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WELCOME TO NURSERY!



Home Visits

The Nursery staff will visit you at home and this is an opportunity to share information about your child in order to help them settle into Nursery. The children find it exciting and are able to develop an early relationship with the Nursery teacher and teaching assistant when they are able to share with them their own toys in their safe environment. Home visit appointments will be made at your Stay & Play session.

Starting Nursery

As Nursery staff make home visits at the start of the term, so the children will not start their transition into nursery immediately at the start of the term. We understand that some people may need to give notice at a current nursery setting and we will endeavour to give you plenty of time to do so.

Following the home visits we stagger the children's start date into Nursery to allow them to settle happily.

On your child's start date we ask that you bring them for a short session arriving at your given time between 8.30am and 9.15am and 12.30pm and 1.45pm; you will then pick them up a short while later. We like them to leave wanting more – it makes a big difference to their transition. You will received further information about your start date separately before the end of the school term.

Staff



Head Teacher
Mrs Clemens



Nursery Teacher
Mrs James

Our teaching Assistants work across the Foundation Stage throughout the week



Miss Brown



Miss Fraser



Mrs Hunter



Mrs Knight



Mrs Young



Mrs Molde & Mrs Williams are our office angels.

They are able to help with any organisational queries during your child's time at Nursery and once they are in school.



Being a volunteer/visitor/parent helper in school

Parent helpers and volunteers at our school bring with them a wealth of skills and experience that can enhance the learning opportunities of the children. Banks Road welcomes and encourages them. We do not invite helpers during the first term to allow the children to settle well. After the first term, parent helpers are always welcome in the Nursery – regularly or occasionally. Activities may include playing a board game with a small group of children, reading stories and sharing books or sharing a skill or craft you particularly enjoy. In addition, during the year we will take part in school trips and we always like to take as many parent helpers as possible on these trips.

If you would like to help at school or nursery **AT ANY TIME** (including on the trips) you will be required to attend an induction meeting with Mrs Clemens. The meeting will be held on **Wednesday 27th September at 6.15pm or Thursday 28th September at 9am**. During this meeting you will be guided through the policy and procedures for any volunteer in school. This is our duty of care to you and your child. At the end of this meeting you will be asked to sign an agreement form which outlines the expectations of all stakeholders in order to actively support our school aims and values. **You will only have to go through the induction process once during the time your child is at Banks Road.**

Nursery Times



Morning Nursery – 8.30 – 11.30am

Lunch Club – 11.30am – 12.30pm

Afternoon Nursery – 12.30 – 3.30pm



It is important to arrive and collect on time. It helps the children to learn the necessity for good timekeeping.

If you will be unavoidably late picking up please telephone us so that we can explain this to your child.

If you have other children that you need to collect at 3.30pm we are able to offer an earlier collection time at 3.15pm instead. Please let Nursery staff know if you need your child to finish at 3.15pm.

Although attendance at Nursery is non-statutory we believe every day counts. Attendance records are kept and we ask that you always let us know if your child is unable to come to Nursery for any reason.

Our Daily Routine

Children and parents are asked to wait outside Nursery until a member of staff opens the door and welcomes them in. After hanging up their coat and bag they find their name and go to the carpet area to join in with a physical challenge.

Once children are settled we hold a short group time in which we meet and greet the other children attending and talk together about today's learning. Once this group time is completed children are able to choose where they wish to play in Nursery.



During the Nursery session we have additional short group times where we focus on early phonics skills such as rhyming. We play games and sing songs together.

Children have access to water at all times, and have a snack break twice each day of their fruit and free milk.

The children are then able to access both the inside and outside areas of Nursery. We go outside whatever the weather and would therefore ask that you ensure your child has sensible outdoor clothing and wellies with them at all Nursery sessions. Everyone helps to tidy up towards the end of the Nursery session. Children are encouraged to tidy the area they have been working in. The session then finishes with a story time together.

At the end of the session parents and carers are asked to wait outside the Nursery until staff open the door. The children will remain in the carpet area until they are collected. We follow the same routine in the afternoon but make changes to the provision for the children who stay all day to ensure they continue to be stimulated.

How we learn in Nursery



We believe that young children learn most effectively through active investigation, enquiry, first hand experience, play and talk. This enables the child to become a lifelong learner who has positive characteristics of learning.

