



Fakenham Infant & Nursery School

Nursery Brochure 2025/2026



**WELCOME TO
FAKENHAM INFANT & NURSERY SCHOOL
PART OF THE FAKENHAM PRIMARY FEDERATION**

Norwich Road
Fakenham
Norfolk
NR21 8HN

Tel: 01328 864511

E-mail: office@fakenhaminfant.org.uk

Website: www.fakenhaminfant.org.uk

School Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/fakenhaminfantschool

Executive Head Teacher: Mr A Mason

Head of Infant Phase: Mrs S Gallichan

Chair of Governors: Mrs C Howard

Clerk to Governors: Mrs K Ellington

If you wish to contact any of the above, please telephone 01328 864511 to arrange an appointment or in writing c/o school secretary.

Dear Parents/Carers

On behalf of Fakenham Infant & Nursery School we would like to welcome you and your child/children to our School Nursery. Your child will be in Rainbow Class or Sunshine Room.

This brochure is designed to help parents and carers find out more about our Early Years Foundation Stage.

Our Vision

Fakenham Infant & Nursery School has pupil's wellbeing and personal development at its heart. Every child is entitled to the highest standard of education set within a range of learning opportunities which consider your child's interests and abilities.

As a nursery team, we are committed to providing high quality early learning in a safe, caring, and inclusive environment.

We strive to provide the best start in life for our children, creating a stimulating and challenging environment, where children can develop their curiosity and engage in learning that is rooted in the natural world around them. In turn this will promote and develop character, wellbeing, and a love of learning. We are a place where everyone is valued and their differing needs acknowledged, accepted, and met.

We open the doors to play and its possibilities, listening to the children and understanding that play has a power and is an amazing vehicle to learn. We immerse in a system of education that is done with the children, not to them.

We are committed to maintaining the highest standards of experiences, preparing your child for life's challenges, and equipping them with the skills and confidence necessary for the future. We aim to establish a happy, safe, secure, and exciting environment promoting equality and high expectations. Where every child's potential is realised, and learning is supported and celebrated.

We hope this will be the beginning of a happy partnership between you, your child and ourselves and we look forward to working together.

The Nursery Team

Amy, Yvonne, Leigh, Lydia, Caz and Dawn



The Nursery Team
ALWAYS BELIEVE THAT SOMETHING
wonderful
IS ABOUT TO HAPPEN



Miss Lydia Fish
Nursery Assistant



Mrs Amy Ensom
Class Teacher &
Nursery Leader



Mrs Dawn Howlett
Sunshine Room Leader



Mrs Caz Curtis
Nursery Assistant



Miss Yvonne Wright
Nursery Assistant



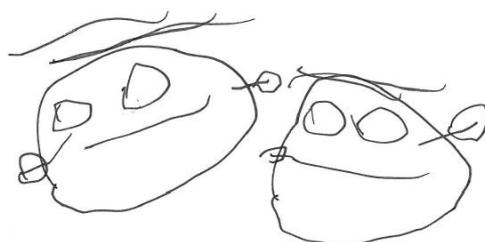
Miss Leigh Woodhouse
Nursery Assistant

Visits & Induction

Before your child starts at the Nursery, we offer you and your child a short visit. This is when the Nursery Teacher or Room Leader will welcome you to the nursery for a play and to explore what the nursery has to offer. This is a valuable opportunity for you and your child to become familiar with us and the setting. You will have the opportunity to ask us any questions or share any worries you may have about your child starting nursery. It enables us to talk over all the information you will receive and talk to your child about their interests and what they are looking forward to doing when they come to the nursery.



Starting Nursery



All children are different and will settle into the nursery at different times. This depends on lots of things and for some children it may take a long time. Please do not worry if it takes your child a while to settle or if they are fine at first and then after a couple of weeks, they seem unsettled. To help your child settle happily into the nursery it is a good idea to talk to them before they visit about coming to nursery, what they would like to play with, what other children they may know and the fun they are going to have. Walk past the school and point out to your child that is where they will be going, so that they can become familiar with the building. It is important that you appear happy about them starting nursery, if you are confident, they will be too.

You may like to find a family portrait (framed if possible) to bring in and add to the nursery provision when your child starts.



