



# Skol Nansledan

## Starting School



working together, inspiring excellence

# Starting School

Head of School Welcome

Welcome to our Explorers Stage at Nansledan School!

Skol Nansledan strives to provide an outstanding education that ensures pupils can reach their greatest potential and live by life's highest values. Academic success and character are of equal importance as we prepare our pupils for the future. We have shaped our STEAM curriculum around Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics, aiming to create a world-class centre of excellence for primary school education here in Cornwall.



Every child deserves the best possible start in life and to be given the support that enables them to fulfil their potential. It is in our Explorers Stage, through our play-based STEAM Curriculum, that solid foundation blocks are created for all further learning to take place. This is a crucial stage of exploration and discovery where our children are immersed in learning that is practical, experiential and builds on what has gone before.

Our main aim for this stage is to ensure children's 'school readiness' and give children the broad range of knowledge and skills that provide the right foundation for good future progress through school and life. The children of Nansledan School will be the innovators, educators, leaders and learners of the 21st century and the school motto "Today's Learners, Tomorrow's Leaders" reflects this vision.

We look forward to partnering with you as your child begins their school life.

Mrs Vicky Dilnot

Head of School



We hope that this booklet answers any questions you may have. Please contact us with any further queries by emailing [hello@nansledanschool.org](mailto:hello@nansledanschool.org)

## Introduction to the Early Years Foundation Stage

The Early Years Foundation Stage sets all standards that all early year's providers must meet to ensure that children learn and develop well and are kept healthy and safe. It promotes teaching and learning to ensure children's 'school readiness' and gives children the broad range of knowledge and skills that provide the right foundation for good future progress through school and life.

### The areas of learning and development

There are seven areas of learning and development in the Early Years Foundation stage, three prime areas and four specific areas. All the areas of learning are important and interconnected. The areas are crucial for igniting children's curiosity and enthusiasm for learning and for building their capacity to learn, form relationships and thrive.

### The three prime areas

**Communication and language** development within a rich language environment. Where they develop their confidence and skills in expressing themselves; and to speak and listen in a range of situations.



**Physical development** where children are active and interactive, developing co-ordination, control and movement. We help children to understand the importance of physical activities and to make healthy choices in relation to food.

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



## The specific areas



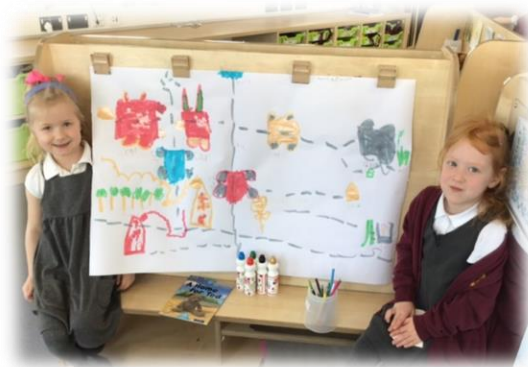
**Literacy** development involves encouraging children to link sounds and letters and to begin to read and write. Children will access a wide range of reading materials (books, poems, and other written materials) to ignite their interest.

**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 and technology and the environment.

**Expressive arts and design** involves the children exploring and playing 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.



Each area of learning and development is delivered through planned, purposeful play and through a mix of child initiated and adult-led activity. Play is essential for children's development, building their confidence as they learn to explore, to think about problems and relate to others.

Children learn by leading their own play and by taking part in play which is guided by adults. There is a balance between activities led by children and activities led or guided by adults. Activities are a response to the child's emerging needs and interest and we guide their development through warm, positive interaction.

### **Assessment**

Assessment takes place throughout the school year to inform planning and to ensure that children are appropriately challenged, progress is made and individual's next steps are identified.

As each child enters Reception, staff will use their professional judgement to assess the age band that children are working within across the EYFS.

Throughout the year children's development and progress in all areas of the EYFS Curriculum are monitored. Children's interests, their learning, their stage of development and their individual next steps all inform planning. Classroom provision ensures that children continue to make progress through experience and play; through adult-led activities and continuous provision planning.

### **Parents and Assessment**

As soon as your child starts school we will keep a Learning Journey. This records what they can do in relation to each of the seven areas of learning as listed above. Your child's Learning Journey will be available for you to access online and we encourage you to contribute to these by commenting on the things your child does at home, giving us a complete picture of what your child can do. We will continue to assess your child through everyday class activities. Their progress will be assessed against the Foundation Stage Profile.

During the year there will be opportunities for you to come into school and discuss your child's progress. You will also receive a written report at the end of the Reception year.

## Staff in Reception

Our EYFS team consists of Mrs Capehorn in Jemison Class and Mrs Sparks in Shackleton Class.

They are supported by a team of highly skilled teaching assistants. All the EYFS adults work closely together and know the children in both Jemison and Shackleton classes well. We also encourage the children to play, work and learn together.

## School Uniform

Nansledan School uniform is available from Macron Store Cornwall at Fraddon and is also available via its online store at <http://www.macronstoresw.com>.

### Boys

- White Polo Shirt
- Burgundy V neck jumper
- Grey tailored trousers or shorts
- Grey socks
- Black shoes

### Girls

- White Polo Shirt
- Burgundy V neck jumper or cardigan
- Grey knee-length skirt, tailored trousers, culottes, pinafore
- Grey or white socks or tights
- Black shoes
- 'Banner' yellow-striped summer dress (please see note below)

**PLEASE ENSURE THAT ALL UNIFORM IS NAMED**

PLEASE NOTE: all trousers/shorts/skirts/pinafores/culottes must be GREY and 'Banner' yellow striped Nansledan School summer dresses are to be worn for the summer term and 1st half of autumn term only.

