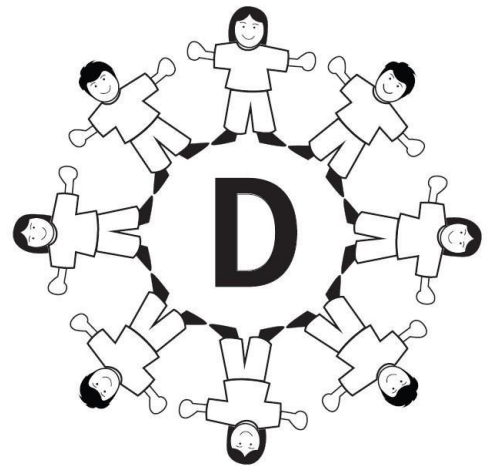


Dalestorth Primary & Nursery School



Information booklet for
Parents and Carers
2026–27



Welcome to Dalestorth Primary & Nursery School

May we offer you a very warm welcome to Dalestorth Primary & Nursery School. Your child will receive the best teaching, love, care and attention during their time here.

Our School

Dalestorth Primary & Nursery School
Hill Crescent
Sutton-in-Ashfield
Notts
NG17 4JA



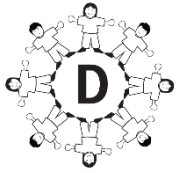
| | |
|---------------------|--------------------------|
| Telephone: | Main office 01623 459339 |
| Head Teacher: | Mr C Robertson |
| Deputy Head: | Mrs H Claxton |
| Assistant Head: | Mrs M Curran |
| Chair of Governors: | Mrs J Wain |

Type of School: Community Co-educational Day School for children aged 3-11

We are here.....



Home School Agreement



Our Vision

All of our children will be successful because they are always at the centre of that we do.

Our Aims

Our children will be kept safe and we will support our families at all times.

Our children will be provided with a high-quality curriculum which consistently excites and challenges them and enables them to build a wide body of knowledge.

Our children can apply and reason about the body of knowledge they develop over time.

Our children will be the best version of themselves that they can be by the end of Year 6.

Our children will be kind and caring to adults and other children at all times.

Our children will understand the value of forming positive relationships with both children and adults.

Our children will become brave and resilient individuals who are able to cope and learn from difficulties and change in their lives.

Our children will grow into excellent friends who are trustworthy and respectful of others.

Our children learn about their community and play an active role in it.

Our Five Busy Bee Values

Be honest

Be kind

Be brave

Be you

Be a friend



The school will:

Care for and respect each child as an individual.

Encourage high expectations and pride in achievement in all areas.

Provide opportunities for pupils to develop their potential in all areas.

Inform parents of the progress and welfare of their child.

Provide and monitor homework which is appropriate to the child's needs.

Provide a safe, happy and orderly environment in which to work and play.

Listen to parents' views and concerns.

Seek the support of parents if a child's behaviour choices noticeably change for the worse.

Investigate all allegations of bullying.

Families will:

Support the schools in its aims and values.

Ensure their child's regular and punctual attendance.

Avoid taking holidays in term time.

Notify the school early on the first day of the reason for their child's absence.

Support the school's policy for Good Relationships and Behaviour.

Work with the school to eliminate all forms of bullying.

Support the child in the school work they are expected to do at home.

Listen to their child read at least 3 times a week.

Tell the school about any circumstances which may affect their child.

Attend parents' evenings and discussions about their child's progress.

Keep up to date with school events through the school newsletter, Class Dojo, the website and letters sent home.

Ensure their child wears the correct school uniform and has the correct PE kit.

Speak to the class teacher in the first instance if they have a concern and use the appropriate escalation policy to achieve a resolution to that concern, rather than via other means (e.g. social media).

Give permission for my child to use the school's ICT systems and the internet under staff supervision and ensure they understand and follow the rules set out in the school's Acceptable Use Agreement.

Pupils will:

Arrive at school on time.

Bring the correct equipment I need each day.

Wear the correct school uniform and have the correct P.E.kit.

Follow the 5 Busy Bee Dalestorth Values.

Follow the school rules and behaviour guidelines.

Complete all my class and homework on time.

Always try my best and work hard.

Tell my teacher or parent/carer if I am worried about my school work or the behaviour choices of others

Look after the school building, equipment and school environment.

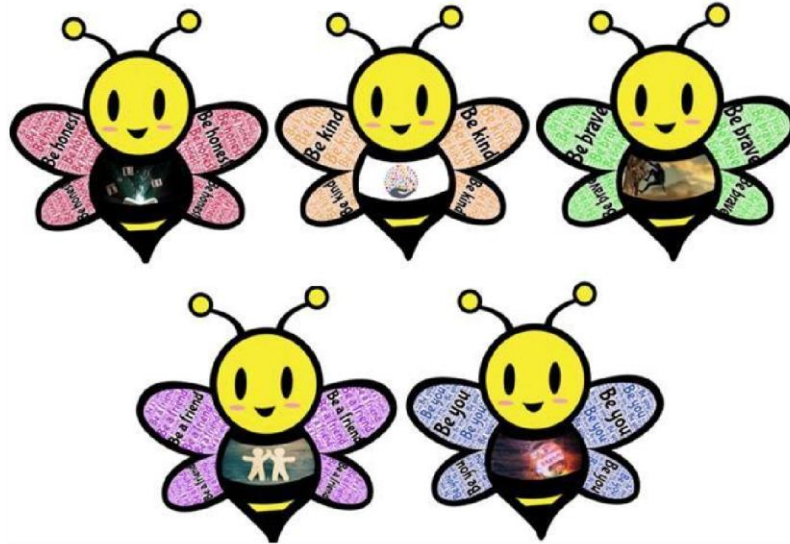
Use the school's computers and internet only for learning and with a teacher's permission.

Tell a teacher straight away if I see anything online that upsets or worries me.

Never share my personal information, like my name or phone number, without permission from a teacher or parent.

The Dalestorth Busy Bee

School Rules



Be honest

We always tell the truth, even when it's hard.

Be kind

We are kind with our words and actions.

Be brave

We try our best by showing resilience and giving everything our best shot.

Be you

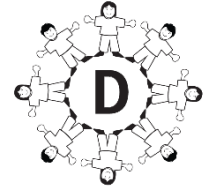
We will be the best version of ourselves and we celebrate everyone's differences.

Be a friend

We will look out and care for everyone in our school community.