Rainbow Class Sessions

All children are entitled to 15 funded hours; some children will be entitled to 30 funded hours. We are able to be flexible with our nursery sessions. This will allow your child to use their funded hours as you wish, plus we are able to offer additional sessions that will need to be paid for. We will only charge parents for care provided outside of the statutory 15/30-hour provision.

There are different ways you could use this flexibility. There will be 3 sessions available to you each day and you can use any combination of these (mornings, afternoons, or both), paying for any extra sessions you use over and above the 5 funded 3-hour sessions.

Session 1 (Morning): 3 hours session time is 8.40am - 11.40am

Session 2 (Afternoon): 3 hours session time is 12.10pm - 15.10pm

Session 3 (Full day) 6 hours session time is 8.40am - 14.40pm

We are not able to split sessions and require half terms notice of any change. Any additional sessions for Rainbow room will be charged at £13.50 per session.

Obviously if you do not require any additional sessions and just want to use your funded hours that is acceptable too.

Sunshine Room Sessions

Session 1 (Morning): 3 hours session time is 8.40am - 11.40am

Session 2 (Afternoon): 3 hours session time is 12.10pm - 15.10pm

Session 3 (Full day) 6 hours session time is 8.40am - 14.40pm

We are not able to split sessions and require half terms notice of any change. Additional sessions for Sunshine room are charged at £15.00 per session. Some children may be eligible for 2-year-old government funding.

If you attend a full day session for either room you will need to provide a home pack lunch and you have the option to extend your session until 15.10pm at the cost of £2.50 per extended session.

Please read our charging policy for further information.

How you can help

Try to be punctual at home time. An adult must always collect the children and if it is someone different from usual, please let us know.

Please make sure all items are clearly labelled with your child's name. It is a good idea to have a change of clothes left at nursery - accidents do happen! These can be kept in a bag hanging on their pegs. Bring a coat as we try to play outside most days. Nursery can be a messy place so no best clothes please!



There is a school sweatshirt or cardigan that the children are welcome to wear but it is not compulsory - these can be purchased from Birds of Dereham, either in store or online, or from Sew Sweet in Fakenham town centre. Please encourage your child to do things for themselves - like taking off their own coats and hanging them on their pegs, though it may take longer. We also insist that jewellery is not worn, as it can be caught in clothing and apparatus and can be easily lost.

We like to offer the children the choice between indoor/outdoor play for a large portion of the nursery session. This does mean we encourage the children to play outside whatever the weather, therefore they will need wellies, a waterproof coat if it is rainy and hats and gloves when cold. On sunny days, your child will need a sun hat and sun cream should be applied before your child comes to nursery. Those attending all day can bring their own clearly labelled bottle of sun cream with a signed permission slip, so that staff can supervise the application of the cream.



"My garden."

Communication

Regular newsletters are emailed from School, these contain general information and diary dates. Nursery communicate via Tapestry, so please regularly check your child's Tapestry to keep you up to date with what's happening in the nursery as well as seeing how your child is learning. Newsletters and information can also be accessed on our school website www.fakenhaminfant.org.uk. We also have a text messaging service, which is used throughout the school.

Nursery staff are always available to answer any questions and address any concerns. Staff are always available at the beginning and end of sessions if you need to speak or arrange a meeting. We also hold events throughout the year for you to come along to. Please make sure that we always have up to date contact numbers in case of emergency. If someone other than yourselves or a named person on the admission form is going to pick up your child, please let us know. Children will not be allowed home if we do not have appropriate information.

Absence

We do appreciate a phone call or message if your child is ill or in the case of an unavoidable absence. If your child is unwell, please could you ensure they stay at home until they are fully recovered. Please inform the nursery staff if your child has any health worries or if there are any changes in your family circumstances. Please ensure that you inform the nursery staff if your child suffers from asthma and if they need to use an inhaler. If an inhaler is required, please obtain a second inhaler, marked clearly with your child's name which can be left at the nursery. Please also ask for and complete the relevant paperwork.

Access to the Nursery

Access is via the Early Childhood & Family Service (ECFS) entrance. At the beginning of the session please wait outside and nursery staff will call your child/ren in when it is time. Similarly, at the end of the session staff will bring your child/ren to you.



