

Aragon Primary School

Early Years Foundation Stage



Information Pack

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Introduction

This booklet aims to provide parents and carers with information about our Early Years Foundation Stage provision.

Starting Nursery and Reception is a very exciting and anxious time for children and parents/carers. The information within this booklet aims to provide information about our provision and routines and answer questions commonly asked.

Whilst we understand that parents/carers may like to stay and settle their child into Nursery or Reception, we find that children settle into their new routine more quickly if they are left with their new teachers. We will inform you of how your child is doing on a daily basis. Should there be a need for you to stay to help settle your child; we will work with you so your child feels more secure in their new surroundings.

If you have any concerns or questions about your child starting school or our provision please contact a member of staff.

We look forward to welcoming you to our school.

Nicola Pearce
Early Years Lead
Aragon Primary School

Organisation and Routines.

Nursery

We have a large, well-resourced and welcoming nursery. The nursery is divided into areas such as maths, writing, snack, construction, playdough, music etc so that we are able to offer a wide variety of activities and experiences.

The Nursery has two sessions each day, one in the morning and one in the afternoon.

Morning Session -
8.30am-11.30am

Afternoon Session -
12.30pm-3.30pm

Nursery Lunch Club:

We are delighted that we can offer all parents an extra hour in Nursery at a cost of £5 per day. In this hour, 11.30 am -12.30pm, your child can have their lunch in school and a bit of extra playtime. This gives the children the perfect opportunity to experience a little bit more of school life and a taster of Reception.

Extended 30 hours placement:

From September 2020, we are very pleased to be offering 30 hour per week Nursery placements; either to families eligible for the '30 hours free childcare Government scheme' or to families who wish to pay for an extended placement.

For families eligible for the Extended 30 hours entitlement, we will be offering places of 30 hours (an actual 32.5 hours as our Nursery runs from 8.45am - 3.15pm) at a cost of £5 per day equating to **£25 per week**. Children will be given a hot school meal.

For families who are not eligible, paid placements of 8.45am - 3.15pm (32.5 hours per week) will be offered at £100 per week. Payments must be made in advance. Children will be given a hot school meal.

You can see if you are entitled by registering for the 30-hour scheme on the Government website:

<https://www.gov.uk/30-hours-free-childcare>

Reception

The Reception classes work as a unit. The children are divided into three classes for registration and carpet sessions (such as literacy, maths and phonics). They do, however, have access to all three classes during their free flow time.

The children work in their base classroom and across all three of the classrooms which are set up with multiple activities centred around child initiated learning.

*NB the first school bell will go at 8.45am to allow your child time to put their coats away and get to their classroom, the official school day will begin at 8.55am

The Curriculum

The Early Years Foundation Stage is based around four themes:

- A Unique Child
- Positive Relationships
- Enabling Environments
- Learning and Development

Each Theme is linked to an important principle:

A Unique Child

Every child is a competent learner from birth who can be resilient, capable, confident and self-assured.

Positive Relationships

Children learn to be strong and independent from a base of loving and secure relationships with parents and/or a key person.

Enabling Environments

The environment plays a key role in supporting and extending children's development and learning

Learning and Development

Children develop and learn in different ways and at different rates and all areas of Learning and Development are equally important and inter-connected.

There are seven areas of learning and development that shape educational programmes in Early Years settings. All areas of learning and development are important and inter connected.

The three prime areas of learning are:

- Communication and Language;
- Physical Development; and
- Personal, Social and Emotional development.

Practitioners must also support children in four the specific areas, which are:

- Literacy;
- Mathematics;
- Understanding the World; and
- Expressive Arts and Design.

We use these seven areas of learning as a framework to plan our curriculum in Nursery and Reception.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development.

Our aim is to develop positive attitudes towards learning. Children are encouraged to participate in a variety of activities and experiences. They are encouraged to work together and share their ideas. We plan our provision to enable the children to become independent, confident and self-motivated.

Communication and Language

Language skills are continually being developed as staff work alongside the children and interact with them. We have a large role play area, book corner, listening area and writing area in Nursery and Reception.

Physical Development

We use the outside area to develop all areas of the curriculum. We have weekly hall sessions to introduce and practise skills. We develop confidence, co-ordination and control through a combination of adult led activities and planned free play provision.

Literacy

We work on developing phonic skills and handwriting skills through practical activities and games. We continue to foster the love of books and reading as we introduce and develop the skills and attitudes needed to become a lifelong reader.

Mathematics

The children are encouraged to explore and develop a variety of mathematical concepts through the well planned provision within the Nursery and Reception Units. This involves number and shape, space and measure.

Understanding of the World

Children are encouraged to explore the world around them and to initiate their own investigations. We provide a wide variety of activities and experiences to promote curiosity and investigation skills. We organise a variety of visitors and trips to extend the curriculum further and provide hands on experiences of the world.

Expressive Arts and Design

We promote creativity in all of the children through art, dance, music and imaginative play. We stimulate curiosity and encourage imagination and independence. Adult led activities introduce skills and techniques which the children can explore and develop in their independent activities.

Additional Information

Toys

Please do not bring toys into school. Toys can get lost/broken and can cause disagreements. We are not responsible for any toys that get lost or damaged if they are brought into school.

Book bags

We encourage all children to purchase a school book bag. In the Nursery parents/carers are encouraged to help their children to change their book each day at the end of the session. In the Reception class children need to bring the book bag into school each day. Books are changed 2 times per week.

Absences and Attendance

If children do not attend school regularly or consistently arrive late, it can make it difficult for them to make new friends, feel confident and be eager to learn.

If your child is absent, parents should inform the school on the first day of absence to give a reason. This should ideally be done before 8.50am. If we do not hear from you, a member of the school team will phone to talk through the reasons for the absence.

Health/medical

If your child has any medical conditions or allergies it is very important to inform the staff so that we can cater for their needs.

If your child is unwell please keep them at home and telephone the school office to let us know. If a child has a sickness bug we ask you to keep them at home for 48 hours to ensure that they are fully recovered, germs and illness spread very quickly amongst young children. Once your child has returned to school, please send in a note for our records.

Clothing

Please ensure that all clothing including shoes are clearly named and that your child is wearing the correct school uniform.

Jewellery

No jewellery is to be worn at school apart from small stud earrings. Jewellery can become caught in children's clothing and can be very dangerous.

Parent Volunteers

We love having your help! If you feel you could commit to a regular time slot each week to listen to children read, please see a member of the Early Years Team.