

**Kirkby Fleetham  
CE Primary School**

**Starting School  
2016**



Thank you for choosing Kirkby Fleetham CE School  
for your child.

Your child will join the Early Years Foundation Stage,  
which forms the final part of the  
Foundation Stage Curriculum.

Successful education is a  
partnership between home and school.  
This booklet has been designed to outline how  
we can work together to achieve this.

Kirkby Fleetham CE is a welcoming and caring school.

As a Church School,  
we are very aware of the strong links with the Christian faith and we seek to develop  
a Christian ethos in school

We want our children to learn to respect  
and value themselves and others.

At all times we aim to achieve the highest possible standards through quality  
teaching and learning within an exciting and creative curriculum.

Staff, children, parents and governors work together.  
We strive to prepare our children for their future  
as citizens in the wider community.

## School Hours

### **Morning**

8.50am to 12.00 noon

### **Afternoon**

1.00pm to 3.30 pm

School opens at 8.50am so that children can come in and be ready to work at 9.00am. We actively encourage parents to come into the classroom at the start of the day to give them the opportunity to discuss any concerns informally.

## National Fruit Scheme

Every day your child will receive a piece of fruit or vegetable as part of a National campaign. They will also receive free milk until they reach their fifth birthday. You are welcome to join the cool milk scheme and order milk for your child.

## Out of School Club

This operates within the school building. Experienced staff provide before and after-school care for children between 8.00am and 8.50am and 3.30pm to 5.30p.m. There is more information in the leaflet produced by Out of School Club.

## PE

The children have PE sessions twice a week, one indoors at the village hall and one outdoors. It would be helpful if PE kit for both sessions can remain in school all week so that we may take advantage of any fine weather. In the spring term the children go swimming once a week at Northallerton swimming pool.

## Forest School

Kirkby Fleetham School has access to a local woodland so that the children can attend Forest School sessions. These sessions encourage the children to use problem solving and thinking skills in an open air environment. This approach has a huge positive impact on children. There is more information in the Forest School Leaflet

## Early Years Foundation Stage.

The Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum is divided in to 7 areas of learning which build upon skills and experiences developed at home and Pre-School. It prepares children for learning in Key Stage One (Year 1 and Year 2) and is consistent with the National Curriculum.

The EYFS Framework explains how and what your child will be learning to support their healthy development.

Your child will be learning skills, acquiring new knowledge and demonstrating their understanding through **7 areas of learning and development**.

Children should mostly develop the **3 prime areas** first. These are:

- Communication and language;
- Physical development; and
- Personal, social and emotional development.

These prime areas are those most essential for your child's healthy development and future learning.

As children grow, the prime areas will help them to develop skills in **4 specific areas**. These are:

- Literacy;
- Mathematics;
- Understanding the world; and
- Expressive arts and design.



These 7 areas are used to plan your child's learning and activities. The professionals teaching and supporting your child will make sure that the activities are suited to your child's unique needs. This is a little bit like a curriculum in primary and secondary schools, but it's suitable for very young children, and it's designed to be really flexible so that staff can follow your child's unique needs and interests.

Children in the EYFS learn by playing and exploring, being active, and through creative and critical thinking which takes place both indoors and outside.

To support your child's learning journey none of these areas of Learning and Development can be delivered in isolation from the others. They are equally important and depend on each other to provide a rounded approach to child development.

All the areas must be delivered through planned, purposeful play, with a balance of adult-led and child-initiated activities. Evidence is gathered in a variety of ways including observations and photographs.

Each child is encouraged to achieve their maximum potential at their own stage of development. Learning takes place through a range of planned and purposeful play activities, both indoors and outdoors which

- increase their understanding of the world
- improve language skills
- develop their ideas and creativity
- develop them physically, socially, emotionally and intellectually.

We present the children with opportunities to engage in activities planned by adults and also those that they initiate themselves.

The classroom is set up so that all equipment and resources are readily available for the children to use. They are encouraged to make choices, to plan and select what they need and recognise the implications of these choices. We aim to create a caring environment where the children are encouraged to develop respect for themselves and others, to value beliefs, to cooperate, to give consideration to equality of access, of opportunity and with regard to anti-bias practice.

**"Children are competent learners from birth and develop and learn in a variety of ways. All practitioners should, therefore, look carefully at the children in their care, consider their needs, their interests, and their stages of development and use all of this information to help plan a challenging and enjoyable experience across all the areas of Learning and Development".**

*~ The Early Years Foundation Stage Statutory Framework.*

## Learning Journal

We will be creating a Learning Journal for each child when they start school. In it we will put photographs and comments about the activities your child is involved with. This is to show your child's development throughout the year and as such your contribution is important. You are welcome to come and have a look at the Learning Journal throughout the year and add things that your child has done at home.

