

Fraserburgh South Park School Nursery



Nursery Induction Booklet 2023-2024

welcome

Dear Parent/Guardian

Welcome to South Park Nursery. I hope that our partnership will be productive and enjoyable and that your child settles quickly with us.

We take pride in the fact that this is a happy and industrious school with a real sense of team spirit. We hope that your child enjoys his/her time at South Park Nursery, and we can work together to provide a quality experience for your child.

The most important predictor of children's future outcomes is the quality of the home learning environment therefore we feel involving parents in their children's learning is the most significant factor in enabling children to succeed. When practitioners and families work in respectful partnership to develop ways to support children both at home and in the setting, we can clearly see the benefits. Working together ensures a good understanding of a child's needs, leading to appropriate provision within the setting and the possibility of supporting learning in the home. The education of a child is far too important to be left to a school alone. (Birth to Five Matters. Early Education)

The nursery handbook explains what you can expect of the nursery and indicates what the nursery expects of you in the way of partnership, help and support.

Aberdeenshire Council School Handbooks are designed to inform parents of as many aspects of life at our school as we can, and has been written in response to 'School Handbook Guidance (Scotland) Regulations 2012'. We hope you find our handbook clear and informative. A fully copy of the handbook can be viewed at:

www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/schools

We are here to support you with any queries or questions you may have regarding your child starting at our nursery. No question is too small. Please do not hesitate to get in touch with anything which you think might be helpful for us to know, things you are unsure about – absolutely anything at all.

We look forward to seeing you all soon!

Yours sincerely

Carol Irvine

Head Teacher

Vanessa Stephen

Early Years Senior Practitioner

Welcome to South Park Nursery

Over the next year we look forward to working in partnership to ensure your child realises their full potential during their time with us.

It is a daunting time taking your first steps into a new environment, and we are here to support you. This booklet contains helpful information which may answer any queries you may have.

Our transition plans will involve:

- Welcome tour of school and nursery for children and parents
- Informal question and answer sessions with Head Teacher and Early Years Senior Practitioner
- Meeting the nursery team in person
- Visits for all children with parents
- Settling in visits for the children
- Liaising with previous nurseries
- Curriculum information shared at workshops.
- We aim to make you feel as comfortable as possible and have a robust and detailed transition plan.

If you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to get in touch using the contact details overleaf.

“The transition to school together with the transition from home to an Early years setting are the first occasions in which children experience a big cultural change, in the people around them, the ways in which they interact, their number of peers, the types of activity they engage in, and their physical surroundings.”

Health and Social Care Standards

1.25 I can choose to have an active life and participate in a range of recreational, social, creative, physical and learning activities every day, both indoors and outdoors.



Some examples of outdoor learning at South Park Nursery

MEET OUR *Team*

Head Teacher	Miss Carol Irvine
Early Years Senior Practitioner	Miss Vanessa Stephen
Early Years Lead Practitioner	Mrs Lisa Cameron & Miss Marianne Mackie
Early Years Practitioner	Mrs Jolene Whyte, Mrs Kelly Chicken, Miss Mia Stephen and Miss Nicole Wallace
Early Years Support Worker	Mrs Leeann Slessor
School Administrator	Mrs Jacqueline Duthie
Clerical Assistant	Mrs Sarah Duthie
School Address:	South Park School Nursery Philorth Avenue FRASERBURGH AB43 9QB
Telephone	01346 415850
Email Address	southpark.sch@aberdeenshire.gov.uk
Website	http://fraserburghsouthpark.aberdeenshire.sch.uk/
Facebook	@FraserburghSouthPark



Nursery Hours and session times

Our nursery is open all year. Parents can choose term time or all year hours, details of which are as follows:



All year round – You can request up to **25 hours** in 5 hour blocks per week. We will be closed for 2 weeks at Christmas, in-service days, occasional days and public holidays. You will be required to take 4 weeks holidays per year.

Term time only – You can request up to **30 hours** in 5 hour blocks per week. This means 6 sessions per week. Currently, we have allocated everyone the number of sessions requested in their admissions form.