Key Person

When your child starts the nursery, they will be assigned a key person. You will be informed of the key person within the first few weeks of your child starting.

The class teacher will work alongside each key person and implement the approach of 'paired and shared key caring'. This will ensure the very best attentive and nurturing care throughout your child's time in our setting.

Each practitioner has a group of children allocated to them, so that they can pay particular attention to the emotional and physical well-being of those children.

The key person will help ensure that every child's learning and care is tailored to meet their individual needs and build the secure attachments essential for children's well-being and brain development. As the relationship grows, the child's key people are better able to 'tune in' to their needs, their moods and enthusiasms and provide the intuitively nurturing responses that are essential if a child is to feel safe and secure. This doesn't mean, however, that a child is restricted to being just with either of their key people and the other children in their care. Feeling safe enough to explore and interact with others in the setting is very important, and more easily achieved when a child knows the security of being 'held in mind' by their key people.

This paired and shared key caring amongst practitioner and class teacher, allows a key person to be always available.

Snack Time

The children have a daily snack. They have it together where they can make a choice between fruit, milk, or water. If your child cannot drink milk due to an allergy, please can you let us know prior to them starting. As some of our children may have serious allergies, please do not bring any food or sweets into the nursery for snack and remember to check little pockets, thank you.



The Early Years Foundation Stage

In the nursery we aim to develop firm foundations to build upon throughout our school journey and beyond. We work according to the Early Years Foundation Stage and offer exciting opportunities using Cornerstones Maestro projects and planning in the moment, where your child can engage in a blend of playful child-led experiences, balanced with high quality teaching, and become active with the natural world around them. The Early Years Foundation stage has seven main areas of learning.

The Prime Areas: -

- Communication and Language
- Physical Development
- Personal, Social and Emotional Development

The Specific Areas: -

- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the World
- Expressive Arts & Design

We implement these areas of learning by providing a safe, stimulating environment that allows children to discover, be challenged, be curious, consolidate and achieve their very best whilst developing their resilience and independence. Our learning environments, both inside and outside are adapted to meet the differing and developing needs of our children.



"This is a bee, a butterfly and that's the ground and these are the insects."

Communication and Language

The development of children's spoken language underpins all seven areas of learning and development, it is of great importance and at the heart of your child's learning. We provide a huge emphasis on speaking, listening, and learning how to express ourselves and provide a language rich environment.

By commenting on what children are interested in or doing, and introducing new vocabulary, nursery staff will build children's language effectively.

Reading frequently to children, and engaging them actively in stories, non-fiction, rhymes and poems, and then providing them with extensive opportunities to use and embed new words in a range of contexts, will give children the opportunity to thrive.

Through meaningful conversation, storytelling and role play, nursery staff will model sharing ideas and inviting children to elaborate and become comfortable using a rich range of vocabulary and language structures.



Physical Development

Physical activity is vital in children's all-round development, enabling them to pursue happy, healthy and active lives.

By creating games and providing opportunities for play both indoors and outdoors, nursery staff can support children to develop their core strength, stability, balance, spatial awareness, co-ordination and agility.

Gross motor skills provide the foundation for developing healthy bodies and regular participation in activities such as yoga supports their social and emotional well-being.

Fine motor control and precision helps with hand-eye co-ordination, which links to early literacy.

Through repeated and varied opportunities to explore and play with small world activities, puzzles, arts and crafts and the practice of using small tools, we allow children to develop proficiency, control, and confidence.



Literacy

It is crucial for children to develop a love of reading. Reading consists of many dimensions, two of the most critical are: language comprehension and word reading. Language comprehension develops when adults talk with children about the world around them and the books, they share with them.

To provide children with good foundations in Literacy, children are introduced to different letters and sounds in words in play and phonic based games. Drawing attention to text all around us, develops early reading and writing skills. During the Summer Term, before starting reception, children begin the RWI Phonics for Nursery. Children are taught to say the sounds of letters with the help of mnemonics and to blend the sounds into words.

Writing involves spelling, handwriting, articulating ideas and structuring them in speech before writing. In the nursery children are provided with many opportunities to write for a variety of purposes, and through modelled and guided activities.



