

Brompton Community Primary School

Foundation Stage Unit



Brompton Community Primary School
Station Road
Brompton
Northallerton
DL6 2RE

Tel: 01609 772657

Email: admin@brompton.n-yorks.sch.uk

Website: www.brompton.n-yorks.sch.uk

Dear parents/carers,

Soon your child will be starting Brompton Community Primary School Foundation Stage Unit. We hope that this booklet will provide you with helpful information about our setting. If you have any further questions or suggestions please do not hesitate to ask us.

We look forward to your child starting at our school.

Staff

<i>Headteacher:</i>	Mrs Byrne
<i>Deputy Headteacher:</i>	Mr Manning
<i>Foundation Stage Manager & F2 teacher:</i>	Miss Greer
<i>F1 Teacher:</i>	Mrs Bell
<i>SENCO:</i>	Mrs Armstrong
<i>Designated Safeguarding Lead:</i>	Mrs Byrne

Mission Statement

- We will ensure that our school offers **warmth** and **security** within a **stimulating** and **safe** environment.
- We will encourage our children to develop **self-respect** and **respect** and consideration for others regardless of gender, race, culture, language, religion or disability.
- We will provide a **creative** and **skills** based curriculum with a range of teaching strategies to cater for the needs and talents of every child.
- We will build upon each child's existing abilities and successes and encourage the **highest possible standards** of work and behaviour.
- We will ensure that every child has a good **understanding** of their mental health and well-being and what makes a healthy lifestyle.
- We will guide our children towards working with **independence**, using their initiative and showing a sense of **responsibility** whilst taking pride in their achievements.
- We will ensure that children's **rights** are learned, understood and lived in this school.
- We will value our **partnership with parents** and our links within the local and Global community.
- We will encourage our children to build a '**Legacy**' and be the **best that they can be**.

'Build Your Legacy - This is Your Time'.

The Foundation Stage Unit

During their **part-time attendance in the Foundation Stage** the children are known as **F1 (Foundation Stage 1/Nursery)**.

We currently offer 15 hours of free early years' education per week for F1 children. The sessions on offer are 5 x 3 hour mornings during term time only, however, this is based on there being adequate space and staff allocation regarding the pupil/staff ratio.

Please note - if a child is out of the school catchment area, and have been offered a F1 place, this will **not automatically guarantee them a full-time school place. The decision to allocate places is made by the County's admissions team.*

In their last year of the Foundation Stage, which you may know as the **Reception Year**, we refer to it as **F2 (Foundation Stage 2)**. This is the year in which a child has their fifth birthday.

Getting Ready to Start

It is important for children to have a positive start to their education. Staff will work closely with parents of those children that are finding it difficult to settle. Before starting F1, we invite both parents and children to join us for some settling in sessions. The sessions give parents the opportunity to talk to the staff and they enable the children to become more familiar with the new environment. Before starting school, the new F2 children will have an opportunity to try a school lunch with some transition mornings. The dates for the settling in sessions will be given to you at the end of your introduction meeting or home visit.

You can help your child to settle more easily into the Foundation Stage Unit by encouraging them to be independent in the following things:

- Going to the toilet.
- Washing their hands.
- Putting on their coat.
- Putting on their shoes.
- Tidying toys away.
- Recognising their name.

The School Day

The school day begins at 8.45am. Please help us to make a prompt start to each session by ensuring your child is here on time.

F1 children finish at 11.45am.

F2 children finish at 3.00pm.



All children must be brought to and collected from the unit by a responsible adult.

Both F1 and F2 children are encouraged to enter the unit independently, with the support of the Foundation Stage staff.

The staff will be available for any messages but if you would like a longer discussion please book an appointment.

For the safety of the children, please do not park in the school car park when dropping off or picking up children. Please use the Pavilions car park next door.

Please collect your child promptly at home time. In the event of unavoidable delay, please phone school to let us know. If we know that you are going to be a little late at the end of the session we can reassure your child that you will be along soon. Please inform us if anyone different is collecting your child.

Attendance and Absence

Children deserve the best possible start to their early education and they are therefore expected to attend every session that they can. If your child is ill or has a medical appointment, it is important that you let school know as soon as possible and keep us updated each day they are absent.