Morning sessions run from **8am to 1pm** with drop off 8-8.50am and pick up at 11.45-12 or 12.50 pm-1pm. Afternoon sessions run from **1pm to 6pm**, drop off at 1pm and pick up between 4.10 to 5.55pm (4.30-4.45 if not staying for PM meal). Full day sessions are available from **8am to 6pm**, with core hours of 8.50am to 4.10pm.

We wish to remain flexible and understand busy lifestyles with other children to collect, clubs to attend and so forth. We do ask that if we are out with the nursery and you wish to collect your child earlier than 4.10 that you do notify us. At times we may ask you to pick up from the park or beach to ensure we can still explore outdoor learning with minimal disruption to all children.

At all times, children must be brought to, and collected from the Nursery by an ADULT (i.e. someone who is over 16). Please do not park in the car park as this is for staff members only. Please inform the Nursery staff if someone other than yourself is collecting your child and ensure your child also knows who is picking them up.



Things Your Child Will Need to Bring

The clothes your child wears to Nursery should be comfortable, washable, and easily managed when your child goes to the toilet. Some children choose to wear a South Park jumper, though this is just a choice. Jumpers can be obtained from online company www.myclothing.com or local suppliers such as Buchan Embroidery, Pomprint Mintlaw (who have an online shop), Designs on You, Beautiful Baby Boutique or J&L Images. We can also provide 'nearly new/recycled' sweatshirts for parents who would wish to make use of these, please contact office regarding this. Just PLEASE do not wear their best clothes.

**** PLEASE ENSURE ALL ITEMS ARE CLEARLY NAMED ****

All children need to provide the following:

- A waterproof suit/snow suit – a 2 piece suit of dungarees/trousers and coat is ideal to enable children to be independent. Suits can be provided by the nursery and allocated to your child for the year ahead if required.
- A sun hat and sun cream (applied before arrival) in the summer months
- Hat and gloves during the winter months
- Wellington or outdoor boots for outdoor activities. These should stay in Nursery if possible as they will be used all year

Nursery Meals and Snacks



Nursery Education is provided free of charge by Aberdeenshire Council to every child aged 3-5. Snack, lunch, and evening meal is now also provided by the government at no cost to parents. All meals and snacks follow government guidance and evidence-based research to ensure children are accessing nutritional requirements. For more information on how to ensure children gain a healthy diet you can access the guidance at [Setting the table \(healthscotland.com\)](http://healthscotland.com)

The children enjoy fresh foods prepared daily by the school cooks, sit together, and socialise whilst also building independence and becoming involved in routines of the school. We promote a nurturing experience whilst still encouraging independence. Children are involved in setting up, eating and clearing away afterwards which nurtures respect and responsibility. Sitting together allows children to develop language and communication skills in a meaningful way. Becoming involved in the preparation of snack is also an opportunity for a rich learning experience.

Snack and mealtimes provide clear structure and rhythm to the day. This enables children to mark the time in the session. It becomes a predictable and familiar routine which is reassuring.



Curriculum for Excellence

Curriculum for Excellence is based on well planned experiences and outcomes for children from 3-18 to promote their independence, decision making skills, collaborative work skills and build their self-esteem and confidence. Thus, making Successful Learners, Responsible Citizens, Effective Contributors and Confident Individuals.

In the Nursery we provide activities which are designed to help the children to learn and develop new skills and enhance their learning further. Our curriculum is based firmly on play both indoors and outdoors. Children will engage in outdoor learning very regularly in the nursery.

“ we need to value play and take the time to observe the child’s learning through play in order to deepen and extend their learning. ” (Realising the Ambition: being me, 2020)



Planning and assessment are a continual part of the nursery programme in which the children have an active part. Planning for learning is a mix of adult initiated and child-initiated learning with nursery staff identifying the children’s interest. We will provide you with more detailed curriculum information later.