In Nursery we focus on the prime areas:

- Personal, social and emotional development
- Communication and language development
- Physical development.

The specific areas include essential skills and knowledge. They grow out of prime areas and provide important contexts for learning:

- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding of the world
- Expressive arts and design

“Through play children practise and consolidate learning, play with ideas and develop what they know. In their play children dare to take risks, negotiate, solve problems, initiate, anticipate, rearrange, restate, reflect, integrate and consolidate their knowledge and understanding”. *Early Years Curriculum Group*



Children are encouraged to join in all the activities, to be independent and to make choices. We offer a rich and varied curriculum in a safe and inviting environment. We understand that children develop at their own pace, but with encouragement and opportunity will reach their full potential. Children learn best when they are happy, safe and secure. We are there to guide and teach and will get to know you and your child well during your time here. We value what each child brings to nursery and encourage collaborative play as we know the children gain so much, learning from each other.

Our environment is planned to enable children to extend and develop their thinking and learning across all areas of the curriculum. Although the resources in each area tend to reflect a particular curricular area, they are planned together enabling children to consolidate and apply their learning in a way that makes sense to them. We love to follow the children's own interests and will plan topics based on what we know and observe of the children.

Our environment consists of several areas. Each area offers a different variety of learning experiences for our children.

Drawing and writing area
Listening area and Book corner
Puzzles and fine motor skill activities
Building and Small world play
Exploring and Investigating area
Creative area for painting, modelling & messy play

D & T area
Music area
Number area
Sand and Water
Role Play area and dressing up



All through the year we visit the main school building to familiarise the children with the environment, having our P.E sessions in the hall and join in the whole school golden star celebrations. We share part of our outdoor space with Reception which means the children become familiar with the staff and begin building relationships with them. During the summer term we visit the Reception classrooms for music time and stories as well as having our lunch in the hall with the reception children (**Cooked school meals are not available to nursery children**).

Outdoor Play

We pride ourselves on the opportunities we offer your child to learn outdoors. We commit one session a week to Forest school in our Forest school garden where children learn an appreciation of nature and care for the environment, bush-craft skills and collaborative play and games outdoors.



In addition we provide daily opportunities to learn outdoors through the shared use of a large outdoor space within which children can access bikes, a climbing frame, den building, physical play with a wide range of equipment, sand and water play and many other exciting activities and adventures.

Please see the appendix 1 for more information about Forest School.

We have a number of curriculum documents, statements and policies all available for you to see. These are available on our school website www.banksroadschool.co.uk or, alternatively, if you would like a hard copy please ask at the school office

Curriculum enrichment



We believe it is important to enrich the curriculum to promote learning. We do this through organising special themed days and trips to places of special interest linked with the curriculum. We also arrange visits from providers with specialist subject or cultural expertise; these include dancers, theatre groups, local ministers and followers of other faiths.

On some of these occasions we ask parents to make a contribution to cover the costs. This is voluntary, but if costs are not recouped the event may have to be cancelled.

Your first day at nursery

We believe that a supportive transition into nursery makes all the difference to our children and have planned home visits and a staggered start so that children can build up a positive bond with the staff. The children will come for a shorter session on their first day, you will be informed of your starting date and time before we break for the summer holidays. Each child will have a staggered starting time so that staff can take the time to settle them before the next child arrives. We come together to sing our hello song, which helps the children to learn their new friends' names, and then we let the children free choose to enable them to explore their new environment. We finish with music time and a story.

Toys from Home

Whilst it is not Nursery policy to ban children from bringing toys from home, we ask that you discourage this as much as possible. We find that children become very upset if their toy goes missing or is damaged at Nursery.



If children do bring a toy we ask them to put it in their school bag to be kept safe until the end of the session.

Uniform

We do not require children to wear uniform; due to the messy nature of nursery we ask that you send your child in clothes that you do not mind getting dirty. Children need to have appropriate clothes for the weather and footwear for being active. To support children's independence and sense of confidence it helps that children wear clothing that they are able to remove and put back on themselves e.g. Velcro trainers.

