

Early Learning and Childcare

Fraserburgh North School

Information Booklet

2022/2023

We want to give you a warm welcome to Fraserburgh North Early Learning and Childcare (ELC)

We hope this handbook will answer some of the questions you and your child may have about our setting and will be useful and informative throughout the year.

Contact details for the school and ELC are:

Fraserburgh North School

Finlayson Street

Fraserburgh

Aberdeenshire

AB43 9JR



 01346 415830 Mobile: 07824 704656



fraserburgh\_north.sch@aberdeenshire.gov.uk



http://www.fraserburghnorth.aberdeenshire.sch.uk



Information line 08700544999 (School Pin no 02 1770) Please do not use this line to leave messages for the school.

Adverse weather and emergency closure-

[www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/closures](http://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/closures)

We want to introduce some of our team members:

Head Teacher: Mrs Sharon Mellin

Principal Teacher: Sophie Cargill

Senior Early Years Practitioner: Andrea Raynsford

Early Years Lead Practitioner: Anna Nejman

Early Years Practitioner: Holly Chapman

Early Years Practitioner: Tracy Cowie

ELC Principal Teacher: James Johnston

Parent Council: Mrs Paula Buchan

Pupil support worker: Mrs Michelle Bolt

Pupil Support Worker: Mrs Karen Pollard

Director of Education: Mr Lawrence Findlay

Contact details for all the above professionals involved in your child’s learning are available from the school office.

Vision, Values and North School Ethos:

All different, all equal

Fraserburgh North School provides a safe, nurturing environment where individuals from all cultures and backgrounds are welcomed and valued. All children receive appropriately stimulating and challenging opportunities and experiences using the local community and partner providers to encourage the development of skills, values and knowledge to succeed now and in the future.

At Fraserburgh North we are:

Honest, Respectful, Inclusive and Friendly

Our Local Community

Below are some fantastic local resources that may be useful to you.

 **Libraries**

* Fraserburgh Library, King Edward Street, Fraserburgh, AB43 9PN – 415820
* Rosehearty Library, Church Terrace, Fraserburgh, AB43 7NP – 571219
* Cairnbulg Library Station Road, Cairnbulg, Fraserburgh, AB43 8WQ – 415821
* (Contact Library for Bookbug Sessions in your area, Summer reading Challenges and Code Clubs or to see what other groups are being run).

Fraserburgh North School and Nursery benefits from being within walking distance of the main attractions and points of interest. The school community comprises of nine different nationalities which leads to a lively and rich learning environment.

We give our children experiences that involves the local community, exploring and investigating different areas of the community. For example, we visit local libraries, cafes, the beach, sheltered housing, local emergency services and many other interesting features and sites Fraserburgh have to offer.

**Useful Medical Numbers**

**Doctors Surgeries**

* Finlayson Street Surgery, 33 Finlayson Street, Fraserburgh, AB43 9JW – 518088
* Saltoun Surgery, Lochpots Road, Fraserburgh, AB43 9NH – 514154
* Crimond Medical Centre, Logie Avenue East, AB43 8QJ -531800

**Dentists**

* Jaws, 5 Albert Street, Fraserburgh, AB43 9JL – 515515
* The North Street Dentist, 16 North Street, Fraserburgh, AB43 9DJ – 517964
* Clarks Dental Clinic, 52 Hanover Street, Fraserburgh, AB43 9HX – 517757
* Shaw D W Dental Clinic, 31-36 Frithside Street, Fraserburgh, AB43 9AR – 518565

**Opticians**

* Duncan and Todd, 28-30 Broad Street, Fraserburgh, AB43 9AH – 519269
* Stephen Cuddy, 50 Broad Street, Fraserburgh, AB43 9AH - 518877

**Activities on for Toddlers:**

* Little Dribblers Football, Kessock Park, Kessock Road, Fraserburgh, AB43 8UE – 511226
* K Dance, Wednesday am and Friday pm – contact Kim Donn, 07740594375
* Boomerangs Soft Play (ASN nights available) – 94 Commerce Street, Fraserburgh, AB43 9AQ – 511234
* Bowling for pre-school (Strikers), Leisure Centre, North Links, Seaforth Street, Fraserburgh, AB43 9BB – 516663.
* Fraserburgh North School Families and Toddlers- Wednesdays 9:30am- Fraserburgh North School Community Room
* Little Blessings Toddler Group, Tuesday 10:00-11:30am and 1:00-2:30pm- AOG Central, Queens Road, Fraserburgh
* Happytots Parent and Toddlers- Thursday and Friday- 10:00-11:30am and 1:00-2:30pm- Salvation Army
* Noisy Tots Music group- Monday- 10:00-11:30am- St Andrews Hall, Mid Street



