



EAST COWTON CE (VC) PRIMARY SCHOOL

EARLY YEARS BOOKLET



School Mission Statement

The possibilities are endless...

East Cowton Primary School

Early Years Unit

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| <i>Headteacher</i> | <i>Mrs Helen Dudman</i> |
| <i>Foundation Stage Coordinator</i> | <i>Mrs Victoria Rowley</i> |
| <i>Telephone</i> | <i>01325 378347</i> |
| <i>Email</i> | <u>admin@eastcowton.n-yorks.sch.uk</u> |
| <i>Website</i> | <u>www.eastcowtonprimaryschool.org.uk</u> |

We hold regular Stay and Play sessions to allow prospective parents to join us with their children to experience the exciting opportunities that we have on offer. Please contact us if you would like to arrange a visit or to discuss your child's needs.

Nursery Hours

Our Nursery operates during the following hours in term time.

| | |
|------------|--------------------------|
| Morning | 8:45 – 11:45 |
| Lunch club | 11:45 – 12:30 (optional) |
| Afternoon | 12:30 – 15:30 |

We are currently unable to offer services on Monday and Friday afternoon

Parents are asked to deliver and collect children from the Nursery. If someone other than you is collecting your child, please inform the school and fill in the correct paperwork.

Please remember

As parents you are your child's first and most important teacher. We hope we can work with you to provide what is best for your child at his/her stage of development. Children learn best when their parents are interested and involved in their education.

We hope your child will have a happy time at East Cowton Nursery.

Do not hesitate to contact us if you have any concerns.

Victoria Rowley

East Cowton CE Primary School Nursery

The Nursery is publicly funded and is part of East Cowton Primary School. We provide up to 15 hours free education for all children of entitled families from the term of their third birthday.

The Nursery consists of a classroom and toilets. There is also a good-sized outdoor covered play area, natural play area and playground.

Staffing

Mrs Rowley is the Foundation Stage Coordinator in charge of the Nursery and the Reception classes in the School.

The Nursery has a qualified teacher and a Teaching Assistant who has a Level 3 qualification and experience in Early Years Care and Education. Our staff are carefully selected because of their personal qualities, which will always include an understanding of young children, a caring attitude, endless patience and a sense of fun.

Assessment

Nursery staff regularly assess and record children's observations, children's working and pictures collated into a Learning Journey. These assessments help in planning for the child's next stage of development and are passed on to the next teacher. Parents are encouraged to be fully part of this assessment process and will be invited to come in and discuss their child's development.

Snack time

During the morning, children are given a drink and snack. The food offered is varied from day to day; including food children have cooked or prepared themselves. Children will also be encouraged to try new foods. Milk and water will be available.

Snack time is also used as an opportunity to promote appropriate table manners, serving others, taking turns, preparing and clearing up afterwards. Parents may wish to provide food if a child is leaving or celebrating a birthday.

Please let us know if your child has any food allergies.



We welcome donations of £1 per child per week (20p for each day attended) to cover the cost of all snacks; and a £5 cooking fee per term.

Clothing

Parents are asked to send children to nursery in clothing that is washable and easy to manage; to enable children to use the toilet, dress and undress as independently as possible. Laces, belts and braces are best avoided. Sun hats or baseball caps are required in the summer months.



On the rare occasions that toilet accidents occur, they are dealt with quickly and discreetly to cause the minimum embarrassment to the child. A stock of spare clothes is kept in the Nursery for this purpose. With the younger children it is preferable if they have their own change of clothing.

There is an expectation that your child will be already toilet trained when starting nursery. If your child is not able to manage his/her own personal hygiene please discuss this with the Foundation Stage Coordinator.

Parents

The Nursery aims to form a partnership with parents to promote their child's learning. We recognise and value what each child brings to Nursery, acknowledging that education starts at birth. Parents are encouraged to take an active part in the Nursery.

We hold Celebration Worship weekly to celebrate special achievements; parents are welcome to join us.

We hold a formal Parents meeting each term to discuss each child's progress. There are also fortnightly drop-in sessions for parents to share Learning Journeys and to add any information, special achievements or experiences that happen outside school. We send home a school bear, maths bag and dough disco for the children to share with parents.

We welcome parents who would like to help on a voluntary basis with such activities as:



- playing games,
- reading stories,
- role play,
- helping on the computer,
- art and craft.

If you have a special skill you would like to share with us then do let us know

We also need help on educational visits and outings.

Nursery Curriculum

The activities and opportunities we plan for your child build on existing abilities, experiences and interests. The children will take part in structured play and learning experiences, which enable them to develop a wide range of skills and to co-operate with each other.

The Early Years Foundation Curriculum (EYFS) is organised into seven areas of learning,

There are 3 prime areas:

1. Personal, social and emotional development
2. Communication and language
3. Physical development

And four specific areas:

4. Mathematics
5. Literacy
6. Understanding the world
7. Expressive arts and design



These areas of development provide a foundation for and lead into the early stages of the National Curriculum. More detailed information on the curriculum is available on request. When they start we send home letters about Phonics, letter and number formation as well as a fortnightly letter describing how your child has been learning and how you can help at home.

Special Educational Needs

If you know or feel your child has any kind of special need, please discuss this with the Foundation Stage Coordinator. This includes behaviour or learning difficulties, speech and language problems, medical and physical disabilities.

The nursery is able to liaise with and seek professional help from an Educational Psychologist, Senior Social Worker, Speech and Language Therapists, as well as a range of medical experts, to provide the best support possible.

Equal Opportunities

The Nursery operates an equal opportunities policy. We believe that each child is of equal value and is entitled to the widest possible range of opportunities, regardless of gender, race, colour, class, disability or religion and we actively discourage personal prejudice and stereotyping.

Health & Safety

Please let a member of staff know if you are unable to collect your child from Nursery or if a friend or relative will be picking up your child. If for some reason you will be late please contact the school as soon as possible.

Illness

If your child is unwell, please keep him/her at home until fully fit. If your child is suffering from sickness or diarrhea there must be a complete period of 48 hours free of sickness or diarrhea before the child is able to return to nursery in order to avoid infection. If your child is taken ill or has an accident in the Nursery, a qualified First Aider will see him or her and you will be notified if necessary. Please ensure the Nursery has at least one emergency contact number for your child and is made aware of any medical needs.



Medicines

Please inform staff of chronic conditions, which may require medication for example, asthma. Staff are not allowed to administer any medication to children under 5 years of age.