Milk & Snacks

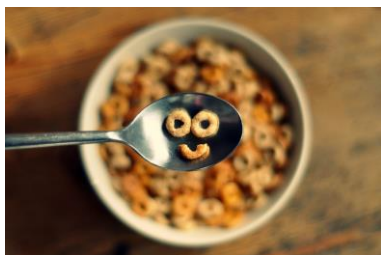
Milk is available in school daily. We automatically register your child to receive milk. Registering involves providing your child's name and date of birth to our provider, Cool Milk. Please contact the school office if wish for us to not register your child.

The school is a participant in the National Fruit Scheme. This ensures that every child receives a free piece of fruit each day. No other snacks should be brought in.

Early Years Pupil Premium

If you have a low income or are in receipt of certain benefits the school may be able to apply for additional funding to enable us to provide additional financial and educational support to **your** child. This is vital funding to our school to enable us to enhance the experience for your child. It will also mean that school meals, milk, uniform and trips could be provided free of charge or subsidised for your child during their school life. Please see the letter at appendix 3 for further details.

Breakfast Club



Our Breakfast Club is open to children who attend Banks Road Infant & Nursery School and their siblings who attend Bispham Drive Junior School. Breakfast Club is open each day during term time (except Inset days). There is no need to book a place at Breakfast Club.

Children can arrive between 7.30am and 8am. The breakfast provided will consist of cereals, fruit juice, toast with a variety of spreads, fresh fruit, yoghurts and hot drinks. Unfortunately, we cannot accommodate children who arrive after 8am.

We provide childcare and breakfast at a cost of £5.50 per day. Cash payments are preferred, and will be collected at Breakfast Club, either on the first day of attendance each week or on a daily basis.

If however you are entitled to the 30 hours of funding and you chose to use your hours to pay for Breakfast Club, the daily charge is just £2.00. You will be invoiced termly in advance for this cost.

Lunch Club

We have a limited number of places for children to attend our Lunch Club. Children are able to eat a healthy packed lunch (provided from home) in a social and secure environment fully supervised by their own dedicated midday supervisor. Please ensure your child has lots of healthy choices, keeping chocolate and crisps to a minimum. We are a **NUT FREE SCHOOL** and ask that you do not send nuts or products containing nuts to school.



If you are entitled to the 30 hours of funding and you chose to use your hours to pay for Lunch Club, there is no charge. If you are not using the 30 hours funding to pay for Lunch Club the cost is £4.50 per session, and bookings for this need to be made a term in advance for the full term. Please ask at the school office or ring on 0115 9179881 if you would be interested in your child attending Lunch Club.

After School Club

We are able to offer an After School Club for children in school and nursery. This runs in the school hall from 3.30pm to 6pm. Children get a light healthy tea for example sandwiches, beans on toast, soup, fruits, yoghurt etc. They have time to relax and play with their friends. There are craft activities and outdoor play as well as a range of toys for the children to enjoy.

If you are entitled to the 30 hours of funding and you choose to use your hours to pay for After School Club, there is a charge of £3.00. If you are not entitled to the 30 hours funding the cost is £12.50 per session; bookings for this need to be made a term in advance for the full term. Please contact the school office if you think this is a service you may require.

There may also be a limited number of additional nursery sessions that can be purchased, at a cost of £12.50 per session and booked for a full term in advance. If you think that this may be interest to you please contact the school office to find out our availability.

Communication with Parents

We try to inform parents of events, routines and the curriculum in a variety of ways. The most reliable way to receive information is via email and Class Dojo. In addition, weekly and termly newsletters give predominantly whole school information, including dates for diaries. All sorts of Information can also be found on our school website, so please look at this regularly, too at www.banksroadschool.co.uk

The Class Dojo is an App that is used for used for communicating with parents for day to day class notices and messages. Teachers will share messages and good news with parents via the class story and love to receive comments back. Any advanced warning of events will be via Class Dojo so please ensure that you sign up and check it regularly. We encourage parents to share information on your child's Class Dojo portfolio. This helps us to build a clear picture of your child's achievements and interests, particularly around experiences outside of the Nursery provision, such as any clubs they join, swimming lessons, family trips etc. Any messages from home for staff can also be added to the Class Dojo, staff will endeavour to reply by at least the next working day.

Special Educational Needs

We treat all our pupils as individuals, and plan their learning experiences according to their needs. Careful records are kept of each child's progress, which are available to parents who wish to see them. In this way we identify special needs at an early stage in the child's school career.

