celebrate the good work the children and the school are doing. Notices and reminders will also be added to Class Dojo to help keep you updated. We also have an [EYFS Instagram](#) which features activity and provision ideas that can be used to support learning at home.

OBSERVATIONS AND GDPR

- * As part of this we will from time to time put on pictures of the children working. Photos will also be used in displays around the classroom and school, as well as other possible ways e.g. Nativity performance photos etc.
- * In line with new GDPR Data Protection rules there will be a form in your pack in September giving permission for your child's images and work to be used within the school sphere. Please ensure it is completed and handed to a member of staff.

THANK YOU

- * Thank you for choosing Dovecot Primary School for beginning your child's educational journey.
- * We look forward to working with you.
- * Please ensure you complete all relevant forms in your pack (and in September) and return these to school to help us support you and your child during your time with us.