



## WELCOME BACK!

Welcome back to the beginning of a new school year. We hope you have had an enjoyable and relaxing summer break. A warm welcome to all our new children, parents, families and carers, we look forward to getting to know your child and to work in partnership with you

**Early Years Foundation Stage** All children at Beckside will be working within the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum which focuses on 3 prime areas of learning most essential for children's readiness for future learning and healthy development. The prime areas are: Communication and Language, Physical Development and Personal, social and emotional development. Support is also provided in 4 specific areas through which the 3 prime areas are strengthened. The specific areas are: Literacy, Mathematics, Understanding the world and Expressive arts and design. To access more information about the EYFS and to download the framework go to :



[www.foundationyears.org.uk](http://www.foundationyears.org.uk)

## WHAT WILL BE HAPPENING THIS TERM?

Practitioners will be supporting their key children, observing them and considering their individual needs, interests and levels of achievement, using this information to plan exciting and challenging learning experiences in all areas of learning. We will be using the All About Me forms that our new starters should have received and returned and using children's interests from there to support their transition period and to plan their next steps in their learning and development.



## GETTING TO KNOW ONE ANOTHER

Over the coming weeks we will be getting to know one another through our key group times, adult led and child initiated play. The children's initiated play and achievements will be displayed on our main display board as you enter the setting. We would like parents to contribute to the children's display by telling us what they are learning at home so we can share in their achievements. This could be written on a post it note, or by providing photos or perhaps a picture they have made at home. We hope you will contribute.

## DAILY ROUTINES

We will be using routines such as tidy up time and snack times to promote sorting and logic about where things fit and are kept and number language such as more, less, a lot when helping to prepare snack and counting how many plates we might need. We will be using our puppet Louie to support children to settle and to encourage taking turns to speak and listen.

## LEARNING JOURNALS

New parents will be receiving a letter with the password you gave us so that you can access your child's online learning journal. Please type in the following: <https://eylj.org> or google **Tapestry Login**. You will then be asked to type in your email address and password. You will be able to view your child's observations which link to the EYFS and the characteristics of learning made by their key person. Automatic emails can be generated for parents when new entries are made by managing your settings.

## HOW YOU CAN CONTRIBUTE

Staff and parents working together on your child's online journal is one of the ways in which preschool and parents can work in partnership. The journal helps us to celebrate their achievements and to work together to provide what your child needs to make progress. Parents can upload their own photos, videos, observations from home and comment on observations made by your child's key person.

## STAY AND PLAY SESSIONS

We would like to invite parents, families and carers to come and join us for our weekly stay and play sessions at Beckside. This is an opportunity to see what we do and activities the children take part in. You will be able to have an informal chat with your child's key person about their progress and to ask any questions you may have. Come and join us at your child's session on the following dates this term.

**Monday 7th, Tuesday 15th, and Wednesday 23rd September..**

**Thursday 1st, Friday 9th, Monday 12th and Tuesday 20th October.**

We have a stay and play session once a week so we hope you will come and join us. Parents and carers are also welcome to join us anytime, not just at stay and play, so long as it's your child's session.

## REPORTING ABSENCES

Please call, text or email us if your child is unable to attend preschool

## BIRTH CERTIFICATES

Please could we remind new parents to our preschool to bring their child's birth certificate to preschool when they start, so we can check their date of birth as this is an OFSTED requirement.

## BRINGING TOYS TO PRESCHOOL

We appreciate that children like to bring toys from home to preschool but please could we ask that toys are left at home unless your child is bringing a comforter which is fine. Toys often get lost and some are unsuitable for under 3.

Thank you for your cooperation.