Initially the class teacher provides a variety of approaches and experiences to help the child overcome areas of difficulty, and will always inform parents of any special arrangements being made. If this support does not overcome the difficulty, then the special needs co-ordinator will be consulted. She will suggest other strategies and may support the child herself. She will also consult with the child's parents.

If necessary, additional support will be sought from external special needs support services, but only after consultation with parents.

Please see appendix 2 for further information about Special Educational Needs.

Security

The safety of all our pupils is of paramount importance. We ask parents ensure they close the playground gate when entering and leaving the premises. Please also let us know if someone different is collecting your child. **We will not allow children to leave with strangers or unaccompanied.** If you are going to be late, we will keep your child until you arrive. If possible let us know you have been delayed and we will then reassure your child. We ask all adults coming to school during the school day to come via the main entrance and register their presence.

Transfer to School

When it comes to the time for your child to start school we are able to offer the happiest and most successful transition available. Throughout the year children participate in school events regularly and staff from school work with children in Nursery. In addition we share the outside area with children who have just started school and use the hall regularly for activities such as P.E., music, games and singing. This ensures that by the time your child starts school they are familiar with the school routines and environment and staff in school know your child well. In addition where children have found it difficult to settle in nursery or have additional needs, transition arrangements are extended to provide individual opportunities as appropriate. Here is what some of our parents think about our Nursery and their child's journey from Nursery to School:

"I cannot speak highly enough of Banks Road Nursery! Since starting the nursery my son has not only progressed significantly in his learning, he has grown in confidence, independence and built vital social skills ready to take with him into Reception. Skills I know would not have been possible without the school nursery setting."

"Miss James and Miss Fraser who run the nursery are an asset to the school. The children are nurtured yet encouraged every step of the way."

"My son is now ready and excited for his new journey in school life and it is definitely down to Banks Road Nursery."

"Nursery was brilliant for preparing my daughter for school. Mrs James and her team turned a shy, nervous little girl into a confident young lady who is thriving in Reception. Children learn the school routines in nursery while building great social skills and independence. Mrs James helps to teach children key academic skills in fun and engaging ways, helping to prepare children for the learning goals in Reception. My daughter still uses Mrs James' rhymes and songs to practice reading and writing (and to try and teach her younger brother too!!) The transition to school was seamless thanks to the experience in nursery."

"Having sent one child to nursery at Banks Road recently we really noticed a difference in how well they adapted to phonics, reading and hand writing in reception. His transition to school was seamless because he was already aware of the school and teachers in the foundation stages which really helped him to settle in."

"Nursery was a fantastic starting point for my son, he was encouraged to explore his capabilities in a safe environment where he was able to learn through play and discovery. Nursery provided him with structure he needed to prepare him for his next steps in education."

"The amazing team at Banks Road nursery have really helped my son to have the best start to school life. The nursery teaching staff identified very early on the additional needs that my son had and were able to immediately implement strategies to support him to achieve his potential. They nurture and embed the right behaviours and culture for learning during the nursery year, which meant he has been able to hit the ground running when he moved up to Reception. As the majority of his class were also at the nursery with him, this made his transition into Reception much easier. With an established friendship group and familiar surroundings and teaching staff, he feels confident and supported, and has really thrived since day 1 in Reception."

Behaviour Relationships & Behaviour Regulation

At Banks Road School we aim to achieve a calm and orderly school environment based on mutual respect and trust with high standards of behaviour. We believe that children should look forward to coming to school and feel relaxed and happy in their learning environment. We aim for all members of our learning community to feel proud of each other and particularly the behaviour and conduct of our children. We recognise that exemplary behaviour underpins effective teaching and allows children to concentrate on their learning. All members of the learning community have a responsibility for managing behaviour in a positive manner and ensuring they act as good role models for our children at all times. We believe that through an ethos of respect everyone in our school will be happy.

Our school website has lots of information about behaviour expectations including our Relationships and Behaviour Policy, please visit: www.banksroadschool.co.uk. Appendix 4 provides the Governors Statement of Behaviour Principles.