To enable children to become more independent with going to the toilet, we ask parents to dress children in trousers that do not need belts. Elasticated waists are preferable and are easier to pull up and down. We also request no laces on shoes, velcro straps or buckles allow children to be more independent.

### **P.E clothes**

- Round neck burgundy cotton t-shirt with logo (available online/instore at Macron)
- Black shorts/plain black jogging bottoms
- White or black training shoes/plimsolls

### **Change of clothes**

We ask you to send in a complete set of named spare clothes in case of any accidents. These can be kept on your child's peg.



### **Waterproofs and Wellington boots**

Please provide a pair of wellington boots and a waterproof suit (that stay at school) for your child so they can access the curriculum in the outside area. Please write your child's name clearly on these.

### **Water Bottle**

Children learn best when they are hydrated! Please bring a water bottle to school each morning and we will replenish as needed throughout the day.

## Book bags

Children need a burgundy book bag that comes to school with them everyday. It must be a book bag rather than a backpack as it will be kept in children's individual drawers during the day. Book bags are available from Macron Store Cornwall at Fraddon and are also available via its online store at <http://www.macronstoresw.com>.



## School Meals

Reception children are all entitled to a free school meal and menus will be accessible in the Autumn Term. The Aspire Catering team is passionate about serving fresh, high quality and locally sourced ingredients in our meals. There is a choice of meals every day, with a vegetarian choice always available. A drink is provided, usually water or milk.

However, if you would prefer to provide your own packed lunch please ensure that it is in a clearly labelled lunchbox. Please ensure that packed lunches are healthy and balanced.

**Nansledan is a nut free school.** Due to the medical needs of some of our children and the high risk of cross contamination we cannot have nuts in school in any form. So please can we ask that you have no nut products in the lunch boxes or brought into the school as treats.

## Snack Time

In reception we have a morning snack time, where the children have access to a piece of fruit.

Please let us know if we should be aware of any food allergies or specific dietary requirements that your child may have on their medical form.



## **Toys**

Please discourage your child from bringing toys to school. They can cause disputes and children can become distressed if they are damaged or lost. Personal toys also hinder children from accessing the activities provided at school.

## **Security**

Please tell the class teacher or phone the school office if your child is to be collected by a different adult.

Please inform the class teacher or telephone if there are any last-minute changes to normal arrangements.

For security reasons, if a different person is collecting your child and you have not informed the office or the class teacher, we will phone you to check if this is okay before letting your child go.

If you need to take your child out of school during the school day please report to the staff at the school office who will arrange for your child to be collected from the classroom. When returning children to school, the system is reversed.

If there are any changes in home circumstances which may affect how your child behaves in school, please let us know. Any information you give us is treated with the strictest confidence. Often, we can help children more effectively if we are prepared.

## **First Aid in School**

All members of the Early Years Team are qualified first aiders and all playtimes are supervised. However, accidents can and do occur. We have strict procedures and staff are trained to deal with minor injuries. In serious cases parents or emergency contacts will immediately be contacted so children can be taken to their doctor or hospital. All accidents are recorded and in the case of bumped heads a note is sent home.

If your child is taken ill and needs to be at home, or the injury needs further medical advice, you, or someone designated by you, would be telephoned immediately. Please ensure that your contact numbers are always up to date.

Please keep children at home if they have been ill during the night. Some children seem fine in the morning but are often too tired to cope with school by the afternoon - and some become ill again which can be very distressing for them and the other children. Children who have had an upset stomach (vomiting and/or diarrhea) need to be absent for 48 hours after their last incident.

Medicines cannot be administered by staff unless they have been prescribed for your child by a doctor, dentist or nurse (medicines containing aspirin/paracetamol should only be given if prescribed by a doctor).

You will need to complete a school form prior to this.

Children on special medication such as inhalers will have special arrangements made for them. Again, a medical form will need to be filled in.

If you have any concerns about your child's health or if he/she has a medical condition that we should be aware of please let us know before he/she starts school. We can then discuss the matter with you and be fully aware of and prepared for any possible difficulties.

### **Sun Protection**

On appropriate days please send your child to school with a named sun hat and wearing a factor 50 sun cream. Nansledan burgundy logo caps are available from available online/instore at Macron.

### **Head Lice**

Head lice is inevitable and nothing to be embarrassed about. Wet combing your child's conditioned hair with a nit comb will help you spot them. There are a number of effective preventions and treatments available from chemists or online. Please come and see us if you have any concerns.

## School Times

8.35 Classrooms open for children, with registration at 8.45. Teachers or teaching assistants will be in class supervising children. Children are not expected to arrive in school before this time.

11.45 Lunchtime. The children may either have a school meal or bring a packed lunch. All children eat in the school hall. There are school meals supervisors on duty as well as members of teaching staff.

1.00 The end of lunchtime and the beginning of the afternoon session.

3.15 The end of the school day. Children will then be brought into the playground to meet parents.

Breakfast and after school clubs are available and more details can be provided on request.

## Settling in

Settling in normally takes a few days. If your child is unsettled when they arrive at school a member of staff will be available to look after and reassure them. From experience the quicker you leave the less upsetting it is for children. A quick goodbye is less painful than extra hugs and kisses.