**Other Useful Contacts**

**Useful Facebook Sites**

* Fraserburgh Health Visitors
* Babble to Banter
* Aberdeenshire Family Information Services
* Aberdeenshire Makaton Training and Tips

**Other Useful Numbers**

* Fraserburgh Jobcentre Plus, 2-4 Harbour Road, Fraserburgh, AB43 9RZ – 0843 5040551
* Citizens Advice Centre, Broad Street, Peterhead, AB42 1BY – 01779 471515
* Shirley’s Space (Mental Health walk in centre) - Crimond Medical and Community Hub- 07940959002
* Fraserburgh Community and Sports Centre- Maconochie Place, AB439TH

-01346 415898

**Local Foodbanks**

* Fraserburgh North Nursery – Every Tuesday and Thursday
* Salvation Army- 66 Firthside Street, AB43 9JA- 01346513437
* AOG Central- 2 Queens Road, Fraserburgh- 01346508006- ineed@aogcentral.co.uk

If you are interested in any of the services our local community has to offer, or have any questions, please speak to a member of staff who will give you more information or point you in the right direction.



Our ELC:

* is child-centred, acknowledges children’s views and actively involves children in meaningful ways in everyday decisions in the ELC Setting
* offers a nurturing and caring environment
* provides appropriate spaces to play and learn with a range of possibilities for children to develop their present and future potential
* is responsive to children’s changeable interests and demands
* an environment with rich and challenging experiences and provides opportunities to acquire language and encourage communication,
* provides children exciting experiences to learn the skills enabling them to be ready for starting primary school.

Staffing:

With our current staffing there will be a maximum of 16 children in the group. We provide places for children aged 3 to 5, within the catchment area of Fraserburgh Academy.

Your child will be allocated a key worker. This member of staff will be responsible for your child’s wellbeing, learning and development and should be your first point of contact, regarding any queries you may have about your child in the ELC. However, all staff members are always there to speak to and will always do their best in answering any questions you may have.

 Visitors:

Occasionally, we have students on placement from NESCOL college who are undertaking courses in childcare from HNC Level to postgraduates, members of the school community also kindly volunteer in the ELC. Pupils from Fraserburgh Academy may also use the school for work experiences and community placements. Other members of the community may also come to Nursery, for instance, dental nurses, health visitors or police officers, may visit to talk to the children about a theme or interest.

Involvement of the Family:

The role of parents and carers is central to our children’s learning journey as we understand that they are the first and main educators of their children and are responsible for their child’s wellbeing, health and development. Research shows that outcomes for children are much better if the family is involved.

Therefore, we involve parents by-

* inviting feedback and suggestions from parents, this is an integral and valued part of our planning process.
* having learn and play sessions which are open to families throughout the year, these include parenting skills workshops.
* inviting parents to small events we may have in the outdoor area or in the community.
* sending home fun activities to do with your child.
* create online learning opportunities for you and your child.

FNS nursery will send monthly newsletters to keep you up to date with what is going on. We also have a closed Facebook page, (which you will be invited to once your child starts nursery) where we share photos and information about what we have been up to in nursery and the community.

At the beginning and the end of each session, staff will be available to discuss your child’s progress but if you wish to discuss anything in greater detail, please feel free to make an appointment. A profile of your child’s learning journey will be kept, and you can ask to see this at any time. Please tell us of any WOW moments you have had with your children, and we will add these to their profiles.

If you have any special skills you would like to share with the children, please let the staff know. We would also be interested in you sharing your different cultures and traditions.

When your child starts nursery, we will work with parents to create a Personal Plan which will contain all the information needed about your child, such as, likes and dislikes, contact details, medical information, details of any additional support needs, allergies and records of parent permissions etc. If needed, your child will be provided with a Support Plan which sets appropriate strategies for staff when working with your child to help them reach their full potential. This is written and agreed with the parents and reviewed regularly.