BRILLIANT expectations

Banks Road Infant and Nursery School
BRILLIANT Expectations

- B**uild your confidence
- R**espect yourself, your school and your community
- I**nspire yourself and others to succeed
- L**earn from your mistakes
- L**isten to others
- I**mprove to be the best that you can be
- A**chieve and enjoy safely
- N**ever give up
- T**ogether we aim high



Banks Road Infant & Nursery School Early Years **BRILLIANT** Expectations



Our Banks Road BRILLIANT expectations are the foundations of the positive behaviour management strategies at our school and we aim for these to be embedded at a very early age. Nursery and Reception children follow a simplified version of the expectations.

We never give up = Build your confidence / Learn from your mistakes / Never Give Up
We respect = Respect yourself, your school and your community
We listen = Listen to others
We stay safe = Achieve and enjoy safely
We smile = Inspire yourself and others to succeed

Sending money to Nursery

At Banks Road we are a cashless school. We use an on-line payments system called Pay360. You will be able to use Pay360 to pay for trips, wrap around care facilities, the school equipment shop and other school activities.

Pay360 is a very easy-to-use online system which offers parents the flexibility to make online payments whenever and wherever they like, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week - safe in the knowledge that payments are secure and use the highest level of card security to reach the school safely. When you start school you will receive a registration invitation including a unique invitation code to set up your Pay360 account.

If you cannot use our cashless system and you have to send money to school, please help us by putting it in a sealed envelope with your child's name and class, the amount of money enclosed and what it is for clearly written on the front. This is very important and will make sure that money does not get lost and gets allocated to the correct trip or activity.

Travel to School

Children are welcome to come to school on their scooters. Scooters can be stored in the scooter park by the main gate at parents' own risk. A padlock is required to secure the scooter throughout the day. This facility is **not** suitable for bicycles; if you allow your child to ride their bicycle to school, you must push it home when they have gone into class.

Park & Stride

Many parents use cars to bring and collect children from school. Whilst we prefer children to walk to school, we understand that this is not always possible. In order to minimise risk to our children and inconvenience to neighbouring residents, we have a 'Park & Stride' ethos with support from members of the local community, Local Authority and Nottinghamshire Police. We hope all parents will support this plan by parking at the Greenwood Community Centre, which is accessed via Chester Green, and is free, and then striding from there to school (and reversing the process at home time.) Thank you for your cooperation in keeping all members of our school safe.

Rattle & Roll Holiday Clubs

Rattle & Roll Performance is an external company which provides a Holiday Club provision at Banks Road Infant & Nursery School.

Holiday Clubs are open to all children aged 3-11 and they do not need to be on roll at Banks Road. OFSTED inspected Rattle & Roll and rated the holiday clubs as OUTSTANDING in all areas.

Each day is action packed & fun filled with lots of activities focussing on team work, confidence building and wellbeing. Activities include dance, yoga, drama, tag rugby, dodgeball, cricket, rounders, singing, crafts, art & much more.

Rattle & Roll Performance accept all childcare vouchers & at some sessions can offer free places to children in receipt of Free School Meals.

Absence





If your child is absent please telephone school as soon as possible on the first day of absence. An answer-phone operates when the office is unattended so that parents can leave messages prior to leaving for work etc.

It is our policy to follow up any unexplained absence by telephoning parents who have not contacted us 30 minutes after the start of their child's Nursery session.

Medicines

Many children are fit to return to school before they have completed their courses of medication. When a child is taking prescribed medicines, we will administer them during the school day if necessary. We ask that the medicine is named and brought to the school office **daily** along with a suitable spoon/syringe. The parent/carer will be asked to complete a medication authorisation form. We can keep the medicine in the refrigerator if necessary.

Illness during the day

If your child is taken ill or has an accident at Nursery, every effort will be made to contact you. Please help us by ensuring that we have at least two contact numbers which are kept up to date.

Asthma

We ask parents to complete an annual 'Asthma plan' if their child suffers with asthma so that we can be aware of the likelihood and any possible triggers of an attack. Your child's asthma inhaler will be kept in Nursery and administered by the Nursery teacher as outlined in your child's Asthma plan.

Infectious illnesses

In the cases of infectious illnesses the following apply:

Illness	Appropriate action
Sickness or diarrhoea bug	Wait 48 hours after the last bout of illness before your child returns to nursery. They must be well and eating and drinking normally.
Conjunctivitis	Do not bring your child to nursery if their eyes are 'gunky'. Wait until 24 hours after treatment has been started.
Chicken pox	Do not bring your child to nursery until the last spot has scabbed.
Hand, foot & mouth	Do not bring your child to nursery until the last blister has dried up.
Scarlett Fever	Your child can return 24 hours after starting antibiotic treatment.
Impetigo	Do not bring your child to nursery until the lesions have scabbed.
Covid-19	If your child has a positive COVID-19 test result they should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 3 days after the day they took the test. After 3 days, if they feel well and do not have a high temperature, they can return to school.