Illness



If your child is feeling unwell, it is best to keep him/her at home to ensure the wellbeing of other children and staff. It is vital that we can contact you in case of an emergency, so please supply us with an emergency contact number. Please let Nursery know about any absences by **telephoning the school office by 9.30am** and share any important information about your child (medical or other). ANY INFORMATION GIVEN TO NURSERY STAFF WILL BE KEPT CONFIDENTIAL.

Aberdeenshire Council advises that 'children should be kept off school for a minimum of 48 hours after recovery if they have either sickness or diarrhoea'. This prevents further infection, and your co-operation is requested. Guidance for other illnesses and the timescale for keeping children at home to reduce outbreaks can be found on the NHS website or in our infection control policy on our website.

To report an absence from Nursery, please ensure you call the school on **01346 415850** and choose **option 1**, this will allow you to leave a message. When leaving a message, please state name of child, time of session, reason for absence and expected date of return.

Should we not hear why a child is absent it is our duty to find out where they are therefore you will receive a phone call requesting more information. It is most helpful if you do call in. This then limits the time spent following up absences.



Parental Involvement

Parents are always welcome in the Nursery to help, chat to the children about a talent, or help on trips for example.

Parents will be invited to come into the Nursery at regular intervals throughout the year. This may be through stay and play sessions or helping with activities in order to develop a greater understanding of the daily Nursery routine and how we learn through play in the nursery.

Throughout the year, there will be continual contact between the staff and parents. You will have regular opportunities to view your child's profile at our pancake and profile sessions and will be able to speak to a member of staff regarding any issues relating to your child.

At each event there will be opportunities to give feedback along with a quality assurance form after significant events which help us to improve our practice.

Parents will be given the opportunity to attend one parents' meeting in the year. This is usually after school or in the evening so we can accommodate the majority of parents. We are flexible and can discuss other times prior to this.

We strive to keep communication fluid through our Facebook page, newsletter and email. On the Facebook page we can share relevant information back and forth. We would love to see your child's achievements, new pets or any other life events posted here.



Communication

We are always available to chat at the start/end of sessions. We will provide regular newsletters via our school communication system Groupcall – see below for information. Our Facebook page is updated regularly with pictures from our activities and trips and any other information. There is also a noticeboard in

the Nursery cloakroom which is regularly updated. If you ever need a more private word with staff, please just ask and we will arrange an appointment.

Groupcall

*This is our main communication tool used at South Park. On a smartphone, download the app called **Xpressions** this is where you will receive messages, or notifications that an e-mail has been sent. We do require your correct **mobile number** and **email address** for the system to work. You can also send us messages via the app. If you have any problems getting it downloaded/set up, please contact the office for advice or attend our workshop to get face to face help.*

Child Protection Statement

Given on-going concern on the subject of child abuse, and the changes in the law, schools are now required to report if we think any child has come to harm as a consequence of possible abuse.

Each school now has a Designated Officer appointed to be responsible for Child Protection matters and specially trained for the task. At South Park School and Nursery, the designated person is Miss Carol Irvine, Head Teacher.

Should anyone wish to talk further about Child Protection and the safety of children, they are welcome to contact Miss Irvine.



We regularly participate in Outdoor Learning in the nursery. We would ask that children come suitably dressed for ALL weather. We can be out rain or shine.



We aim to spend one day a week in a community space such as the woods or beach and encourage daily use of our own outdoor space. Children learn best through first hand experiences and find a sense of belonging when using the community on their doorstep. We have a beautiful beach here in Fraserburgh, a harbour and wooded areas, all of which we try to visit regularly.



Health and Social Care Standards

1.31 *As a child my social and physical skills, confidence, self-esteem and creativity are developed through a balance of organised and freely chosen extended play, including open ended and natural materials.*

2.24 *I make informed choices and decisions about the risks I take in my daily life and am encouraged to take positive risks which enhance the quality of my life.*

“ Play at this time is not trivial, it is highly serious and of deep significance. ” (Frobel, 1826)

We aim to provide a stimulating environment where your child can explore and develop, build communication and language, grow in confidence, creativity, and curiosity, develop movement and co-ordination, and build on self and social development within a valuable year at South Park Nursery.