Mathematics

Developing a strong grounding in number is essential so that all children develop the necessary building blocks to excel mathematically. We provide frequent and varied opportunities to develop a deep understanding of the numbers, the relationships between them and the patterns within those numbers. Using manipulatives, including small natural loose parts and tens frames for organising counting, children can develop a secure base of knowledge and vocabulary from which mastery of mathematics is built.

In addition, we provide rich opportunities for children to develop their spatial reasoning skills across all areas of mathematics including shape, space, and measures.

It is important that children develop positive attitudes and interests in mathematics, look for patterns and relationships, spot connections, 'have a go', talk to adults and peers about what they notice and not be afraid to make mistakes.



Understanding the World

Understanding the world involves guiding children to make sense of their physical world and their community. We encourage children to become more active with the natural world around them. Nursery staff encourage children to foster a natural love for their world, laying the foundations for sustainable development, which in turn will enthuse children in being adventurers, explorers, and scientists.

Through strong connections with their families and home life, personal experiences can be shared, increasing childrens' knowledge and sense of the world around them.



Expressive Arts & Design

The development of children's artistic and cultural awareness supports their imagination and creativity, it helps them make connections and express themselves in different ways. Through daily opportunities, children will engage with the arts, enabling them to explore and play with a wide range of media and materials. Through regular interaction and repetition of these activities, children will become confident in interpreting and appreciating what they hear, respond to, and observe.



Safeguarding/Child Protection Procedures

This school is committed to promoting the health and welfare of all pupils. If we see signs which suggest that one of our pupils may have been a victim of abuse, we are required to follow procedures laid down by the Norfolk Safeguarding Children's Board. Use of the procedures in this way is an obligation placed on the school by legislation and in no way infers that any parent/carer is being accused of wrongdoing. The Designated Safeguarding Lead for Child Protection is Mr A Mason and the Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads are Mrs S Gallichan, Mrs K Heazel and Miss E Kiley.

Operation Encompass

The school has signed up to this joint initiative with Norfolk County Council and Norfolk Police. Encompass has been set up to provide support to children who have been present at incidents of domestic abuse. The school will receive a confidential notification where a child at the school has been involved in, present or witness to domestic violence.

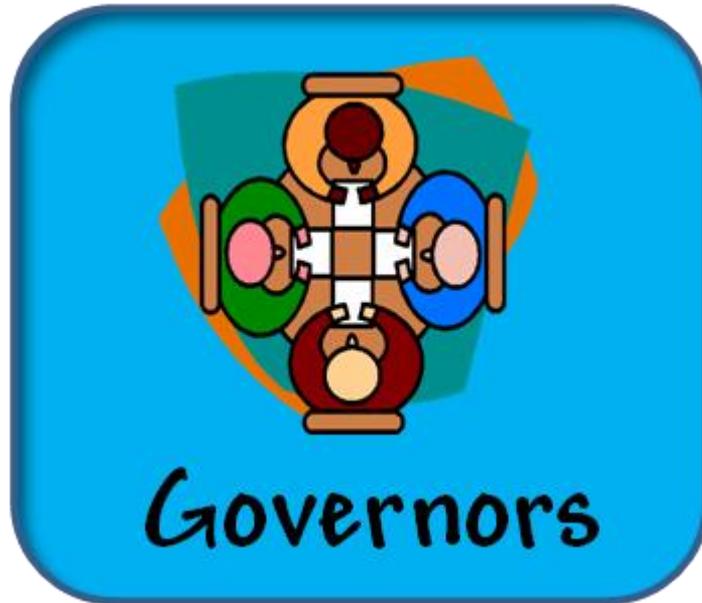
Partnership with parents

Nursery education is very much a partnership between home and school. Parents are extremely important in their child's education. By being interested in what your child is doing, listening and talking to them and coming into the nursery to share their experiences, will ensure that you become involved in your child's learning.

1. **Key Person** - Children will be allocated a nursery assistant and paired with the Class Teacher. Your child's Key Person will help build the secure attachments essential for children's well-being and brain development. As the relationship grows, the child's key people are better able to 'tune in' to their needs, their moods and enthusiasms and provide the intuitively nurturing responses that are essential if a child is to feel safe and secure. This doesn't mean, however, that a child is restricted to being just with either of their key people and the other children in their care. Feeling safe enough to explore and interact with others in the setting is very important, and more easily achieved when a child knows the security of being 'held in mind' by their key people. This paired and shared key caring allows for a key person being always available.
2. **Tapestry** - During your child's time at nursery, we will document their learning using an online Learning Journal. It will include observations and photographs of the activities your child has completed at nursery and provides an understanding of your child's learning and development. This has proved very popular with parents who have contributed to it themselves by uploading their own observations. This is invaluable in getting to know your child well.