Head Lice

Head lice, or nits, are sadly a fact of school life. Please check your child's hair regularly and let us know if you find either louse or nits (the egg of the louse). We can then remind other parent to check their children's hair and so prevent them reaching epidemic proportions!

Sun Safety

Banks Road is a Sun Safe school. We actively promote the use of sun screen, hats and sunglasses during the summer months. We ask that you apply a once daily, high factor, sun screen to your child before they come to Nursery in the morning, and that you provide a tube of cream for them to reapply if you feel it necessary during the day. The staff are unable to apply cream to the children.

Additional Information

We hope this booklet has provided some useful information. If there is anything else you would like to know or require more detailed information about any aspect of school life, please don't hesitate to ask either the class teacher, the administrative staff or the head teacher. You can also visit our website at www.banksroadschool.co.uk to read news, events, policies and procedures. The following policies are just some of those available on our website:

- Attendance
- Complaints
- Child Protection & Safeguarding
- Equality
- Privacy Notice
- Relationships & Behaviour Regulation
- School Mission Statement
- Special Educational Needs



The Friends of Banks Road Infant School is the school's Parent Teacher Association and a registered charity. The Friends Committee is made up of parents and teachers who share an interest in raising funds for the benefit of the school, through organising fun and exciting events for the children and the parents.

The aim of the Friends Committee is to raise money for the school to spend on extra facilities and equipment to help your child have a fun and exciting time at school, they also organise social events for the children and parents. When your child starts at Banks Road you automatically become a 'Friend'.

Every year they hold a Christmas and Spring disco for the children, plus a number of events for parents such as quiz nights and a Ladies Pamper night. The main annual event is the Summer BBQ, which is held in the Summer term.

The Friends raise over £5,000 each year which pays for a Christmas tree for the school hall, a Christmas present and an Easter egg for every child. Over the past couple of years they have also funded the establishment of the Forest School area, the Sensory Garden, a large interactive screen for the school hall, iPads, playground equipment, toys and games. The Friends are currently raising funds for the outdoor learning provision in the Foundation Stage.

The meetings are quite informal, but the job gets done, and the Committee has fun doing so! There are also a couple of committee members' social evenings each year too. We hope you will become an active Friend whilst your child is at Banks Road. New committee members are always welcome, and the AGM Meeting will be held on Wednesday 27th September at 7pm. For more information please visit the school website.



Forest School – Information for Parents

What is Forest School?

Forest school is an exciting opportunity for your child to experience nature and learn outdoors. At forest school the children learn through first-hand experience and develop skills like perseverance, independence and responsibility. These are all skills which will help them to achieve more when they are back in the classroom.



Where and when does Forest school take place?



Most sessions will take place in our small forest school area at the back and side of Nursery. The children will be able to access toilets in the Nursery. Some weeks we may go off site and walk to the public woodland space near Greenwood Community Centre. If we are going out of school we will endeavour to let parents know 24 hours in advance.

Forest school sessions last 2 hours and take place weekly within the normal nursery session times.

How will we keep the children safe?

The site has been carefully assessed and the children will be given detailed training for all the activities.

Part of forest school is teaching children about risks and how to evaluate them. So the children will be taught about how to add fuel to a fire, cook and make drinks using a fire, climb trees and use tools. These activities will be introduced as the children in the group are ready for them and will be carefully supervised by an adult. By allowing children to take these measured risks, we help to prepare them for making choices when they are older and teach them to be actively responsible for themselves, their choices and actions.

What if it is raining?

We try to go outside whatever the weather but obviously would not lead outdoor sessions in unsafe weather such as storms. Part of our forest school ethos is to respond to the needs of the children so sometimes our sessions are shorter if children are becoming too cold, hot or uncomfortable. We also occasionally offer the option of indoor play alongside the session when the weather is particularly cold or hot. In our experience it is rarely the children who get cold and tired or want to come inside!



What do we need for forest school?