Parents, Carer and Visitor Code of Conduct

At Dalestorth Primary and Nursery School it is our vision to ensure our children are successful by always putting them at the centre of everything we do. We aim that children, staff, governors and parents work in partnership to allow this to happen.



With this in mind we welcome and encourage parents and carers participation in school life.

We have 5 Busy Bee Values which we expect of our children, parents, staff, governors and other visitors to demonstrate.



Our Five Busy Bee Values

- Be Honest
- Be Kind
- Be Brave
- Be You
- Be a Friend

The purpose of this code of conduct is to ensure everyone knows what is expected of them so that we can continue to provide a safe and positive school environment for all our children.

These expectations reflect our 5 Busy Bee Values

Guidance

As well as the guidance set out in the Home School Agreement, which is in the parent handbook and the children's planners, we have the following expectations -

Show respect for everyone at Dalestorth Primary and Nursery School by using appropriate language (no swearing or language which others might find offensive) and displaying appropriate behaviour.

Show respect for the school environment at all times. Please do not smoke (including e-cigarettes), drop litter, bring pets onto our site or drink alcohol when in school or in the school grounds.

Reinforce the school's high expectations of your children (relationships, homework and school uniform) whilst in school and on your journey to and from school.

Parking considerately will ensure we continue to have positive relationships with our neighbours. Be respectful of all school staff and our children at all times. If you need to sort an issue do this in an appropriate manner by emailing or phoning the school office

Be respectful when making comments about school or school staff on social media. We usually see these and will always challenge anything we think is inappropriate or untrue.

Whilst attending school events, please show respect and help us to maintain good relationships by not taking photos of other people's children. If this does happen, delete them or keep them for your own use rather than sharing images on social media. We have children in school whose identity we need to protect.

Use of mobile phones and similar devices in our school

Please keep your mobile phone on silent/vibrate while on the school grounds.

Please do not use phones where pupils are present. If you must use your phone, you may go to the staffroom.

Do not take photos or recordings of pupils or staff, except for during performances. These images must not be shared on social media.

The school accepts no responsibility for phones that are lost, damaged or stolen while you are on the school grounds.

A full copy of our mobile phone policy is available from the school office.

Monitoring of the Code of Conduct

School will display this code of conduct on the website, around school and each parent will receive a copy. Where we feel that our code of conduct has been breached we will challenge adults in the first instance in an informal way. However, further issues may lead to the Headteacher and Governors asking an adult not to come onto the school site. This would be confirmed in writing from the Chair of Governors and Head Teacher.

School Staff

Our Office Staff:

| | |
|------------------------|-------------|
| School Office Manager: | Mrs Brown |
| Office Assistant: | Mrs Marsden |
| Office Assistant: | Mrs Lacey |

They will be able to help you with all queries.

The school office is open from 8:30am until 4.00pm.

(Outside of these hours you will be able to leave an answerphone message)

Senior Management Team:

| | |
|-------------------------|----------------|
| Head Teacher: | Mr C Robertson |
| Deputy Head: | Mrs H Claxton |
| Assistant Head: | Mrs M Curran |
| Foundation Stage Leader | Mrs J Bailey |

Class Teachers

Foundation Stage 1

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Rebecca Adlington: | Mrs R Torr (on maternity leave) Miss H Garner (covering maternity leave) |
|---------------------------|---|

Foundation Stage 2

| | |
|--------------------|--------------------------------|
| Mo Farah: | Mrs C Potts |
| Usain Bolt: | Mrs J Bailey and Mrs C Redfern |

Key Stage 1

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
| Year 1 - Ada Lovelace: | Mrs R Marshall |
| Year 1 and 2 - Zaha Hadid: | Miss K Hartwright |
| Year 2- Marie Curie: | Mrs H Claxton |

Key Stage 2

| | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| Year 3 - Emmeline Pankhurst : | Mrs J Stonham & Mrs E Plumb (SENCO) |
| Year 3 and 4 - Martin Luther King: | Miss K Blackwell |
| Year 4 - Anne Frank: | Miss A Bloor & Mrs M Curran |
| Year 5 - Ellen MacArthur: | Mrs A Olpin |
| Year 5 and 6 - Ernest Shackleton: | Miss C Kennedy & Mrs T Rigby |
| Year 6 - David Attenborough: | Mr J Lamb |

Care Assistants and Teaching Assistants

| | | | | | |
|------------|--------------|------------|-----------|------------|-------------|
| Mrs Argyle | Mrs Baines | Ms Bennett | Mrs Brace | Ms Cargill | Miss Carter |
| Mrs Dwyer | Ms Hartin | Mrs Hill | Mrs King | | |
| Mrs Meakin | Miss Radford | Mr Smith | Mrs Smith | Mrs Vilums | Mrs Weston |

Midday Supervisors and Care Assistants

| | | | |
|--------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Mrs Abbott | Mrs Bunkle | Mrs Constance | Mrs Cooke |
| Miss Dove | Mrs Goddard | Mrs Doherty | Mrs Hunt |
| Mrs Lacey | Miss Kerfoot | Mrs Newton | Mrs Cristobal |
| Miss Leivers | Miss Mitchell | Mrs Fines | Miss Kerry |
| Mrs Vargova | Mrs Vincent | Mrs Ho | Mrs Clarke |
| Mrs Aldread | Mrs Byberi | Miss Tolley | Miss Clarke |

Breakfast Club Supervisors

| | | | |
|----------|----------|------------|-----------|
| Mrs Hunt | Mr Smith | Ms Cargill | Mrs Cooke |
|----------|----------|------------|-----------|

Site Management

| | | | |
|-----------------|--------------|-------------|---------------|
| Site Manager: | Mr Price | | |
| Cleaning Staff: | Mrs Newton | Mrs Buttery | Mrs Constance |
| | Mrs Hammonds | Mrs Price | |

Catering

| | |
|--------------|-------------------|
| School Cook: | Mrs Knowles-Brown |
|--------------|-------------------|

School Governors

| | | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|------------|---------------------|
| Mrs J Wain (Chair) | Mr J Czarnocki (Vice chair) | | Mr C Robertson (HT) |
| Mr R Barsby | Mr J Lamb | Mr M West | Mrs H Claxton (DH) |
| Mrs T Smith | Mr S Huckle | Mr A Spate | Mrs A Robinson |
| Mr N Walker | | | |

Safeguarding Team

Mr C Robertson (Snr DSL) Miss L Radford (DSL) Mrs H Claxton (DSL) Mrs M Curran (DSL)

OFSTED

Our last inspection was in November 2022. We received a 'Good' judgement in all areas. The inspectors were particularly keen to comment on the positive relationships across school and the fact that our children enjoy learning and that our teachers make learning fun. They also felt that our curriculum was well developed which helps our children to remember a good body of information across most subjects. This in turn prepares our children well for the next steps in their education.