School can be contacted on **01609 772657**. If no one is available to take the call, please leave a message.

As your child starts school, they will pick up lots of germs and bugs until they have built up their immune system. Colds and coughs are very common, particularly within the Early Years. However, if your child develops an unusual and consistent cough and develops a temperature, then please keep them at home. If you feel necessary, have your child Covid-19 tested.

Remember to keep all contact details updated in the office.

Early Years Foundation Stage Framework

Young children learn through play. We provide experiences and opportunities within a happy and secure environment in which children can develop key skills. We provide a broad and balanced curriculum, recognising the importance of promoting both intellectual and social skills. We aim to instil confidence, social and emotional competence, independence and motivation in all our children. Our children develop skills, knowledge and attitudes by actively exploring the learning environment through play and by making their own choices. We encourage them to follow their own interests and we aim to support and extend their thinking as they play. Children will also receive direct teaching of key skills and concepts.



The curriculum is split into seven areas of learning.

Three Prime Areas

Communication and language: involves giving children opportunities to experience a rich language environment; to develop their confidence and skills in expressing themselves; and to speak and listen in a range of situations.

Physical development: involves providing opportunities for young children to be active and interactive; and to develop their co-ordination, control, and movement. Children must also be helped to understand the importance of physical activity, and to make healthy choices in relation to food.

Personal, social and emotional development: involves helping children to develop a positive sense of themselves, and others; to form positive relationships and develop respect for others; to develop social skills and learn how to manage their feelings; to understand appropriate behaviour in groups; and to have confidence in their own abilities.

Four Specific Areas

Literacy: involves encouraging children to link sounds and letters and to begin to read and write. Children must be given access to a wide range of reading materials (books, poems, and other written materials) to inspire their interest.

Mathematics: involves providing children with opportunities to develop and improve their skills in counting, understanding and using numbers, calculating simple addition and subtraction problems; and to describe shapes, spaces, and measures.

Understanding the world: involves guiding children to make sense of their physical world and their community through opportunities to explore, observe and find out about people, places, technology and the environment.

Expressive arts and design: involves enabling children to explore and play with a wide range of media and materials, as well as providing opportunities and encouragement for sharing their thoughts, ideas and feelings through a variety of activities in art, music, movement, dance, role-play, and design and technology.

Characteristics of Effective Learning

Children will display the following characteristics if they are to become effective and motivated learners:

Playing and exploring - children investigate and experience things, and 'have a go'.

Active learning - children concentrate and keep on trying if they encounter difficulties, and enjoy achievement.

Creating and thinking critically - children have and develop their own ideas, make links between ideas, and develop strategies for doing things.

Phonics

In F1, the children start to explore sounds, rhymes and rhythm. This is the beginning of learning to read so it is vital to get it right. The children will be listening to lots of different sounds, making different sounds, learning nursery rhymes and learning the sounds that letters make. The Staff will be able to provide you with activities to support your child at home.



When children enter F2, they will hopefully then be ready to learn to read and write words. Once they have learnt the first six letter sounds they will be building and reading simple words e.g. sat, pin, tin. The children will bring a phonics homework book home every week which will help you to support your child at home. Once children are confident with the sounds of the alphabet, they will then move onto 'action' words. Action words are common words that are usually difficult to 'sound out' e.g. to, are, you. It is important that children learn these at home as well as at school.

Reading

We love reading and we want our children to love it too. We have a group story session at least once a day. All children are encouraged to bring a book bag to school - book bags can be bought from the school office. As we are unable to hold our parent story time session at this time, there could still be a possibility to hold these sessions remotely. If you are interested, please contact the school office.

In F1 the children have access to a library where they choose a book to take home weekly. We ask that you take care of the book and share it with your child regularly. It is important that books are returned on a Monday in order for staff to sanitise them and prepare them for going home the following week.

The F2 children will have an individual reading book that they will be able to take home. The individual books will be changed once a week.

F2 P.E.

The children in F2 regularly take part in P.E. sessions. All children will need a drawstring P.E. bag to keep their kit in. P.E. kit consists of white t-shirt and dark fitted shorts (cycling shorts). P.E. shoes are not required unless lessons are taking place outside - in which case, parents will be informed prior to the lessons. Likewise, parents will be notified when outdoor clothing is required.