We provide all specialist equipment such as protective clothing and tools and we also have puddle suits for all children which keep them dry. Please note these are not lined so children need to wear lots of layers underneath in the cold weather.

We ask all children to bring a pair of labelled Wellington boots which they keep in nursery at all times, and also a puddle suit if possible, as we wear these in most weathers.

Children need to wear sensible clothing on forest school day such as long trousers and a long sleeved top, lots of layers and hat, scarf and gloves in Winter and sunhat and sun-cream in Summer. We send out a full list of clothing suggestions when we first start our forest school sessions after October half term.

What do the children do at forest school?

A wide variety of activities! We start with the children's interests and fascinations and explore these initially through free play and games.

During the course of the year we build up a structure which responds to the needs of the children.

This could incorporate:

- Singing
- Collaborative play and games e.g. 123 where are you, what's the time Mr Wolf
- Story telling
- Imaginative play
- Shelter building
- Ropes and knots
- Making potions and cooking in our mud kitchen
- Using simple tools to whittle wood
- 'Risky' play such as balancing over our 'mud pit' and climbing trees
- Adding fuel to fires and making hot drinks using 'Kelly kettles'
- Environmental activities such as building nests, feeding birds, building shelters for woodland animals, mini-beast hunts
- Gardening

Can I come too?

Yes please! In order for forest school to run successfully we desperately need parent helpers preferably on a regular basis. Please ask any of the nursery staff if you would like to come and help.



Special Educational Needs at Banks Road

Information for parents & carers

What are Special Educational Needs?

A child is defined under the Children & Families Act 2014 as having a Special Educational Need if they:

- have a significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of others their age; or
- have a disability which hinders them from making use of general educational facilities.

At Banks Road we recognise that special needs are vast and wide-ranging. A child could have a very short-term need or challenge with some area of school life or learning. On the other end of the spectrum a child may have a life-long need having great impact on their school and personal life.

Special needs can mean that a child is facing any kind of difficulty at that time. At Banks Road we aim to support the whole child including their academic, emotional, physical, behavioural and social wellbeing.

How will I know if my child is having difficulties?

- As Parents – you may already have passed on your concerns to others who can help i.e. Health Visitor, G.P.
- At Pre-School – Playgroup, Nursery or child-minders, others may have informed you that they had noticed some things were particularly challenging for your child.
- At School – teachers and their assistants may find during their daily working contact that your child may need extra help in certain areas.
- Routine Screening – such as vision and hearing tests can provide important information, as can teacher assessments on the progress your child is making. Hearing and vision tests are no longer provided as a matter of course for all children. If you have any concerns please contact your GP. We recommend that you arrange a hearing test at some point during your child's Nursery year, just to be on the safe side.

What can you do if you are worried that your child may be having difficulties?

Your child's early years are a very important time for their physical, emotional, intellectual and social development. When your health visitor or doctor makes a routine check, they might suggest that there could be a problem. But if you have any worries of your own, you should get advice straightaway.

If you think your child may have a special educational need that has not been identified by the school you should talk to your child's class teacher, to the SENCO (this is the person in the school who has a particular responsibility for co-ordinating help for children with special educational needs), Miss Morris or to the head teacher, Mrs Clemens, straight away.

Children making slower progress or having particular difficulties in one area may be given extra help or different lessons to help them succeed.

So you should not assume, just because your child is making slower progress than you expected or the teachers are providing different support, help or activities in class, that your child has special educational needs.

- It is best to start with your child's teacher or the SENCO.
- You will be able to talk over your concerns and find out what the school thinks.
- The SENCO will be able to explain what happens next.
- Working together with your child's teachers will often help to sort out worries and problems.
- The closer you work with your child's teachers, the more successful any help for your child can be.

Remember – you know your child better than anyone.

In School support

SENCO: Miss Morris (Special Educational Needs Coordinator)
Teaching Assistants
Class Teacher

All these staff have a part to play in developing and implementing the Special Needs Programme at Banks Road Infant and Nursery School.

If you are concerned about your child's progress and their learning needs, please speak to their class teacher in the first instance.

You are welcome to speak to the SENCO who can be contacted easily through the school office.

Mrs Williams is the Governor with responsibility for SEND and can be contacted through the school office.

Tel No. 0115 9179881.

Want to find out more?

