

Kimberworth Foundation Unit



The Foundation 1 Staff are:

Assistant Head, F1 Teacher – Mrs Clare Gerstel

Teaching Assistant – Mrs Nicola Turner

The children will also work with our Day Care staff:

Donna Fowler, Shaun Gill and Emma Cammack

Our Foundation 1 School Day

The MORNING session is from 8.50am – 11.30am

The AFTERNOON session is from 12.30pm – 3.00pm

Your child will be able to stay for 4 mornings and one full day each week or 4 afternoons and one full day. The full day will be the same day each week.

The FULL DAY session is from 9am – 3pm

We also offer wrap around care with our Breakfast Club running from 7.45am and After School Club until 5.45pm.

As part of the governments funded 30 hours free childcare for working parents your child may be eligible for full day sessions every day. We will discuss arrangements for how we can best suit your needs combining additional sessions with breakfast, lunchtime and after-school care. You will need to complete an eligibility form online to see whether you will be entitled to these additional hours.

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

Starting Foundation Stage

If your child has not attended our Daycare they will be invited to a series of “taster” sessions to help them become familiar with the setting, meet all of the staff and try out some of our exciting activities and resources. It is also an opportunity for you to share information about your child with us so we can help them settle and enjoy their time with us.

In order that your child reaches his/her full potential it is essential that we work closely together. It is our philosophy to establish a close liaison between home and school, and your participation in all aspects of your child's education is encouraged and welcomed. Please feel free to share information about your child, however trivial you may feel this is. We would encourage you to keep in close contact with the school during the early weeks to ensure that your child has settled in and is happy. We use a parent's communication app called Class Dojo which you can send messages and photos to school to share your child's experiences at home. We can also send messages and photographs to you informing you of how your child is getting on at school. Each half term you will receive a newsletter informing you of the projects we will be in the Foundation Unit. This will enable you to support your child in his/her learning.

We will send weekly homework for you to find out what your child has been learning about and to share any activities you could try at home. At the end of the year you will be able to take this home as a record of their time in the Foundation Stage.

Routines

Beginning of the Day

We will open the doors when it is time for the session to open at 8.50am and 12.30pm. We would like you to bring your child in to the classroom at the beginning of the session and help them find their coat peg so they can hang up their own coat. They will then come into class where they will need to practice their name in their name book. Please encourage your child to find their name themselves! Please feel free to leave them when they are settled. The children come into the group room to share a book as they finish their name.

End of the Day

We will open the gate at the end of the day; we would like you to collect your child from the carpeted area when their name is called. Please wait in a line to ensure each child can be passed over to the correct adult safely. If parents are unable to pick up their child from school, they must ensure that proper arrangements are made and that we are provided with a name or names of persons authorised to collect the child/children. Ideally, this person should be introduced to the Foundation Unit staff. We cannot release a child to someone we do not know to be authorised.

Behaviour

Here at Kimberworth Primary School we aim to create a friendly, safe and supportive environment for all our children and staff. In order to promote this environment, we have high expectations of the standards of behaviour in our Foundation Unit. All children are aware of these expectations and a common approach from all staff means that our simple rules are constantly reinforced.

Our School Rules are:

Work together to be the best that we can be.

Look after ourselves and each other.

Take care of our School.

Make good choices.

Tell the truth.

In class we encourage the children to

Listen

Share

Say please and thank you

Tidy up

Help others

Be kind

Effective communication and continued support from parents and carers will help us to achieve this goal. The Foundation Unit staff follow the school Behaviour Policy which is available for parents to read on the school website. (Paper copies available on request from the School Office).

Our Curriculum

We follow the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework. It is divided into three Prime Areas of learning and four Specific Areas:

Prime Areas

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

We aim to provide a warm, caring and stimulating environment which helps children to develop confidence, independence, a strong self-esteem, and positive attitudes to learning. Children are encouraged to form good relationships with both adults and peers, to share, take turns, co-operate and to be aware of and respect the feelings, cultures and beliefs of others. They are helped to understand what is right, what is wrong, and why.



Communication and Language

Children are encouraged to listen carefully and attentively and to speak confidently, taking turns in conversation. They are encouraged to respond to stories, songs and rhymes and to listen with enjoyment at storytime.