Getting it Right for Every Child (GIRFEC)

The delivery of the ELC is underpinned by the values of Getting It Right for Every Child (GIRFEC) which is the national approach to improving the wellbeing of all children



The GIRFEC approach:

* Puts the best interest of the child at heart of decision making
* Takes a holistic approach to the wellbeing of the child
* Works with children, young people and their families on ways to improve wellbeing
* Advocates preventative work and early intervention to support children, young people and their families.
* Believes professionals must work together in the best interests of the child
* Is designed to be flexible enough to support all children and families whenever they need it. It is about responding in a meaningful, supportive way, working with parents wherever possible.
* The eight indicators of wellbeing are safe, healthy, achieving, nurtured, active, respected, responsible and included.

At Fraserburgh North we work closely with Speech and Language therapists, Health Visitors, Childsmile,(dentist) Social Work, Community Learning, and the Educational Psychology service, to ensure that all the needs of all our children are met.

The ELC Curriculum

We aim to give our children experiences which:

* stimulates enthusiasm and curiosity, balanced with more familiar experiences which can be revisited and tested out in different ways to develop your child’s learning.
* develops a sense of risk
* Encourage them to talk with each other and adults, with a the growing awareness of the part each plays in a conversation
* Help your child remember how they have used materials and solved problems in the past and how they can relate this learning to the task in hand
* Allow children to determine what they want to learn, form their own plans and gives ownership in discussion with an adult when they want to stop
* Give children a sense of wonder and stimulate questioning and ability to reason and test conclusions
* Allow children to play outside, in the fresh air where they can physical exercise, and develop gross and fine motor skills.

Practitioners in our nursery:

* involve children in decision making for planning and creating learning materials that interest them.
* encourage children to try activities at the appropriate level for them.
* make time to listen and converse with children in a descriptive way to model language skills.
* help children express ideas by singing, making music and joining in role play.
* encourage children to try out new things, using children’s interests as a starting point.
* Encourage children to share, negotiate, and problem solve.

Our Practitioners create an environment which:

* Gives a balance of being inside and outdoors so that children are confident in different environments.
* enables children to make choices, use lots of different resources and share in others choices.
* has clearly labelled resources, so children know where to find and replace them.
* has comfortable places to relax, be quiet and be with friends
* has plenty for children to talk about, to evoke imagination, reasoning, and problem-solving skills.
* reflects the world of print, Literacy and Numeracy and the increasing use of technologies to support learning.

Times



Our nursery runs from 9:00am-3:00pm. Lunch and snack is provided within the setting free of charge.

The children are encouraged to try a wide variety of foods with milk, water, fruit and vegetables available each day. Good manners are encouraged.

The school lunch menu is available to see on the Aberdeenshire website if you type ‘Aberdeenshire primary school lunch menu’ into your search engine.

If your child does not like the choice provided you are welcome to provide a healthy packed lunch option instead.



Clothing

* We aim to make the children as independent as possible, so please help by dressing your child in clothes that are easy for them to manage themselves.
* Please, if possible, provide a bag that can stay in nursery with a change of clothes incase of accidents.
* Aprons will be provided for messy activities but we cannot guarantee that clothes stay clean. Every day, there are opportunities to spend time outdoors.
* We provide waterproof jackets and trousers, please try to have hat, gloves, scarf and wellies for cold and wet days.



* On warm days please ensure that your child has sunscreen on before arriving at Nursery and brings a sunhat. With your permission practitioners can apply sunscreen to your children.
* Please provide appropriate shoes for indoors, these are shoes that can be kept in the Nursery, ensure that these are supportive for your child’s feet, trainers with Velcro straps are recommended.

**All clothes and footwear must be labelled with your child’s name. If you cannot provide clothes and shoes for your child, please inform nursery staff and we will everything we can to accommodate you.**

For school closures due to bad weather etc please follow this link: <https://online.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/Apps/schools-closures/>



Regular attendance is important to your child’s development. If, however a child is unwell, the best place is at home. Please contact the school directly if your child is going to be absent from Nursery as this supports us to follow our absence policy.

