



Welcome to
**Netherhall St James CE (VC)
Infant and Nursery School**



Reception Information Booklet

Starting in Reception is an exciting new time and we hope that this will be the beginning of a long and happy association with Netherhall Learning Campus. Included in this booklet is general information about Reception and how it runs.

We hope that you will find it useful. If you need any further information, please do not hesitate to talk to a member of the school staff or visit our website.

Contact Details

Telephone: 01484 226601

Email address: infants@nlconline.org.uk

School day – 8.40 am – 3.20 pm



Love, Trust, Respect and Compassion

Our Busy Days!

A School Day & Our Curriculum

We believe play underpins all development and learning for young children. It is through play that children develop intellectually, creatively, physically, socially and emotionally.

When your child starts in early years we spend a long time getting to know them and their interests. Every child starts at a different stage of development. Their individual needs and interests are assessed and used to provide suitable resources and activities which allow for progression and build a love of learning.

Our Early Years provision and focused learning is based on the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS - revised 2020), which sets the standards for learning, development and care for children from birth to five. It stresses the importance of providing well-planned experiences based on children's spontaneous play, both indoors and outdoors.

The EYFS (2020) sets out 7 areas of learning and provides learning outcomes within each of these areas. These areas are:

- Communication and Language Development involves giving children opportunities to experience a rich language environment; to develop their confidence and skills in expressing themselves; and to speak and listen in a range of situations.
- Physical Development involves providing opportunities for young children to be active and interactive; and to develop their co-ordination, control, and movement. Also develop smaller movements so they are able to use a pencil, paintbrush or other tools to make marks and eventually form letters.
- Personal, Social and Emotional Development involves helping children to develop a positive sense of themselves, and others; to form positive relationships and develop respect for others; to develop social skills and learn how to manage and talk about their feelings; to understand appropriate behaviour in groups; and to have confidence in their own abilities.
- Mathematics involves providing children with opportunities to develop and improve their skills in counting, understanding and using numbers, calculating simple addition and subtraction problems, Doubling and knowing number facts; and to describe shapes.
- Understanding the World involves children showing an understanding of past and present events in real life and in stories. To know features of their own environment and similarities and differences between different cultures and religions. To know about different plants, animals and the natural world such as seasons.
- Expressive Arts and Design involves enabling children to explore and play with a wide range of media and materials, as well as providing opportunities and encouragement for sharing their thoughts, ideas and feelings through a variety of activities in art, music, movement, dance, role-play, and design and technology.
- Literacy Development involves encouraging children to link sounds and letters and to begin to read and write. Children must be given access to a wide range of reading materials (books, poems, and other written materials) to ignite their interest. In Early Years we help children develop in all these areas through play-based activities taught through a range of topics such as Down on the Farm and People who Help us. Alongside this the children have a daily phonics lesson using the Read, Write, Inc Scheme and a number lesson every day to teach children discrete skills needed for lifelong learning. More information on Read, Write, Inc can be found online: [Home reading - Ruth Miskin Phonics Training](#) More information on the curriculum will be provided in a workshop in September if you would like to attend. Further details will be sent out nearer the time.



Documentation

Please ensure that all forms you have been given by the school are completed and returned before your child starts Reception. It is vital that we have all the information we need to ensure that your child is safe and happy. If there are any changes then please notify us immediately.

Settling-in

To make the transition into Reception as smooth as possible, the amount of time the children spend in school increases in stages. Initially, the children stay for a morning or afternoon session. Then gradually they are introduced to lunch and lunchtime play. Finally, they are ready to stay all day.

Queries or Concerns

At Netherhall St James, we pride ourselves on our open door policy. If there are urgent issues, then please see any member of the Reception staff. If you feel you need more time, you are welcome to arrange an appointment with your child's teacher as dismissal time can be busy. Dates of parents' evenings will be given to you in advance and can be found on the school website.

Attendance

We ask for your support by encouraging your child to come to school on time every day and if you are encountering any issues, please contact school to enable us to offer our support. Please be aware that, in line with government directives, we no longer authorise term time absence unless there is an exceptional circumstance. Where term time absence is taken consideration may be given to the issuing of a Penalty Notice in line with the Kirklees Code of Conduct.

Please telephone the school office if your child is going to be absent. Please note, absences will only be authorised for reasons such as illness or genuine family emergencies. We strongly recommend you do not take your child on holiday during term time as this can be very disruptive to their learning and friendships.

Illness

If your child should suffer from sickness or diarrhoea during the course of the year, please keep them at home for 48 hours. (This is in line with NHS guidance)

If your child has a minor accident, we will inform you with an accident form at the end of the session. If your child should bang their head, a "bumped head" letter will be sent to home. If your child becomes ill or has a more serious injury, they will be looked after by someone qualified in first aid and you will be contacted.

If your child should need medication giving during school hours, please fill in a form at the office. Please be aware we can only give medicine in a premeasured amount.