The report also celebrates the following points: -

Staff are very good at keeping our children safe and this sits at the very heart of every decision we make.

Leaders are very ambitious for every pupil (irrespective of their needs) and our parents feel that the support we give children goes beyond what they might normally expect.

If you would like to read a full copy of our OFSTED report please visit our school website – www.dalestorth.notts.sch.uk

The School Day

Please note the start and end times of the school day may be subject to change.

FS1: Rebecca Adlington (Nursery)

| | | | |
|-------|---|-------|--|
| 08:30 | - | 8.35 | Doors open |
| 08.35 | - | 9.15 | Children self-register, Phonics and Topic group time |
| 09:15 | - | 10:00 | Outdoor Time |
| 10:00 | - | 10:10 | Maths Input |
| 10.10 | - | 10:20 | Snack |
| 10.20 | - | 11.00 | Indoor Play |
| 11.00 | - | 11:10 | Story Time |
| 11.10 | - | 11:20 | Home time/toilet and wash hands |
| 11.20 | | | Doors open for parents to begin to collect children |
| 11.30 | | | Doors close - end of Nursery session |

Afternoon: Same time frame as morning **(12.30—3.30)**

Children who are eligible for 30 Hours Childcare and who are offered a place will enjoy both sessions with the flexibility of staying over the lunch time period. The supervision of this is chargeable and children are required to bring a packed lunch.

Breakfast Club: 7:45-8:50am is available for children in FS2 upwards

A variety of breakfast is served up to 8:15am followed by games and activities. All children must be in Breakfast Club by 8:15am.

FS2: Mo Farah & Usain Bolt (Reception)

| | | |
|-------------|--|--|
| 8.40 | | Children arrive at school |
| 8.40-9.00 | | Register and morning activities |
| 9.00-9.30 | | Little Wandle Phonics groups |
| 9.30-9.45 | | Snack and Topic input |
| 9.45-11.00 | | Adult-led & child-initiated activities |
| 11.00-11.10 | | Dough disco/Squiggle |
| 11.10-11.40 | | Drawing club and toilet time |
| 11.40-12.00 | | Guided Reading |
| 12.00-13.15 | | Lunchtime |
| 13.15-13.40 | | Register and Maths input |
| 13.40-14.40 | | Adult-led and child-initiated activities |
| 14.40-14.50 | | Big tidy up |
| 14.50-15.00 | | Whole class story time |
| 15.00-15.10 | | Getting ready for home time |

School begins at 8:50am Key Stage 1: Ada Lovelace, Zaha Hadid & Marie Curie (Year 1 & 2)

| | | | |
|-------|---|-------------------|---|
| 08:50 | | School Day Begins | |
| 08:50 | - | 09:10 | Registration and Social Interaction |
| 09:10 | - | 09:30 | Letters and Sounds Phonics groups |
| 09:30 | - | 10:30 | Lesson 1 – English/Maths |
| 10:30 | - | 10:50 | Assembly |
| 10:50 | - | 11:10 | Break |
| 11:15 | - | 12:00 | Lesson 2 – English/Maths |
| 12:00 | - | 13:15 | Lunch and OPAL play |
| 13:15 | - | 13:20 | Registration |
| 13:20 | - | 15:20 | Afternoon Lessons (incl. reading and physical development session) |
| 15:20 | | End of School | |

Key Stage 2: - Emmeline Pankhurst, Martin Luther King, Anne Frank, Ellen MacArthur, Ernest Shackleton, David Attenborough (Years 3-6)

| | | | |
|-------|---|-------------------|---------------------|
| 08:50 | | School Day Begins | |
| 08:50 | - | 09:00 | Registration |
| 09:00 | - | 10:30 | English/Maths |
| 10:30 | - | 10:50 | Assembly |
| 10:50 | - | 11:10 | Break |
| 11:15 | - | 12:15 | Maths/English |
| 12:15 | - | 13:15 | Lunch and OPAL play |
| 13:15 | - | 13:20 | Registration |
| 13:20 | - | 15:20 | Afternoon Lessons |
| 15:20 | | End of School | |

Attendance Expectations

At Dalestorth, we expect high levels of attendance and punctuality from all pupils, as regular attendance is essential for children to achieve their full potential. Children are expected to attend school for the full 190 days of the academic year unless there is a valid reason for absence. Parents/carers must notify the school on the first day of absence by 9:00 a.m., by telephone, email or ClassDojo. If no contact is received, the school will make first-day contact via phone, text and, where necessary, further follow-up procedures. If a child has not returned to school by the third day of absence, the safeguarding team may carry out a home visit as part of our duty of care.

The school operates a clear system for monitoring attendance and will provide early support where attendance becomes a concern. However, if absences remain unauthorised, further action may be taken. In line with current national guidance and local authority procedures, absence may trigger a penalty notice if a child has 10 sessions (5 days) of unauthorised absence within a 10-week period. Due to changes in legislation, leave of absence during term time will only be authorised in exceptional circumstances and must be requested in advance (at least 4 weeks where possible). Family holidays are not considered a valid reason for absence and will be recorded as unauthorised.

Penalty notices are issued per parent, per child. A first offence may result in a fine of up to £160 (reduced to £80 if paid within 28 days), with increased consequences for repeated offences. Continued unauthorised absence or failure to engage with support may result in referral to the Local Authority for further action.

The school is committed to working in partnership with families to promote excellent attendance and will always aim to support parents/carers in overcoming any barriers to regular school attendance

Reporting Absence

If your child is unwell or will be absent for any reason, please contact the school office before 9:30 a.m., wherever possible, to inform us of the reason for their absence. The office is open to take calls, and you may leave a message on the answerphone if necessary. All messages will be passed to your child's class teacher.

If you are unable to telephone, please send a message on Class Dojo explaining your child's absence.

If your child is absent and we have not received notification, we will send a dojo message requesting that you contact the school. It is important that a reason for absence is provided; failure to do so will result in the absence being recorded as unauthorised. Prolonged unauthorised absences may be reported to relevant external agencies, including Social Care.