Arrival

You and your child will be greeted each morning by a member of staff. Children will go inside to the cloakrooms and will be helped to take off their coats, put on indoor shoes and wash hands. You will be expected to sign your child in on the paper provided and add who will be picking them up at the end of session. It is helpful to let staff know if there have been any problems which might affect the child’s mood or wellbeing. If your child is not settling, staff will take them into the sensory room to calm them down, if you would like to be called when they have calmed down, we can do that for you. We want you to know that your child is settled and ready to learn.

Collecting Children

Please pick up your child between 2.45pm and 3pm and sign your child out on the sign in/out sheets at the gate.

If you are delayed or there are any changes in arrangements for any reason, please telephone on 01346 518015 or Mobile: 07824 704656 so that we may let your child know and ensure them you are on your way.



Absence

If your child feels unwell before a session, it is best to keep them at home even if they want to come. Please inform us if your child is absent by telephoning the school on 01346 415830 or mobile: 07824 704656.

It is essential that your contact details and phone numbers are kept up-to-date at nursery. If a child is ill in school, staff must be able to contact you as soon as possible to avoid distress for to your child.

If your child is sick or has diarrhoea, they must not return to Nursery until 48 hours after they are unwell.

Costs

Your child’s place at ELC is fully funded and there will be no charges for any foods or equipment used in nursery. However, we sometimes need to raise funds for activities, such as playdoh, slime and bubbles etc. so we may ask you join in a raffle or sponsor your child in an activity.



Personal Property

Children should not bring valuable and much-loved items to Nursery as their safety cannot be guaranteed and no insurance is held to cover such items.

If personal items are taken on a school trip or into the Nursery then these are taken at an individual’s own risk and are not covered under the insurance policy unless damage or loss is caused by an Aberdeenshire Council employee.

Personal / individual cover is seen as a parental responsibility, and it is parent’s decision as to whether they feel it is appropriate to obtain this.

Child Protection

Given on-going concerns about child abuse, schools are required to report if we think any child has come to harm because of possible abuse. The Head-teacher, Mrs Mellin, is the Designated Officer appointed to be responsible for Child Protection matters and specially trained for the task. We would advise you to familiarise yourself with our Child Protection wall display where you will find all important and key information on child protection and the rights of the child. Should anyone wish to talk further about Child Protection and the safety of children they are welcome to contact Andrea Raynsford or Mrs Mellin. Where there is a possibility that a child could be at risk of abuse or neglect, the school is required to refer the child to Social Work or the Police and under these circumstances, the parents would not normally be consulted first.

 

 Transitions from ELC to School

The Curriculum for Excellence provides a continuation of educational experience which links home to pre-school to the early stages of primary school. The transition to primary school is a major event in any child’s life.

At Fraserburgh North, we aim to make this transition as smooth as possible by: -

* All year round working as an Early level on planning, environment and resources. All children work together in the Discovery Zone during free-flow play.
* Liaising with P1 teacher, allowing the transfer of information, which will include the pupil profile and pupil personal and support plan.
* Planning sessions involving the Nursery with the rest of the school throughout the year e.g. attending assemblies or special performances performed by children in school, joint activities with classes and taking the children to gym hall.
* Recognising that you, as parents, are key figures in the transition to school.
* Children building a positive relationship with their P1 teacher early on in the transition process.
* Working on projects together as an Early Level to make positive relationships with those older than us
* Outdoor days as an early level group.



 Self-Evaluation

Self- evaluation is a key aspect of improvement and is best when, not only staff, but parents and children are involved in the improvement agenda.

It is helpful to look

* Inwards (knowing what is happening in our setting)
* Outwards (learning from what happens elsewhere to challenge our own thinking)
* Forwards (exploring what the future might hold for today’s learners and planning how to best prepare them for that future)

At Fraserburgh North we continually strive to improve the experiences we give the young people in our care, and our relationships with you, their parents, and carers. We would really appreciate and encourage all parents to have their say and communicate any ideas they have to nursery staff.



Policies

All policies and procedures are within the Nursery and if you would like to have a look at these and become familiar with them then please ask a member of staff to direct you to the policy folder. Furthermore, policies and important information can be found on the Fraserburgh North School website under ‘Documents’ in the ‘School Handbook’.

Please look on the school website for lots more information. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to get in touch with school where a member of staff will try and assist.

We look forwards to welcoming your child and family to Fraserburgh North Nursery

Andrea Raynsford

Early Years Senior Practitioner

Fraserburgh North Nursery