## DIARY DATES

### STAY AND PLAY SESSIONS

Starting Monday 7th September (see letter for more dates)

### October Half Term—

Thursday 22nd October

### Preschool re opens—

Monday 2nd November

### Tempest Photography

Wednesday 21st October  
From 9am (individual and family photographs)





### What's happening this term?

As well as being able to get involved in activities that will be planned by your child's key person to support their interests and development, we have planned for other learning opportunities in the following seven areas:

#### Personal, Social and Emotional Development

In this area of learning we will be continuing to support and develop children's self confidence and self awareness by offering extra support in new situations and varying activities so that children are introduced to new materials. We will also be recording individual achievements which reflect significant progress for every child in learning journals and as part of our progress recording and monitoring system which helps us to organise the tracking and evaluation of children's learning in the setting

#### Communication and Language Development

During the summer holidays we have made some improvements to our quiet area by purchasing a small sofa bed which will provide an area for children to have some quiet time or if they need a nap. We have also purchased a lovely wig wham which will create a cosy den for looking at books or chatting with friends, a fluffy rug, soft cushions, throws and fairy lights to create a calming sensory experience.



Over the coming term we will be carrying out a speech and language baseline assessment using the National Strategies monitoring tool for all new children starting at Beckside. This helps us to assess a child's listening and attention, understanding, speech sounds, talk and social communication during play and fun adult led activities.

Please speak with your child's key person if you have any questions.

#### Physical Development

In this area of learning we will be providing activities to work on our upper body and gross motor skill development as well as working on activities that focus on hands, fingers and grip to develop our fine motor skills. These are the essential elements that children need to have to enable them to be successful mark makers! So we will be doing lots of balancing, reaching and stretching and giving children space to move around. We will be using ribbons or short tubes to make marks in the air to support wrist and arm rotation as well as developing our low load control (your shoulders ability to support your arm and hand as you write) We will be providing a dough gym (manipulating play dough to music using our fingers) to assess where the children are in terms of their dexterity to identify what the next steps are to develop their fine motor skills.



#### Literacy

In this area of learning we will be providing lots of mark making opportunities such as using our fingers to make marks in glitter and foam. We will be writing down things that children say to support their developing understanding that what they say can be written down and then read and understood by someone else. We will be providing stories with repetitive phrases and structures to support vocabulary, such as the much loved stories by Julia Donaldson, "Super worm" and "Monkey Puzzle". Please share your books from home too!

#### Mathematics

We will be singing lots of counting songs and rhymes such as "Two little dickie birds", "12345, once I caught a fish alive" as well as learning action songs about shapes. We will be playing games which relate to number order, addition and subtraction, such as hopscotch, skittles and target games.



#### Understanding the World and Expressive Arts and Design

To celebrate Harvest and to allow us to give thanks and raise our own awareness of the needs of others we will be taking some produce to the church which not only brightens it up but also gives a real lift to the charities who receive the produce. If you would like to bring non perishable food donations to preschool week beginning: **7th September** and by **Friday 25th September**. We will be taking the children across to the church with our donations on **Monday 28th September**. **We also need small shoe box sized cardboard boxes** to transport our food if you can provide any. The children will decorate these in preschool.



#### Shopping List:

Milk (UHT or powdered), Sugar (500g)  
Fruit juice (carton), Soup, Pasta sauces  
Sponge pudding (tinned) Tomatoes (tinned)  
Cereals, Rice pudding (tinned) Tea Bags, instant coffee, instant mash potato  
Rice/pasta, Tinned meat/fish, Tinned fruit  
Jam, Biscuits or snack bar

**Thank you for your support**

#### Staff News

Congratulations to Mrs Brownrigg who has just completed the Level 3 Diploma in Children and Young Peoples Workforce.

#### Opening Times

Morning session.....9am-12 noon

Afternoon session..12.30pm-3pm

Lunch and afternoon session.... 12-3pm

(If your child is funded they will arrive for 12 noon for lunch for the 3 hour pm session)

#### Tell us what you think

We are always keen to hear from you about ways that we can improve our preschool. Please use our labelled suggestion box next to the register as you enter the room or email us your ideas.