Illness Guidance

If your child is experiencing sickness or diarrhoea, they must remain off school for 48 hours after the last episode to help prevent the spread of infection.

Illness or Accidents in School

If your child becomes unwell or has an accident whilst at school, we will contact you so that you can arrange to collect them. It is therefore essential that we have up-to-date contact details, including home, work, and emergency telephone numbers.

In the event that we are unable to contact a parent or carer, or if there is a significant delay in a child being collected and the injury or illness is considered too serious to be managed by school first aid, the child may be taken to King's Mill Hospital. Parents/carers will be informed as soon as possible in these circumstances.

Keeping Information Updated

Please ensure that the school is informed promptly of any changes to your contact details, so we can reach you quickly in case of emergency.

Start of the School Day and Punctuality

The school gates open at **8:30 a.m.**, and the school day begins at **8:50 a.m.**, when teachers meet their classes on the playground.

It is important that all children are on the playground and ready to line up at this time to ensure a calm and organised start to the day and to minimise disruption to learning.

Classroom doors will be closed promptly at the start of the day. If your child arrives after this time, they will be marked as late and must enter school via the main reception, where they will be signed in.

We appreciate your support in ensuring children arrive on time each day. Punctuality is an important life skill and supports positive routines and learning habits. Please note that persistent lateness without a valid reason will be monitored and may be followed up by the school.

Important Dates

Children in Year 1 undertake Phonics Screening Check over 2 weeks in June.

Children in Year 2 take part in formal tests (SATs) in May and June.

Children in Year 6 take their formal tests (SATs) in a specified week in May.

Children in Year 4 undertake a formal multiplication test in June.

It is important that you **DO NOT** take your child out of school during these periods. All other year groups undergo special assessments in November, March and June so also please bear this in mind.

It is always worth taking a note of school newsletters and looking on our website for details of official school holidays and INSET days.

Medicines

We strongly encourage parents to make arrangements to administer any antibiotics/painkillers children may need, but in cases where no alternative arrangements we are able to give medication at school. Parents have to complete the Medicine Administration Form and all medicine should be handed to the class teacher/office staff each day in the labelled container they were prescribed in. These should be stored in accordance to the information provided by parents of the Medicine Administration Form and returned to parents each evening.

Please ensure if your child requires an inhaler that this is in date, labelled and in school.

Sun Cream

In hot weather sun cream should be applied before children are sent to school wherever possible.

Safeguarding Children

Every teacher in Nottinghamshire is required to follow a set procedure in cases of suspected child abuse. Head teachers are required to refer their concerns to the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) for further investigation so that children at risk can be identified quickly. Every effort will be taken to notify you if we have to do this. This procedure is intended to protect children from abuse.

When a school refers a concern to the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) it is not accusing the parents of abuse but requesting that further investigation takes place to establish whether a child is 'at risk.' Staff in school keep careful safeguarding and 'at risk' records. The designated leaders for Safeguarding in school are Mr Robertson, Miss Radford, Mrs Curran and Mrs Claxton.

Photograph Policy

We use photography around school to add colour, life and interest to school activities. Photographs of school events increase pupil motivation, staff morale and help parents and the local community identify with, celebrate and remember the school's achievements.

- We are aware of the need to use photography carefully and responsibly.
- We use photographs of individuals, groups and classes engaged in activities around school but do not name specific children.
- Once the photograph has been used it is not retained (physically or electronically) except in circumstances where it is needed for a portfolio of achievement.
- The school website and Class Dojo has photographs of children - parental permission is requested for the use of these photographs. There is a photograph gallery on the website of school events, concerts etc. The photographs in this gallery are general group photographs as those used around school. Specific photographs of classes and individuals on our website are password protected.
- When photographs are needed for newspaper publicity etc. we do not name specific children. The captions should read "Pupils at Dalestorth Primary & Nursery School." When the story is about the achievement of one individual child the parents are involved at the reporting stage.
- We allow parents to photograph and video school concerts etc. provided this is restricted to the confines of the event; unsupervised photography away from the event is not permitted and photographs or videos MUST NOT be uploaded to any kind of social media site e.g. Facebook, Twitter, Instagram etc.
- Photographing children in swimming lessons is not permitted.

This policy along with other aspects of personal details is explained in the GDPR section of our school website. On entry to the school parents are asked to sign to authorise all aspects of data as well as school photography and video on their data collection sheet by way of 'Opting In'.

General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

Dalestorth Primary & Nursery School fully complies with information regulation. For full details on how we use your personal information please refer to the GDPR section of our website where you will find our policies and privacy notices.

School Uniform Policy

School uniform may be purchased from our dedicated supplier, Sabre Sports on Outram Street, Sutton-in-Ashfield - 01623 512 849.

Uniform:

Royal blue sweatshirt, cardigan or jumper.

Grey/black, plain school trousers (**no leggings**) or knee length loose skirt/pinafore.

White/blue polo shirt to be worn under sweatshirt, cardigan or jumper

Plain dark coloured tights.

We will not be accepting flared legging style trousers.

We will not be accepting jersey type, tube, or pencil skirts. If your child chooses to wear a skirt it will need to be a flared or pleated skirt, just above the knee, no shorter.

Please see the suggestions here:

[Grey Pleated Girls School Skirt 2 Pack | School | George at ASDA](#)

[Girls 2 Pack Grey Box Pleat School](#)

[Skirts \(3-16yrs\) - Matalan](#)

For Warmer Weather:

Smart grey/black plain tailored shorts (no Bermuda, cycling or sports shorts).

White/blue polo shirt.

Blue gingham or striped summer dress.

Footwear:

Plain black shoes or trainers are allowed for school.

Trainers must be completely black – no white, coloured logos, stripes or white soles.

Sturdy strapped sandals with toes covered in black, navy or white. Children do not need to wear socks with their sandals but please adhere to sensible choices.

Bookbags:

Each child will need a Dalestorth bookbag to carry their reading books, diaries and homework books (KS2) to and from school each day.

You can order Dalestorth bookbags from Sabre Sports.

Each bookbag can have one keyring attached if necessary but no more.

Other bags or rucksacks will not be allowed in school.

We do not allow any Fortnite or Prime merchandise (hats, rucksacks, bags, lunchboxes etc.) in school.

Jewellery:

We do not allow any jewellery in school. Children may only wear studs if their ears are pierced and a sensible watch. No jewellery should be worn for PE or swimming.

