

Early Years

Welcome to Early Years at Crook Primary School

We are delighted that you are considering choosing our school for your child and hope to create a long lasting relationship with you so that together we can ensure that your child has the best possible Early Years and Primary School Education.

Our nursery is situated in a lovely building with extensive grounds just for the nursery children. Reception is a separate unit within the main school building with its own inner quad for outdoor play. The Reception classrooms are very spacious which allows us to create specific areas for the different areas of the curriculum.

"All of my children have been lucky enough to attend Crook Nursery and in my opinion it improves every year! All of the staff are kind and caring and get to know every child and their family which makes bringing your child and leaving them behind a much nicer experience for everyone. Communication is second to none and without fail I have a message every morning and evening showing me what my child has done and things that are planned for the future. Keep being amazing!" – Parent

"I like it when we go to the fire station"- Henry

"I like making a telescope and binoculars in the craft area"- Oskar

"The Reception has a lovely setting not only for learning but for different activities for all children to mix with each other between the classrooms. I believe the children have a nice environment to learn and have wonderful teaching staff" - Parent

How can you help your child prepare for Early Years?

Please encourage your child's independence by

- Encouraging them to put their coats and shoes on.
- Avoid any clothes that are tricky to fasten.
- Toilet train your child.
- Encourage children to tidy their toys away at home.

Supporting your child with speech and language

In today's world with so many electronic devices, talk is sometimes forgotten!

- The amount of language children hear is very important. The more they hear, the more time you talk to them, the more likely they are to use different types of words that they are exposed to.
- Comment on their play. Don't question everything. Ask open ended questions so that it gives them opportunities to expand their vocabulary.
- Talk, talk, talk, is the key!

Families

In Early Years, we pride ourselves on developing strong and positive relationships with our families. Communicating effectively with parents is vital in ensuring good progress for our children. Parents also have opportunities to come into Nursery and Reception throughout the year for different activities as well as parent meetings.



The Early Years Curriculum

Nursery Curriculum

Our curriculum is designed to recognise children's prior experience and provide first hand learning based on their interests, needs and stages of development.

We place a huge emphasis on communication and language as well as personal, social and emotional development. Learning starts off on each session with a key worker group activity and then the children enjoy exciting child-initiated activities supported by adults. The ability to learn is underpinned by the teaching of basic skills, knowledge and values that equips our children for future success. Reading is at the heart of what we do in Nursery.

We ensure our topics and provision are stimulating and engaging for the children, building on their natural curiosity.

"I like everything, I like the house and painting and everything in Nursery."

"I love to pretend to be a doctor and drawing rainbows."

"He's learning to become so much more independent and has a passion for learning new things."- Rachael- parent.

Reception Curriculum

In Reception we follow Little Wandle Phonics. We have a mixture of whole class teaching and small focused work activities. Our children love our topics and these prepare our children for Year 1.

Our topics are based on providing our children with "exciting experiences." We provide a broad and balanced learning environment.

"My child is learning so many new things week in, week out and skips into school every morning."

Nursery Sessions

Morning Sessions	8.50am – 11.50am
Afternoon Sessions	12.30pm – 3.30pm
Full Day	8.50am – 3.30pm

Children from the age of 3 who are toilet trained are able to join our breakfast club between 7.45am and 8.45am or our after school provision between 3.15pm and 6.00pm.

Please contact the nursery for information about prices for the additional sessions.

The Reception day begins at 8.45am and ends at 3.15pm.



Transition to School

We aim to make the transition to school for our nursery children as smooth as possible.

During their time in nursery, children go over to the main school building each week for their P.E lessons, as well as having their lunch in the main hall there. They also take part in some of the whole school celebrations which take place throughout the year.

In the term before they join reception, many informal visits take place as well as the formal visits arranged for them to get to know their class teacher.