Physical Development

Children are encouraged to develop and practice their fine motor skills (cutting, threading, handling small objects) and their gross motor skills (running, jumping, moving, climbing, balancing) - we have a lovely outdoor play area! They are also helped to understand how their body works and what they need to be healthy and safe.



Specific Areas

Mathematics

Through practical activities (stories, songs, rhymes and games), and for our older children, through more formal teacher led activities, early mathematical understanding in number, sorting, matching, pattern, shape and space are encouraged. Children will also learn basic mathematical language to describe shape, position and size.

Literacy

Children are encouraged to understand that print has meaning and to begin to recognise letter sounds and symbols. In their writing they are encouraged to hold a pencil correctly, be aware of the purpose of writing, to make marks, and to begin to write shapes and symbols.



Understanding of the World

By encouraging children to understand more about their world (this forms the foundation for later work in science, history, geography, technology and information technology), children develop a greater perception and acceptance of today's society and its varied multicultural traditions. We encourage children to solve problems, experiment, predict, plan, and question and find out about their immediate environment and its people.

Expressive Arts and Design

Children are given opportunities to explore colour, texture, shape and sound, to use their imagination and to express their own ideas through design and technology, music (we have a weekly PE session), imaginative and role play activities and through a variety of art (painting, drawing, collage etc.)



Observations

As part of our teaching, Early Years Foundation Stage staff observe children while they are engaging in activities to see what they can and like to do. Staff will record these observations to help them plan future experiences to enhance the children's learning and all-round development. Information will be collected and recorded in both a confidential file on our online tracking system and in their learning journey folder. This will be available for you and your child to see at any time. Your contributions to these records would be greatly appreciated and are valuable to help us build a whole picture of your child. You can share your child's home learning on the Class Dojo app.

Key Person

Each child will be allocated a key person who will help them to settle into the unit and build relationships with others. The key person will also be there to discuss any problems or concerns you have and for you to share any events from home.

Snacks

During each session we will have milk, water and fruit available to the children. Please let us know of any dietary requirements your child may have and we will of course take them into account. We ask for a voluntary contribution of £1 each half term towards ingredients for any snacks and baking activities the children will take part in.



Clothes

Foundation stage children wear school uniform which can be purchased from supermarkets, Pinders School Wear shop or online at www.pindersschoolwear.com . Aprons are provided for painting, gluing, water play and clay work. Children will have daily access to outdoor play. Sensible clothing and shoes for climbing and riding on wheeled toys must be worn. A coat is needed for cooler weather. Please put your child's name in jumpers, coats, hats etc.

Muddy Mondays

Every Monday the children will take part in an introduction to the outdoor area activities. We will go out and explore in all kinds of weather so please send your child with wellies and a sensible coat on this day. Wellies can be kept on our welly trolley for the whole week so that your child can use them every day during their outdoor learning.



Speech and Language Groups

All children on entry into Foundation Stage take part in the LEAP programme which focuses on building the children's vocabulary for everyday areas such as, the body, home and transport and action words. We have found this really helps give children the start they need to develop their speech and language skills and confidence. If we feel your child needs extra support with language development or confidence in talking, they will be able to take part in Language Enrichment sessions we run in the unit built around the projects we are exploring.

Illness

If your child is absent from school, for any reason, it is important for you to telephone on the first day of absence. Parents are asked to exercise discretion as to whether a child is well enough to attend. A full 48 hours free of sickness or temperature is required before re-attendance.

In the event of a child having an accident, they will be assessed by one of our trained first aiders and if necessary, you will be notified immediately. At the end of the session you will be asked to sign an accident form with a copy for you to take home.

Contact Details

Parents will be asked to fill out a form giving contact numbers for the school to get in touch should we need to. Please ensure your contact numbers are up-to-date and quickly inform us of any changes as they occur.

Admission to School

Children enter Foundation 2 in the year they turn 5 and are of statutory school age. Parents need to apply to the local authority for a school place for their child. Forms are sent out early in the Autumn Term of their Foundation 1 year and must be sent back to the Local Authority on time by the end of December. If you do not receive a form, please mention this to the Foundation team and we will be able to pass on the correct phone number to call. The Local Authority decides who is given a place with catchment area being the main criteria.

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Website: <http://www.kimberworthprimary.org.uk/>