Nails:

Acrylic nails, false nails and nails with gel polish are not allowed in school.

Make-up:

No make-up is allowed in school at all. This includes any tinted moisturisers and clear mascara.

Hair:

Long hair should be tied back for all activities at school.

Inappropriate hair styling such as dying/shaving are not part of our school uniform and will be challenged.

PE Kit:

In FS2, Year 1 and 2 children will bring their PE kit to school on the first day of each half term in **any drawstring bag**. This will be kept on your child's peg for the whole half term and then be sent home for a wash over the holidays.

In Years 3,4,5 and 6 children will come to school in their PE kit on the days they have PE.

Please ensure everything is labelled with your child's name. **We do not allow branded sportswear** with stripes or large logos.

Plain white t-shirt

Black/blue tracksuit top and trousers/shorts/leggings with no logos or stripes

Nike pro shorts will not be accepted

Shorts should be just above the knee, no shorter

No skorts as these could get caught on apparatus

Trainers– Velcro for FS2 to year 2.

OPAL Outdoor play and learning:

Wellies – every child needs wellies to access all areas at lunchtime. These are an essential part of our uniform.

If your child comes to school without the correct uniform, they will be asked to change into school owned uniform for the day.

Swimming

Children swim in Key Stage 2. They will need suitable swimming trunks for boys and a one-piece swimming costume for girls, together with a towel and bag. We follow Notts County Council health and safety guidelines during school swimming lessons which specifies that girls are not permitted to wear two-piece costumes and that boys are not allowed to wear swim shorts / beachwear. More details will be given when needed.

Name Labels

All clothing, particularly royal blue tops should be labelled clearly with the child's name. It is the parents' responsibility to ensure that all items of clothing are named. Without this it is difficult for staff to return clothing to the correct children.

School Meals

The school has its own kitchen where Mrs Knowles-Brown prepares the meals daily. The menus are set by Nottinghamshire County Council's Catering Department. Parents can view the menus in advance on our website. There is a jacket potato option each day and the kitchen staff need orders for these a week in advance at kitchen@dalestorth.notts.sch.uk

Universal Infant Free Meals

All children in FS2, Year 1 and Year 2 in state-funded schools are entitled to free school meals which is government funded.

Free School Meals

You may also qualify for free school meals if your child attends a Nottinghamshire County Council School, or your child attends a maintained nursery (as long as they are receiving funded early learning education before and after lunch) an you receive one of the following benefits:

- Child Tax Credit, provided they are not entitled to Working Tax Credit;
- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA)
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)
- Income-based and Contributions-based JSA and ESA on an equal basis;
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999;
- The Guarantee element of State Pension Credit;
- Working Tax Credit run-on – paid for four weeks after the person stops qualifying for Working Tax Credit;
- Universal Credit – during the initial roll-out of the benefit.

If you fulfil any of the criteria above, PLEASE REGISTER

Registering for additional funding for our school

It is important that all parents who received one of the benefits listed above register for Free School Meals even if your child receives a Universal Infant Free Meal, as this will enable us to claim Pupil Premium allocation. The Pupil Premium is additional funding given to publicly funded schools in England to raise attainment. This additional funding for schools can help to buy new equipment and resources. So, don't delay register today!

Registering for Free School Meals

Register online by visiting <http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/learning/schools/school-dinners/free-school-meals/>. The information needed to register includes:

- Personal details (including national insurance number and date of birth) for you and your partner
- Child's details in full including their date of birth and the school they attend
- If eligible for free school meals and/or milk the start date will normally be within two days of parents of the entitlement being verified.
- Children will continue to receive free school meals and milk while parents are receiving the qualifying benefit. If you are unable to apply online please telephone 0300 500 80 80.
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Paying For School Meals

Once your child enters Year 3 and for the remainder of your child's time in our school, please be aware that for school dinners in Key Stage 2, we operate a 'cash-less system.' Parents need to use their child's Scopay account to pay for their meals unless qualifying for Free School Meals. Meals should be paid for in advance therefore parents need to ensure there is always a credit balance on their child's account. Please speak to the office staff if you do not have an account. They will be happy to assist you in setting up your account when your child reaches this stage.

For any children bringing sandwiches, please remember school has a Healthy Eating Policy therefore children and parents are encouraged to make healthy lunch box choices. **We are a 'nut free' school** as we have several children with allergies so please ensure you consider this when packing your child's lunch box. **Due to the allergies in school, we do not allow chocolate spread in sandwiches.** You can find this policy in the policy section of our school website.

School Milk

Cool Milk administer the school milk scheme. School will register your child when they enter the Foundation Stage. Milk is free for Under 5s. If your child still wants milk once after they reach the age of 5 then Cool Milk will contact you for payment unless you qualify for it under the entitlement of Free School Meals. School does not administer the scheme for children in Key Stage 2 (Years 3 to 6). More details can be found on their website: www.coolmilk.com.

Drinks

All children are encouraged to stay hydrated whilst in school. We ask that you send your child with a labelled drinks bottle containing water or clear flavoured water or sugar free juice only. No full sugary juice/drinks, milk or anything sparkling please in line with our Healthy Eating Policy.

Fruit

Fruit is provided free to all FS and Key Stage 1 children. Key Stage 2 children may bring in their own fruit or vegetables for break.

Communication

Individual messages, whole school messages and reminders will be sent through Class Dojo. Therefore, it is vital that you follow the steps to create your free Class Dojo account so you don't miss out on important dates and information.

Each child will have an account set up and their individual login will be sent home. Simply download the Class Dojo app for free or go to www.classdojo.com on a computer, enter as a student and scan the QR code on the login sheet. Once they log in at home, your child's egg will hatch.

Please note that while staff will use Class Dojo to communicate important information, messages will only be responded to during normal school working hours. Staff are not expected to reply outside of these hours and any messages sent in the evening or at weekends will be responded to on the next working day. If your message is urgent or requires an immediate response, please contact the school office directly by telephone.

Curriculum

We believe that school should be a lively, attractive and happy place where children can experience high quality teaching and learning.

When children first start Nursery, they enter what is called the Early Years Foundation Stage. At Dalestorth, this includes children aged from 3 years in our Nursery (FS1) class and children in our Reception (FS2) classes until the end of the year they turn 5. During the Early Years Foundation Stage the children follow a curriculum designed for early years.