TAPESTRY
ONLINE LEARNING JOURNAL



A message from the Governing Body

The Governing Body of Fakenham Primary Federation supports the staff, parents and children from Fakenham Infant & Nursery School and Fakenham Junior School. We are a group of 12 members. Some of us are parents and all of us are a part of the local community. We have a broad range of interests, skills and experience in both education and industry.

Our parent governors are an important part of our Governing Body as they enable the parents' voice to be heard by the schools.

We are all volunteers, and we meet twice a term to support the Executive Head and the rest of the staff so that together we can all be the best we can be. At our meetings we review data from the schools including achievement, attendance, safeguarding and key priorities. We act as a 'critical friend' to help take the schools forward and ensure that they are safe, secure, and happy learning environments for the children.

If you would like to contact the Governing Body, this can be done via the clerk who is based at Fakenham Junior School.

H.E.L.P.S

H.E.L.P.S is the parent teachers association of Fakenham Infant and Nursery School. Approximately 250 pupils attend our school, and we aim to raise money to help staff to provide the best possible education for all those children.

The committee is made up of parents and members of staff and meets regularly at the school. We organise events for the children and the whole family. We are always on the lookout for new members, ideas and help at events. If you are interested in becoming a member, please let us know. Past events have included: Children's Discos, Christmas Cheer, Easter Fayre, BBQ. and more. Access to giving is available through www.easyfundraising.org.uk.

We aim to spend all the money we raise on the pupils and in the past, we have funded: a travel and trip subsidy and an outdoor classroom.

Already the staff and parents have a lot more plans for spending money so every penny is important! We are grateful to everyone who supports the school by attending our events and giving generously of both their time and effort.

H.E.L.P.S have their own Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/HELPSfakenham/>



We are always happy to answer your questions and to talk to you about the activities your child has been doing and how your child has settled into nursery life. We welcome your comments and interest in your child's progress and development, as the more information we can gather about your child's needs the better we are able to provide for them.

We hope you find this brochure useful, but if you have any queries whatsoever, please do not hesitate to ask any of the nursery staff.

We look forward to working with you and your child/children.



What we learn with pleasure, we never forget.

Although details in this brochure were correct at the time of printing, it cannot be assumed that changes will not take place during the period between reviews. If you have any questions about anything contained in this brochure, please feel welcome to ask in school.

"Together We Can"

School term dates 2025-2026

Please note these dates differ slightly to the holiday dates of some neighbouring schools.

Autumn term

- **Wednesday 3th September - Thursday 23rd October 2025 (Friday 24th October is a training day school and nursery are closed)**
- **Half-term holiday: Monday 27th October - Friday 31st October 2025**
- **Monday 3rd November - Friday 19th December 2025**
- **Christmas holiday: Monday 22nd December 2025 - Friday 2nd January 2026 (Monday 5th and Tuesday 6th January 2026 are training days school and nursery are closed)**

Spring term

- **Wednesday 7th January - Friday 13th February 2026**
- **Half-term holiday: Monday 16th - Friday 20th February 2026**
- **Monday 23rd February - Friday 27th March 2026**
- **Easter holiday: Monday 30th April - Friday 10th April 2026**

Summer term

- **Monday 13th April - Friday 22nd May 2026 (Monday 4th and Monday 25th May is a Bank Holiday)**
- **Half-term holiday: Tuesday 26th - Friday 29th May 2026**
- **Monday 1st June - Friday 17th July 2026 (Thursday 25th and Friday 26th June are training days school and nursery are closed)**

Staff training days are : 1st September 2025, 2nd September 2025, 24th October 2025, 5th January 2026, 6th January 2026, 25th June 2026, 26th June 2026 and the 20th July 2026

In line with the new *General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR)*, you can find all relevant policies and privacy notices on our school website.