Uniform

Within the Foundation Stage, there are lots of opportunities for children to use 'messy' resources to support their learning. Activities such as painting, water play and the mud kitchen allow children to explore their curiosities, be creative and express themselves. Please do not worry about uniform becoming messy - one of the main reasons for having a uniform in the Foundation Stage is so that the children protect their casual clothes.

All children in the FSU are to wear our school uniform. The uniform consists of grey/black trousers or skirt, with a blue/white/yellow polo shirt and a royal blue jumper or cardigan. It is not compulsory, but if you wish to purchase items with the school logo on (jumpers, cardigans and polo shirts) they can be purchased via the school website. For free delivery please enter "bcpfreepost" and your order will be delivered to school. Children are required to wear sensible footwear to school. To promote the children's independence, we recommend that shoes have easy fastenings such as Velcro.

Please make sure ALL items of clothing (including shoes) are clearly named.

We try our best to keep track of your child's belongings; however it can be tricky to return if there is no visible name. We expect children to be clean and neat in their appearance and we recommend that children with long hair tie it back for school. Please note, jewellery is not appropriate and it should not be worn at school. This includes the wearing of earrings.

Outdoor Play

The children access the outdoor environment on a daily basis - despite the weather! Please make sure you dress your children appropriately for the weather. Children will need a suitable coat in school at all times in case of weather changes.

Cold/wet weather (Winter)

Waterproof clothing

Warm clothes (thick coat, gloves, scarf, hat)

Wellies

Hot weather (Summer)

Clothing that covers the shoulders

Sun hat

Apply sun cream before coming to school.

Each child has their own peg where they can hang their coat and bags.

Health and Self-Care

To help with the settling in process, it would be helpful if your child was confident to use the toilet independently. We understand that accidents do happen, especially when the children are busy and preoccupied, and we therefore ask that all F1 children bring a named bag with a change of clothes in. Bags can be kept in the unit until they are needed. An intimate care consent form needs to be filled out for every child so we can deal with the minor day-to-day incidents. Please let us know if your child has any difficulties with toileting.

Food and Drink

All children have access to a piece of fresh fruit or vegetable every day. All children receive a free carton of milk every day up until the term they turn 5. Parents can then opt to pay for milk if desired.

All children are encouraged to bring a water bottle to school, which is to be filled with water only.

School Lunch

F2 children are eligible for a free school meal. School meals are cooked in our own kitchen by our Cook, Mrs Nicks. A detailed menu is sent home each term to enable parents and children to choose their healthy lunch option. Your child can choose to have school lunch at any time during the week. Children are welcome to bring a packed lunch to school if they wish. Drinks should be in plastic containers which children are able to open and cans of fizzy drinks or sweets should not be included. Please mark your child's lunchbox and drinks container clearly with their name and class.

Please contact the school if your child has specific dietary needs and keep school informed of all allergies and intolerances.

Parents as Partners

We recognise that parents are a child's first educators. We aim to work closely with parents to ensure a positive impact on a child's learning and development.



Pupil Portfolios

As part of the Foundation Stage curriculum, children's progress is recorded through observations. We use a program called 'Evidence Me' to gather the achievements and evidence which we then share with parents via the app. Parents can then comment and send feedback about their child which will then help us to support them in school. Parents can also upload observations of achievements at home. More information about Evidence Me will be given in the school welcome pack. Please speak to a member of staff if you need any more information or you are struggling to use the app.

Parent Consultations

We are always ready to help and discuss anything concerning your child's welfare and education. All parents have the opportunity to contact the Foundation Stage teachers to discuss their child's progress and development.

Foundation Unit Fund

We hold fundraising events throughout the year to raise money for our Foundations Unit fund. Funding is used for baking equipment, trips and other resources. We appreciate your valued support.

Notices and Newsletters

We regularly send letters home in your child's bag - please make sure you check their bag. All letters, planning and other information is also available on the school website. Please talk to the staff if there is anything you want to know.

Policies

There are a number of policies in place that relate to the safeguarding and welfare of all children. All policies can be found on the school website: www.brompton.n-yorks.sch.uk

Cursive Letter Formation

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j k l m n o p q r

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