There are 7 areas of learning:

The 3 prime areas are: Personal, Social and Emotional Development, Communication and Language and Physical Development.

The 4 specific areas are: Literacy, Mathematics, Understanding the World and Expressive Arts and Design.

These lead to the attainment of Early Learning Goals at the end of the Foundation Stage, when children are becoming ready to begin the National Curriculum.

From Years 1 to 6, as with all Local Authority Schools, we follow the National Curriculum which sets out what we teach and what children should learn and achieve in each subject. The National Curriculum subjects are: English, Mathematics, Science, History, Geography, Art, Music, Computing, Technology and PE. French is taught from year 3 upwards.

The children are taught English daily which includes phonics for FS2-Year 2, and spelling, punctuation and grammar for all year groups as well as reading and writing.

Mathematics is also taught daily including counting and mental arithmetic strategies as well as written maths and maths reasoning work.

The other subjects are linked together by topics or themes.

You can find out more about our curriculum on our website.

| Topics | AUTUMN – DISCOVER (HISTORY FOCUS) | SPRING – EXPLORE (GEOGRAPHY FOCUS) | SUMMER – CREATE (ARTS FOCUS) |
|------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Foundation Stage 2026-27 | Autumn 1 – Who am I? Who Are You? (All About Me) | Spring 1 – Who Lives in a Land Far, Far Away? (Traditional Tales) | Summer 1 – What’s Above Me? What’s Below Me? (Growing) |
| | Autumn 2 – Why Do We Celebrate? (Celebrations) | Spring 2 – Do You Fly, Walk or Swim? (Lifecycles & Animals) | Summer 2 – Do You Wish You Were Here? (Travel) |
| Year 1 and 2 2025-26 | Are our toys better than Victorian children’s toys? | How can we protect the world’s animals? | How have women changed the world? |
| Year 1 and 2 2026-27 | How did the Great Fire of London change peoples’ lives? | Would you rather live in Sutton-in-Ashfield or an African village? | Why is it hot in summer and cold in winter? |
| Year 3 and 4 2025-26 | Would you rather be an Ancient Greek or an Ancient Egyptian? | Where would you like to explore? | What kind of artist are you? |
| Year 3 and 4 2026-27 | How did life in Britain change from the Stone Age to the Roman invasion? | Which European country would you choose to live in? | What was so special about Shakespeare? |
| Year 5 and 6 2025-26 | How did World War Two impact the lives of children? | How would you survive a desert? | How did art influence Mayan culture? |
| Year 5 and 6 2026-27 | Were the Anglo Saxons or the Vikings better invaders? | Why are rainforests so important? | Why are people fascinated with space? |

Religious Education

In addition, it is a statutory requirement that all schools are required to include religious education in their broader curriculum. The school is not affiliated to any particular religious denomination. Our religious education is determined by the Local Authority and we follow the Nottinghamshire agreed syllabus (SACRE) You can find out more information of what this entails on the RE section of our school website. The children are gathered collectively for a daily act of reflection and celebration.

SMSC & British Values

Schools also have to demonstrate how they cater for the development of children socially, morally, spiritually and culturally (SMSC) and how we demonstrate equality in school and promote British Values.

British Values involves:

- Democracy
- Rule of Law
- Individual liberty
- Respect and tolerance

This education is delivered through our positive behaviour policy, anti-prejudice work, relationship education, PSHE Lessons, School Council and assemblies etc.

Our school website contains some detailed information about British Values and SMSC.

Sex & Relationship Education

Sex & Relationship Education is taught throughout school as an integral part of our Science and PSHE curriculum. Lessons are age appropriate.

In addition, Year 5 and 6 girls are given a specific discussion about the onset of menstruation. For Year 6 pupils a lengthier and more detailed scheme of work is delivered in June/July.

All parents will be contacted prior to specific sex and relationship schemes of work being taught. All materials used with the children are available for the parents to view and discuss. Children's questions are dealt with as they arise, honestly, and appropriately for the age of the child. A more detailed policy is available for parents to see on the school website.

Outdoor Play and Learning (OPAL)

At our school, we are proud to offer **OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning)**, an approach that recognises the importance of high-quality play in children's development. OPAL provides children with opportunities for creative, imaginative, and active play using a wide range of resources and outdoor spaces. Through OPAL, children develop key life skills such as problem-solving, teamwork, resilience, and independence. We encourage all children to take part in outdoor play in all weathers, so it is important they come to school with appropriate clothing (such as coats and wellies – that stay at school all the time). Our aim is to ensure that playtimes are engaging, inclusive, and enjoyable for all, supporting both physical and emotional wellbeing.

The Wider Curriculum

We always seek to enrich our curriculum further with trips, visits out to the wider community and by inviting speakers into school. We offer residential visits, trips and a range of extra-curricular clubs. These have included activities such as tennis, baking, model making, sewing, recorders and many more.

Teaching Arrangements

Our aim is to ensure we get the very best from each child so they are able to achieve their full potential. The classes are organised so that at different times they may be working as a whole, in groups or individually. Children may also be organised and taught in target ability groups. Staff are committed to a wide variety of teaching methods.

Prior to children starting school in Foundations Stage, parents are invited to a 'New Starters Meeting' and every other year after that are invited in to meet their child's teacher in September. Each term, parents will receive a newsletter informing them of the children's topics and what they will be learning in each subject. Knowledge organisers with sticky knowledge and key vocabulary will be sent home each term along "The learning zone" newsletter, which helps parents discuss their child's learning with them. We aim to provide parent workshops on a range of topics such as: Phonics, Maths Calculation Strategies, Reading and SPAG and Online Safety.

Assessment

We keep detailed records of each child's progress throughout school. The children are assessed formally as the law requires at the end of FS2 (Foundation Stage) and Year 6 (KS2). Termly assessments are also carried out in each Year group. This takes place three times a year. Teachers also make ongoing assessments throughout the year. For more detailed information on how your child will be assessed, please visit the 'Assessment' section of our website. You can also see how we have been performing with the latest available performance data across school.

Intervention Strategies

Careful tracking and assessment of children's attainment allows school to identify children who may be struggling with their academic progress. These children may then be put in an 'intervention.' These are specially designed catch up programmes delivered by our trained Teaching Assistants to help children with the specific areas in which they are struggling. These cater for the needs of specific individuals and are taught in small groups and individually. They are very successful in that they help children tackle specific problems/barriers they may have in certain areas, provide reassurance and build extra confidence.