I have created an email address especially for EYFS children so that if you wish you can email to school any photographs or information for us to add to the Learning Journal.

The email address is [lwyatt@kirkbyfleetham.n-yorks.sch.uk](mailto:lwyatt@kirkbyfleetham.n-yorks.sch.uk)

## Helping Your Child Settle in to School.



Before your child starts school, it is really helpful if he/she:

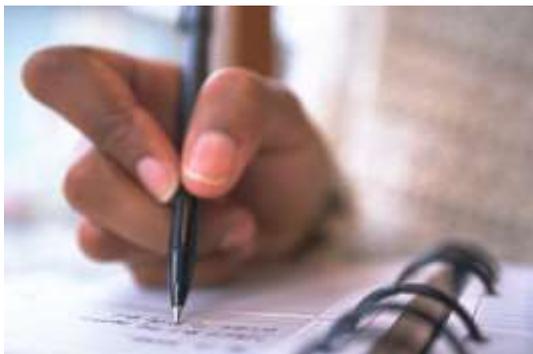
- Has begun to recognise his/her full name
- Can use a knife, fork and spoon correctly
- Can get dressed and undressed for PE
- Can put on and do up shoes
- Recognise their own coat
- Can put on coat/hat/gloves when going outside
- Can use the toilet and wash their hands on their own

These skills will help your child to feel more independent and confident in new situations. Please don't hesitate to mention any concerns to us.

## How We Learn

Children at Kirkby Fleetham are taught according to their level of ability. During the school day, your child may work with a partner, a group or as part of the whole class, depending on the nature of the learning activity.

We all have a preferred learning style. We might learn best if we can see objects or images as the subject is discussed (visual), just hearing someone talk and explain about it might be enough (audio) or we might understand better if we can physically do something (kinaesthetic)- and many of us find that sometimes we need elements of all.



## Phonics

When children enter the Reception class they take part in high-quality phonics sessions every day. These are fun sessions involving lots of speaking, listening and games, where the emphasis is on children's active participation. They learn to use their phonic knowledge for reading and writing activities in their independent play.

From a very early stage, children develop awareness of different sounds in spoken language. They develop understanding that spoken words are made up of different sounds and they learn to match these sounds to letters. Phonics is about children knowing how letters link to sounds, for example **c** as in 'cat', **ll** as in 'fell', **ee** as in 'sheep'.

Children use their phonic knowledge when they are reading and writing. This approach has been shown to provide a quick and efficient way for most young children to learn to read words on the page fluently and accurately. We want children to develop this skill so that it becomes automatic. This also greatly helps them with their spelling.

We introduce children to Phonics through the Jolly Phonics programme and Letters and Sounds. We will be sending home phonemes and words for your child to practise with you at home so that

you will know the sounds and the actions your child is learning. Please look at our website for more information about phonics.

## How you can help your child

From a very early age your child will need to experience a wide range of activities and experiences (for example, singing and saying rhymes, making and listening to music, listening to them and joining in conversations, painting and pretend play) to develop their early reading and writing skills. These activities will help your child take the first important steps towards reading and writing.

Everyday activities such as preparing meals, tidying up, putting shopping away and getting ready to go out, offer you chances to talk to your child, explaining what you are doing. They hear the way language is put together into sentences for a purpose.

Books are a rich source of new words for your child – words you would not use in everyday conversations appear in books. Children need to have a wide stock of words to understand the meaning of books, so read aloud and share books as often as you can. They will enjoy it and it will be useful to them when they come across these words in their own reading later on.

We teach writing using a cursive style.

a b c d e f g h i j k l m  
n o p q r s t u v w x y z

## Mathematics

Maths is most effectively learned through ‘hands on experience’ which we provide in many different ways; for example weighing and measuring in baking, recording and reading information from a weather chart and finding out about volume and capacity using sand and water.

Things to do at home.

Children need these skills if they are to make sense of and confidently take part in daily transactions.

- Sort objects, such as buttons and Smarties by sizes or shape or colour
- Count everything! Stairs, things on the washing line, toys etc.
- Sing number rhymes and songs e.g. ‘1,2,3,4,5, Once I caught a fish alive’, ‘Ten green bottles’

- Read numbers everywhere! House numbers, car registrations, clock face etc
- Play games such as snakes and ladders, ludo and dominoes
- When out and about, look for shapes, patterns and for things which are short, tall, long, wide etc.
- Setting the table and making sure there are enough cups, plates etc. for everyone.



