How to Help at Home

You can help your child to learn through the little things you do with them, for example:

- Everyday conversations, make-believe play, games with numbers or letters, reading together and involving them in the things you are doing, such as household chores and talking with them about it
- We will teach Read Write Inc (phonics programme) in a fun and active way. Look out for stickers being sent home so that you can say the sounds attached to them.
- Continue to count everyday objects and your child to say each number name as they touch and count. Encourage your child to use their fingers when counting also
- To support your child with their independence when getting dressed, please ensure they wear shoes that are easy for them to put on such as those with velcro fastenings. Encourage your child to try putting on their own coat and shoes
- Develop their independence in preparing their own snacks and pouring their own water as well as using a knife and fork. You'll be amazed at what they can achieve at an early age
- We love to be outdoors in all weather so please bring a pair of wellies to stay at school with your **child's name** clearly marked. We will be spending more time in Forest School this term
- Please ensure that your **child's name** is in every piece of clothing to prevent items from getting lost
- We ask that children do not bring toys to nursery as they can become easily lost or broken
- We like to make your child feel welcome in nursery, so we ask that you bring a family photograph which can be displayed in the nursery setting. This enables us to talk about family life and the people who are important to us
- If you have any unwanted quality books, we would appreciate them as we can use them for our nursery library.

Dates for the Diary

Date	Event
Monday 5th May	Bank Holiday
Monday 26th May	May Half Term
Monday 2nd June	INSET day - school closed to all children (back to school 3.6.25)
w/c Monday 23rd June	Diversity Week
Tuesday 24th June	Nursery Educational Visit to Hall Hill Farm—details to follow
Thursday 26th June	National Writing Day (in school event)
Friday 11th July	End of year reports to parents/carers
Thursday 10th July	Transition Day in school (children meet new teacher
Friday 18th July	Last day of term

We regularly use Facebook, text and email to update and remind parents of events.

Please ensure that the office have your current mobile and email address.

Curriculum Overview

SUMMER TERM 2025

Nursery

Dunston Hill Community Primary School

Ready Respect Kind

Welcome

Welcome to our Summer Term Curriculum Overview which aims to give you an insight into what is happening in our nursery and ways in which you can help your child and get involved with school life.

We continue to have a very supportive, knowledgeable and caring nursery team, who are dedicated to providing the best possible school experiences for your child.

Your child's teacher is Miss Hutchins who is ably supported by key workers, Mrs O'Hara , Mrs Wishart and Miss Shepard . Afternoon children are supported by key worker Miss Armstrong . Miss Hutchins has her planning, preparation and assessment time each Friday which will be covered by Miss Ewart.

We are Learning

In nursery we continue to focus on the three Prime Areas of learning. Staff plan activities based on what they have observed the children doing in their play, focussing on their interests.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

During the first weeks of the Summer term we continue to model and talk about being kind to everyone, following routines and boundaries whilst looking after our nursery—both indoor and outdoor. Our focus this term is on living in the wider world and we will be helping the children to think about their community and the simple responsibilities they have as well as any groups they are part of out of nursery. We learn how to look after minibeasts and habitats as we explore our exciting Forest School.

Communication and Language

Our weekly texts will introduce and use new vocabulary. We will have a focus on the development of full sentence use to encourage children to extend their use of vocabulary and communication skills. Opportunities will be given to talk such as discussing events in nursery and from home using a wider range of vocabulary such as the special times they have shared with their families. We will be developing the use of questions to help children clarify their understanding. This term we will be learning about Animals big and small and stories surrounding them. We are excited about our visit to Hall Hill Farm (details to follow).

Physical Development

We continue to develop our manipulative skills through a range of fine motor activities and simple ball games . Large motor movements will be developed outside using obstacle courses, balance beams and changing directions when travelling. We always promote hygiene through, for example, hand washing eating healthy and oral hygiene. We will also explore our very own Forest School which naturally supports our physical development.

In nursery we also teach the four Specific Areas of learning through play which include: Literacy, Mathematics, Understanding the World and Expressive Arts and Design.

Our Curriculum

The Early Years Foundation Stage Framework (EYFS)

Teaching within the Early Years follows the Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage. Staff use Birth to 5 Matters in order to support the implementation of the EYFS framework. Teaching within the Early Years focuses upon seven key areas of learning.

We follow a HighScope Curriculum with an emphasis on active learning which means our children have direct, hands-on experiences with people, objects, events, and ideas. The Nursery team support children's choices of activities, play with them at their level, focusing on their strengths, and encourage them to find solutions to their own problems. We believe that children are entitled to a diverse, challenging and effective curriculum that:

- Responds to individual needs
- Acknowledges their natural enthusiasm and their need to be active learners
- Builds on previous experiences
- Supports and develops their thinking and learning
- Provides appropriate experiences and activities across all areas of learning and development.

Assessment—Online Learning Journals

Our online learning journey tool called Tiny Tracker enables us to record the progress of our children. This will include photographs of your child and their work, along with notes detailing the learning that has taken place. There is also an opportunity on Tiny Tracker for you to share what your child has done at home which we would encourage as it promotes further communication and language in nursery. You should have received an email including a unique code in order to view your child's learning. If you have not, or have any further queries, please speak to you child's class teacher.

Learning at Home

Nursery Library

Your child is encouraged to borrow a book from our nursery library which holds an array of engaging books that your child can choose with their key worker. We ask you to support your child by following the guide which is provided in your child's library book wallet. Please ensure that your child uses this opportunity regularly so that their reading skills and a love of reading is developed from an early age.

Interests at home

We love to find out what your child has been doing outside of nursery, therefore we welcome photographs or messages of what's been happening, allowing us to share in your child's experiences. Tiny Tracker will allow you to easily upload photographs which can be shown in nursery.