Medical/Allergies

For the health and safety of our pupils it is important that we are made aware of any allergies which your child(ren) may suffer from. If we do not have this information on their records you could be putting your child's health at risk.

If you require any prescribed medication to be kept in school could you, please ensure that this is labelled clearly with your child's name and taken to the school office. This request applies to all pupils, including those who bring a packed lunch, as there may be occasions when your child is involved in activities which include food tasting, etc.

Collective Worship

Collective worship is based around a programme of 12 Christian values (including our 4 core values). These are promoted throughout the school environment. As a school, we have whole school collective worship four days a week and a class worship once a week where our values are reflected upon and celebrated. As well as our acts of daily worship, there are termly opportunities to worship together in St James Church, and the school community are very welcome to join us for these special services. Every Friday, we also hold a Celebration service where we celebrate special events and achievements during our school week and also recognise children's acts of kindness. Children are also invited to bring certificates from outside school so that we can recognise and celebrate their achievements together.

Parents in School

In Early Years we are keen to work in partnership with parents. Therefore, throughout the year we will be holding a range of different events which include

Curriculum workshops

Phonics and numeracy workshops

Stay and play

Family fun

Coffee mornings

Sharing information with you

We will also have two parents' evenings and send home reports twice a year to keep you up to date on your child's learning. We upload pictures and information about your child's school day using an online app named Class Dojo, which we need an email address to set up.

The Reception topic web, which provides a half termly curriculum overview and other important information, can be found on the school website.

Home Learning

We usually send out homework and reading scheme books once a week, as well as a library book of your child's choice. We ask that it is returned before more can be given to your child.

Weekly homework is based around phonic sessions and a reading book is sent home to help your child's learning at home.

We encourage daily reading for children. Books will be changed weekly where possible dependent on progress. Teachers will also read with your child at least once a week.



Special Occasions

We like to celebrate the children's birthdays, as it is an important time for them and it makes them feel very special. We also celebrate festivals and special days, this helps the children gain an understanding of the different cultures and religions in our community. Parents are welcome to contribute ideas for activities and any information on festivals they celebrate.



Our Christian Values

At Netherhall St James CE (VC) Infant & Nursery School, our school family, including children, parents, staff and governors, have reflected upon and selected four core values to live and work by. These are **RESPECT, LOVE, TRUST & COMPASSION**. Our Core Values have been chosen to enhance and bring meaning to our vision and our motto that at our school we LEARN TOGETHER IN GOD'S LOVE, and to help ensure that all members of our school family flourish and develop on their own personal spiritual journey.

As a welcoming and inclusive Church of England school, we believe that everyone is loved by God and we strive to ensure that our vision and values are lived so that every member of our school family can develop and grow to be the best that they can be in all aspects of their lives.

This is led by our vision statement:

OUR VISION STATEMENT

We strive to provide the children at St James Infant and Nursery School with an outstanding opportunity to learn in a caring, Christian setting at the heart of our community

LEARNING

High quality teaching and learning will be at the heart of all we do. Together we will develop a collaborative use of key skills for lifelong learning.

TOGETHER

Everyone will be supported and encouraged to thrive and enjoy their learning together in a safe and secure environment guided by our Christian Values.

IN GODS LOVE

Through nurturing confidence and independence together we will sow the seeds that enable everyone to achieve their full potential and harvest their successes in God's love.

We strive towards our Vision through our Christian Values: Respect, Trust, Love and Compassion.

4 Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. 5 It does not dishonour others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. 6 Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. 7 It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres."

1 Corinthians 13:4-8 New International Version (NIV)

Our Values are considered in depth during collective worship and embedded in all aspects of school life. This aspect of education gives children the language to express themselves. It supports and encourages us to celebrate success, promote high self-esteem and support reflection. This approach is successful because our whole school team are committed to weaving the values into their school day.



Love, Trust, Respect and Compassion

Healthy Snack and Lunches

During the day children have access to fruit, water and a carton of milk (if you have signed up for this) Please advise staff if your child cannot drink milk or has any allergies. Children can bring a named plastic bottle of water if they wish, which will be sent home at the end of each day. We ask that it is only water, not juice or cordial.

Reception children are entitled to a free school dinner. School meals are freshly prepared each day, on the same premises, using high quality, locally sourced food. Or if you prefer they can bring a packed lunch from home. Please can we ask that you don't put in sweets, glass bottles, fizzy drinks or cans in packed lunches. If you wish to change at any time, please give the office two weeks' notice. See below for an example menu (available on school website)

What does my child need?

Available from most stockists but our preferred supplier is Term Time Wear or Natasha's.

NLC Logo sweatshirt / cardigan

White Polo shirt with or without logo

Grey or Black Trousers/Skirt

Red Gingham Dress (summer)

In the interest of safety, we request that children do not wear jewellery in school.

Home Learning Bag – These can be purchased from Term Time Wear at £6.95.