## Uniform

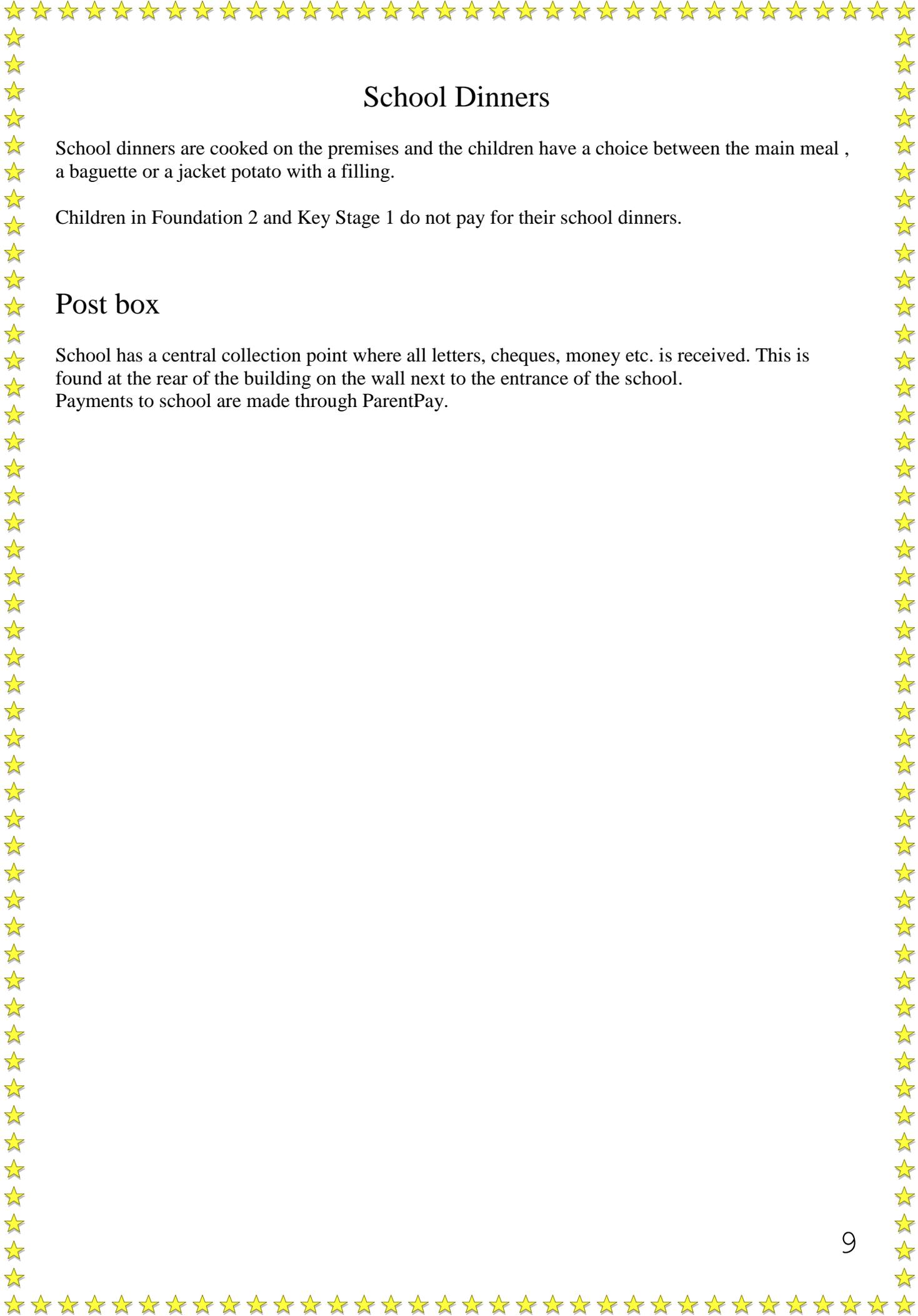
The school has a smart, practical and inexpensive school uniform which we expect all children to wear.

Navy jumper / cardigan  
 Light blue polo shirt  
 Grey trousers/ skirt/ pinafore dress  
 Blue and white checked dress for girls in the summer  
 Sensible school shoes.

**Please ensure that all items of clothing are clearly named so that your child can recognise it. Children should have a coat with a hood in school everyday.**

All children must have a water bottle and a hat with a flap. These can be bought in school at the following prices –

Water bottles	£1.50
Hats	£3.00
Book Bags	£3.00



## School Dinners

School dinners are cooked on the premises and the children have a choice between the main meal , a baguette or a jacket potato with a filling.

Children in Foundation 2 and Key Stage 1 do not pay for their school dinners.

### Post box

School has a central collection point where all letters, cheques, money etc. is received. This is found at the rear of the building on the wall next to the entrance of the school.

Payments to school are made through ParentPay.