Special Needs

We always strive to cater for the individual needs of all our children at Dalestorth: those with learning, physical, behavioural difficulties as well as those with special gifts or talents. These children will have an individual education profile written for them which will be shared with parents and updated throughout the year. The children are supported both in and out of class by Teaching and Care assistants who work alongside our teachers to prepare and deliver activities which are designed to meet the needs of individual children. The school is justly proud of the efforts and energies it takes to support children with special educational needs. We have a policy for meeting the needs of children with special educational needs. Mrs Plumb is responsible for the leadership and co-ordination of Special Needs. It is her role to co-ordinate provision for these children and ensure the school's SEND policy meets the requirements laid down in the law, including the Disability Discrimination Act. You can access important policies on our website as well as information on what the school offers in terms of Special Needs.

Special Teaching Arrangements

The Disability Discrimination Act (2005) requires school Governors to publish information about arrangements for children with mobility problems. Our school building is of single storey design and all entrances and fire exits are wide enough to accommodate wheelchair users. Where there are differences in levels on the school site these are linked by slopes. We have fully equipped disabled toilets. We promote all aspects of equality through our Equal Opportunities, SEND and Equality Statement and our Accessibility policy, all of which you can find on our website.

Homework

Homework is designed to help children learn for themselves, develop self-motivation and find things out. It is an essential part of schoolwork and an expectation for all pupils. Our Homework policy below explains how we organise Homework in school.

Homework Policy Aims

- To develop a partnership between parents and carers and the school.
- Homework should be valued by pupils, parents and teachers. Homework allows parents and other family members to take an interest in the child's work, this interest will foster a positive attitude towards learning in our pupils.
- To consolidate and reinforce skills and understanding being developed in school
- To do background work to prepare for future lessons. Homework allows children to find out more about topics in class, to further their knowledge, develop selfmotivation and an enquiring mind.
- To prepare older children for what lies ahead in secondary school in developing the confidence and self-discipline to study independently. Children should develop a responsibility and pride towards completing their homework on time and to a high standard.

Homework Guidelines

Each week all families should receive a message on Class Dojo from their child's teacher. This will help you discuss your child's learning from that week with them.

Homework in Key Stage 1

KS1 children are not expected to fill out a homework diary, however they do have a reading diary that they bring home in which their reading is to be recorded. It is beneficial for young children to **share / read their reading book with an adult at least 3 times a week**. They also have keywords to learn whilst they are in the early stages of reading. At times the children may be asked to find out facts about a topic.

After Christmas Year 2 children are given a piece of Maths or English homework once a fortnight.

Homework in Key Stage 2

KS2 children will be expected to:

- Keep a record of their homework and reading in their diary;
- Read to an adult at least 3 times a week;
- Practice times tables and spellings ready for a weekly test;
- Complete English and/or Maths homework;
- Children are also asked to investigate and research topic work.

Children will need to remember to:

- Write down their homework/reading in their diary;
- Complete reading and homework on time;
- Ask an adult to sign their diary.

Parental Involvement in Homework/Reading:

It is hoped that parents will help their child and take an active interest in their school activities. Children whose parents do take an active and consistent interest in their education do best at school. Help includes listening to your child read, checking and supporting them with their homework, signing their reading/homework diaries, helping them to learn initially their letters and sounds and later their weekly spellings; helping with the learning of number bonds and multiplication tables. Each half term parents will receive newsletters outlining what will be covered in each subject.

What the teachers will do:

Set homework according to the guidelines above. Ensure homework is valued, marked and feedback given to the children.

Pastoral Care

Pastoral care is an integral part of school life. Each child is an individual and has different needs for his/her personal and social development. The school seeks to meet these needs and a partnership between home and school is important.

In school every child is in the special care of all our staff. Our staff are encouraged to care and look after your children in positive ways. It is our desire at all times to have close, caring and meaningful links with the parents of all children in our care. We believe in promoting the idea of a caring, busy and happy community within school and that this involves the parent, child and teacher working together. Children are encouraged to become independent and responsible citizens and to show care and concern for one another and to be kind to themselves. The children are encouraged to share worries at any opportunity and will always be listened to.

On our staff we have Mental Health First Aiders and an Emotional Literacy Support Assistant.

House Teams

All the children are allocated a team when they are in FS2. They will be put into red, blue, yellow or green team. They will need a plain t-shirt of this colour that they will wear for whole school sports events. The teams compete throughout the year and the winning team is treated to a celebration at the end of the school year.

Health & Safety

The health and safety of children at Dalestorth is a very important issue for staff and Governors. The Governing Body along with the School Site Manager and School Business Manager maintains regular health and safety inspections of the school building and grounds. In addition, the school regularly updates its safety policies, fire procedures, emergency plans and risk assessments. A full copy of these policies may be seen on request from the Head Teacher. Should any emergency arise which requires you to be contacted, the office will do so via telephone or text, consequently, you must ensure that the contact details you provide us with are accurate and up to date.

Equal Opportunities

The school is fully committed to a policy of equal opportunities for all. Our ethos encourages the children to fulfil their potential regardless of race, gender, background or disability. Provision for equal opportunities is shown by the use of teaching and learning strategies which allow all children access to all aspects of the curriculum. Prejudice, stereotyping and discrimination are actively discouraged, with the aim of helping the children to respect themselves and others, and to become more aware of the wide diversity of society outside the local community.

School Council and Team Captains

Our children are proud of their school and enjoy caring for it and being involved in how it is run. Children make up our School Council and work on issues to improve all aspects of school life and the school environment.

Year 6 children have the chance to apply to be Team Captains. They represent the school when we have visitors, help run assemblies, supervise younger children in dinners and on the playground.

What Else Does The School Offer?

Extra-Curricular Activities, Trips & Visits Breakfast Club

Our Breakfast club, run by Mrs Hunt, Ms Cargill, Mrs Cooke, Mr Smith and Mrs Marsh, is open every day from 7:45am. Children must be in Breakfast Club by 8:15am at the latest to give them time to order and eat. There are a variety of breakfast options.

Homework Club

This takes place on during lunchtimes. The sessions provide a calm and peaceful atmosphere with support for the children to complete homework tasks and/or discuss any problems they may have with class work.

Activity Clubs

A variety of clubs are offered throughout the year. Letters are sent out informing children what is available and for how many weeks the clubs will run. The children then enrol. This gives the children plenty of variety and choice during the whole year. Activity club choices in the past have included: Football, dance, gymnastics, netball, basketball, tri-golf, cricket, origami, sewing, art, multi-skills and choir.