For the SEND policy, accessibility plan, local statement and lots more information please refer to the SEN section of the School website: www.banksroadschool.co.uk

For further information on children with special educational needs check out the DfES publication Special Educational Needs – a guide for parents and carers. This, and lots of other information, can be found at the following website:

<http://www.education.gov.uk/schools>

You can also get help from the Nottinghamshire and Nottingham Parent Partnership Service: www.ppsnotts.org.uk

Early Years Pupil Premium

The school can claim extra funding through the Early Years Pupil Premium to support children's development, learning and care.

National data and research tells that children who are from families which have a low income or are claiming certain benefits achieve less than the expected level of development at the end of the early years foundation stage compared to other children. The Early Years Pupil Premium provides additional funding to help the school to close this gap.

The Early Years Pupil Premium provides extra funding to be used specifically for the children who are eligible. We can use the funding in any way we chose to improve the quality of the early year's education that we provide for your child. This could include for example TA intervention for small group work to support your child with a particular area of learning, or for social and emotional support; alternatively it could be used to support the cost of school trips for your child. It is important to stress however that it is for the benefit of **your child**.

It is well documented that high quality early education can influence how well a child does at both primary and secondary school, so we do want to make the most of this additional funding.

Children may qualify for pupil premium if the parent/carer receives one of the following benefits:

- Universal Credit with an annual net income of no more than £7,400
- Income support
- Income based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Support under Part 6 of the Immigration & Asylum Act 1999
- The Guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Working Tax Credit
- Child Tax Credit

Register on-line by visiting the [Nottinghamshire County Council website](#) The information needed to register includes:

- Personal details (including national insurance number and date of birth)
- Child's details in full including their date of birth and school they attend.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school office on 0115 917 9881.

GOVERNORS' STATEMENT OF BEHAVIOUR PRINCIPLES 2022-23

Rationale and Purpose

This Statement has been drawn up in accordance with the Education and Inspections Act 2006, and DfE guidance (The school behaviour policy: the role of the governing board). The purpose of this statement is to provide guidance for the Head Teacher in drawing up the Relationships and Behaviour Regulations Policy at Banks Road Infant and Nursery School so that it reflects the shared aspirations and beliefs of governors, staff and parents for the children in the school, as well as taking full account of law and guidance on behaviour matters. It is intended to help all school staff to be aware of and understand the extent of their powers in respect of discipline and sanctions and how to use them. Staff should be confident that they have the Governor's support when following this guidance.

This is a statement of principles, not practice: it is the responsibility of the Head Teacher to draw up the Relationships and Behaviour Regulations Policy, though she must take account of these principles when formulating this. The Head Teacher is also asked to take account of the guidance in DfE publication Behaviour and Discipline in Schools: a guide for Head teachers and school staff (January 2016).

The Relationships and Behaviour Regulations Policy must be publicised, in writing, to staff, parents/carers and children each year. It must also appear on the school's website.

Principles

- Every child has the right to learn but no child has the right to disrupt the learning of others
- Everyone has a right to be listened to, to be valued, to feel and be safe.
- Everyone must be protected from disruption or abuse
- Banks Road Infant and Nursery school is an inclusive school; all members of the school community should be free from discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Equality Act 2010
- It is expected that all adults – staff, volunteers and governors – will set excellent examples to the children at all times
- We seek to give every child a sense of personal responsibility for his/her own actions
- The school's Relationships and Behaviour Regulations Policy will ensure that there are measures to encourage good behaviour, self-discipline and respect, and prevent all forms of bullying amongst pupils; it also provides guidance on use of reasonable force
- Where there are significant concerns over a pupil's behaviour, the school will work with parents to strive for common strategies between home and school, fostering good relationships between the school and pupils' home life.
- The school will seek advice and support from appropriate outside agencies where concerns arise over a child's behaviour
- The school's Relationships and Behaviour Regulations Policy will clearly reflect the school's approach to exclusions, that exclusions will only be used as a last resort
- The school will fulfil its' legal duties under the Equality Act 2010 in respect of safeguarding, children with special educational needs and all vulnerable children
- The school will keep abreast of current issues and initiatives with regard to Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 and related regulations

The governing board also emphasises that violence or threatening behaviour will not be tolerated in any circumstances.

This written statement of behaviour principles is reviewed and approved by the full governing board annually.