A waterproof coat

EVERYTHING must be clearly labelled



Website

Please have a good look at the website. It has a useful translate button to change text to different languages.

The following information is available on our website

Web address: www.nlconline.org.uk

Privacy Notice

Holiday Dates

School Dinner Menu



Yellow Bus Information <https://www.wymetro.com>

K72 from Fartown/Deighton area

K71 from Leeds Road area

- Well established service
- Fitted seatbelts
- Same friendly driver every day
- School escort to and from bus
- High visibility jackets worn

Autumn Term 2025	
Inset Day	Monday 1st September 2025
First Day of Term	Tuesday 2nd September 2025
Half Term	Monday 27th October to Friday 31st October 2025
Inset Day	Friday 28th November 2025
Inset Day	Monday 1st December 2025
Last Day of Term	Friday 19th December 2025 School closes to pupils at 12.30pm
Spring Term 2026	
First Day of Term	Monday 5th January 2026
Half Term	Monday 16th February to Friday 20th February 2026
Last Day of Term	Friday 27th March 2026
Summer Term 2026	
First Day of Term	Monday 13th April 2026
May Day Bank Holiday	Monday 4th May 2026
Half Term	Monday 25th May 2026 to Friday 29th May 2026
Inset Day	Monday 29th June 2026
Last Day of Term	Friday 17th July 2026 School closes to pupils at 12.30pm
Inset Day	Monday 20th July 2026

DATES TO REMEMBER

EASTER MONDAY	-	MONDAY 6 APRIL 2026
MAY DAY	-	MONDAY 4 MAY 2026
Friday 19 December	-	school closes at 12.30 pm
Friday 17 July	-	school closes at 12.30 pm

OCCASIONAL DAYS

Monday 1 September 2025

Friday 28 November 2025

Monday 1 December 2025

Monday 29 June 2026

Monday 20 July 2026

Website

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EXAMPLE DINNER MENU

Autumn / Winter Menus: September - March				
 MONDAY	Oven Baked Sausage <i>served with Creamy Mashed Potatoes, Broccoli and Carrots</i>	Quorn Sausage <i>served with Creamy Mashed Potatoes, Broccoli and Carrots</i>	Pasta Bake <i>served with Homemade Tomato & Basil Sauce with Homemade Garlic Bread</i>	Sponge of the Day <i>served with Creamy Custard</i> Homemade Flapjack Fresh Fruit Platter
TUESDAY	Quorn Dippers <i>served with Herb Potatoes and Peas & Sweetcorn</i>	Mixed Bean Casserole <i>served with Wholegrain Rice</i>	Jacket Potato with Cheese & Coleslaw <i>served with Seasonal Salad</i>	Sticky Toffee Pudding <i>served with a Vanilla Sauce</i> Fruit in Jelly Fresh Fruit Salad
WEDNESDAY	Roast of the Day <i>served with Oven Roast and Creamed Potatoes and Seasonal Vegetables</i>	Cheese & Onion Pinwheels <i>served with Oven Roast and Creamed Potatoes and Seasonal Vegetables</i>	Cheese & Garlic Panini <i>served with Seasonal Salad</i>	Chunky Fruit Muffin Reduced Sugar Desserts Fruit Yoghurts
THURSDAY	Chicken & Vegetable Casserole <i>served with Yorkshire Pudding, and Seasonal Vegetables</i>	Homemade Vegetable Lasagne <i>served with Homemade Wedges and Seasonal Salad</i>	Jacket Potato with Baked Beans & Cheese <i>served with Seasonal Salad</i>	Chocolate Fudge Pudding <i>served with Creamy Custard</i> Shortbread and Fruit Juice Fresh Fruit Salad
FRIDAY	Oven Baked Fish Fingers <i>served with Chips and Garden Peas</i>	Macaroni Cheese <i>served with Homemade Tomato Bread</i>	Cheese & Tomato Panini <i>served with Chips and Side Salad</i>	Selection of Home Baking Creamy Rice Pudding Fresh Fruit Platter

FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Don't Lose Out!

All infant school pupils in state funded schools in England are eligible for a free school meal. Every child in reception, year 1 and year 2 can enjoy a hot, nutritious meal at lunch time. Everyone is entitled.

However, you must register with Kirklees so that your child continues to receive help and support such as free milk.

The school also receives extra money and this is called The Pupil Premium and is additional funding given to publicly funded schools in England to raise the attainment.

You can apply online or over the telephone it's that easy.

On the phone 01484 221928

Online: www.kirklees.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals

Or follow the link from the School's Website for more information: www.nlconline.org.uk

Meet the Staff

Mrs McGrath

Head of School

Safeguarding Lead



Mrs Berry

Assistant Head

Safeguarding Responsibility



Mrs Dickinson

Safeguarding Responsibility



Early Years Team

Miss Prest

Sapphires Class Teacher



Mrs Crowther

Rubies Class Teacher



Miss Edge

Rubies Class Teacher