Class Trips & Visits

We believe valuable education can take place outside the classroom and throughout the year all children embark on outside visits and trips to support their work, as well as having providers in school.

Links With Secondary Schools

Dalestorth is a linked feeder school to Quarrydale Academy. All children will visit Quarrydale through sporting opportunities and festivals at some point during their time at Dalestorth. Most of the children at Dalestorth transfer to Quarrydale at the end of Year 6, although your catchment school or preferred choice may be Ashfield or Sutton Centre.

Whatever the choices you wish to make, the importance is to fill in the transfer forms on time. Year 6 children will need to choose their secondary school by the end of October. Parents will be notified of their secondary allocation by email on March 1st. Whichever school you choose for your child, there will be an induction programme whereby pupils will visit their chosen school for an induction day and meet staff and fellow students.

Links with Other Schools

Dalestorth Primary has an active and positive relationship with its family of local primary schools: Healdswood Infant and Nursery School, St Andrew's Primary School and Skegby Primary Academy, as well as Croft and Priestsic Primary Schools.

Links With Other Agencies

Local Authority Services from which school benefits:

- Child Health Service which checks and screens the health of all children through regular visits of the health and dental services to schools.
- The Education Library Service which provides a wide range of advice and resources to school including an extensive loan system of books.
- The curriculum and professional development service which is responsible for amongst other things, the local outdoor education centres.
- The EAL support team which helps bilingual pupils and pupils with English as an additional language.
- The special needs service and educational psychology service which can give extra help to children with learning or behavioural difficulties.
- The education welfare service which is concerned with the care and welfare of children.

Links With The Local Community

We like to play our part in the local community both by inviting local people into our school and reaching out to our community ourselves. We enjoy taking part and holding special events each year such as collecting Harvest produce for the John Eastwood Hospice. Our choir sings at the John Eastwood Hospice and King's Mill Hospital. We enjoy fundraising events for Children in Need, Comic/Sports Relief, MacMillan, Projects for schools in Kenya, various charities and Burundi Bear campaign. We love taking part in a variety of sports festivals, swimming galas and competitions.

School Fund

In addition to money provided by the Local Authority to run the school, the school has a separate fund managed by the Head Teacher. The school fund is maintained by donations and fundraising by the parents. It is used to buy extra equipment and finance activities that cannot be financed by the local authority. Parents of Dalestorth have always been very generous and we are extremely grateful. It allows us to purchase many extra items of equipment-but we do stress that all fundraising is voluntary. The school's main fundraising events include the Summer Fayre and a smaller variety of fundraising events we hold during the year such as termly discos, cake sales and sponsored events. We aim to provide you with regular updates with how we are spending the money you raise.

Parents & The School

At Dalestorth we believe the education and development of the child should be a partnership between the home and school and we hope parents will be as involved as possible. Teachers and parents should be partners in their child's learning. You will always be welcome in school. Parents are encouraged to help in school and we greatly value your help and support with activities such as accompanying children on trips and visits, coming to speak in class, being swimming observers, supporting workshops, crafts and sporting events, baking, hearing children read and in all sorts of other ways.

We find that parents enjoy being in school and soon become confident in working with children. If you are able to offer any assistance, please see your child's teacher - they will always be grateful for any help! Occasionally we hold information evenings for parents that cover issues of interest or concern. Previously we have held meetings about mathematics teaching, reading and phonics.

Parental Concerns/Complaints

It is in everyone's interest that complaints are resolved at the earliest possible stage. Many issues can be resolved informally without the need to invoke the Schools' formal complaints procedure. By taking positive steps early on, we hope to sort out your issue without the need for formal procedures. Dalestorth Primary School takes concerns seriously and will make every effort to resolve the matter as quickly as possible.

Full details of the School's Complaints Policy and procedure is published on the School's website.

Welcome Week

At the beginning of the new school year, there will be a chance to meet with your child's new teacher, gain all the relevant information for that year group and ask questions.

Parent's Evening

These are held in the Autumn and Spring terms. This is your chance to look at your child's work and discuss progress with the class teacher.

Showcases

In years 1-6, each term, you will be invited in to see your child's work as they showcase their learning from that term.

Reports

A report will be emailed to you at the end of the academic year in July.

Parents are also invited into school on other occasions to visit classes or see sports events/assemblies/concerts.

Visiting Arrangements

The school will make parents very welcome. The staff are always willing to discuss with parents, any matters related to the Education of their child. However, discussion that is likely to take some time is best done through a planned meeting and parents should make an appointment at a mutually agreed time by contacting the School Office.

Parental Access to Documents & Information

Under the Education (School Curriculum and Related Information) Regulations 1989 Public Access to Documents and Information (Regulations 586), parents and others are allowed access to up-to-date copies of the following documents which are kept in the school office.

- The Local Education Authority's statement of curriculum policy • The Governing body's statement of curriculum aims for the school.
- All statutory instruments, circular and administrative memoranda concerning the curriculum which are sent to the school by the Department for Education.
- All published H.M.I and OFSTED reports that refer to the school.
- All schemes of work currently being used by the teachers in school.
- All syllabuses followed, where appropriate.
- The Local Education Authority's procedure for dealing with complaints about the curriculum.
- The Local Education Authority's agreed syllabus for Religious Education.
- You will also find many policies and information about school on our Website including details of any complaint procedures.

Charges & Remissions Policy

Please see the policies for this in the “Useful Policies” on the website.

Secondary Admissions

This involves children transferring from our primary school (Year 6) to secondary school (Year 7).

Applications are made the year before when the child is in Year 5.

Every year there are set dates and times of when you can make the applications for the above and when you will be made a school place offer. You can find all this information on the Nottinghamshire County Council website – “When to apply for a school place”.

Disclaimer

We hope you have found the information in this school handbook useful and we look forward to working closely with you to achieve a happy and successful partnership between home and school, which will enable your child to reach the highest educational standards. If you have any suggestions or comments regarding what else would be useful to include in this handbook or any suggestions to how our school may be improved please put them in the parent’s suggestion box located in the school reception.

The information provided in this handbook was valid at the time of printing. It should not be assumed that there would be no changes affecting either the arrangements generally described in this prospectus or in any particular part of them before the start of the school year 2026-27. Any anticipated changes have been included as part of the text.

