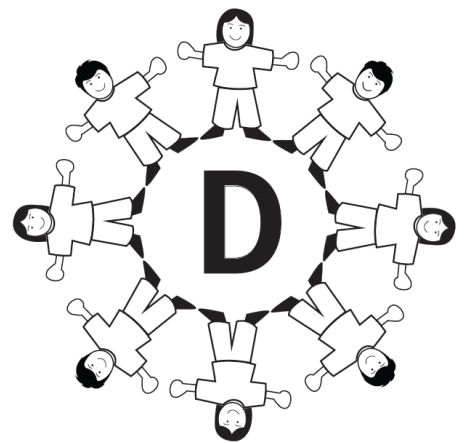




Dalestorth Primary and Nursery School

Information booklet for
Parents and Carers of
children in Foundation
Stage 2
2025-26





Welcome to Dalestorth Foundation Stage 2

We would like to welcome you to our Foundation Stage 2.

Who's Who

In FS2 we have two classes; Bolt and Farah. The staff in Foundation Stage 2 include:

Mrs Bailey – Bolt Class Teacher and Foundation Stage Lead

Mrs Redfern – Bolt Class Teacher

Miss Wood – Farah Class Teacher

Mrs Smith – Bolt Class Teaching Assistant and PPA cover

Mrs Vilums – Farah Class Teaching Assistant and PPA cover

(PPA is non-contact time for teachers to complete planning, preparation and assessments)

We also have students in regularly to support us.

Head Teacher - Mr C Robertson

Deputy Head- Mrs H Claxton

Chair of Governors - Mrs J Wain

Getting Started

For many, Foundation Stage 2 is the first-time children experience a full day at school. We realise this is a big step for children and their parents/carers. We would like to reassure you that we are here to support you and your child in every way possible. We offer transition days for the children to become acquainted with their classroom and teacher prior to starting full time as well as having a parent meeting. Hopefully all of your questions will be answered at this meeting, but if not, we do have an open-door policy where you can approach us at any time to ask questions. If you think your query might take some time to discuss please come after school where we can spend more time without the children needing our attention.



The school day starts promptly at 8:40am. Children in FS2 will need to enter school through the green gate near our Nursery/FS2 buildings, where they will be greeted by their teachers on the FS playground and brought into the classroom. It is important that all children are on time to school to reduce disruption to their day. It is very common for some children to get upset when separating from their parents/carers. If this occurs we will support the child to come in with us and it is usually most effective if parents/carers then leave as it helps the child to settle quicker. We can assure you that in most cases you will barely have left the playground before they have settled to an activity!

Daily Routine

When the children first start school, we will begin with short games and activities to help them learn each other's names and the classroom routines and expectations. They will have lots of access to our continuous and enhanced classroom provision as we carry out observations to assess their confidence and abilities. Once the children have settled, we will begin to introduce short focused sessions and group work. The timetable will look something like this:

8.40	Children arrive at school
8.40-9.00	Register and morning activities
9.00-9.30	Letters and Sounds Phonics groups
9.30-9.40	Dough Disco / Squiggle
9.40-10.00	Drawing Club
10.00-11.30	Adult-led & child-initiated activities
11.30-11.50	Topic input (PSHE, UW, Music, RE)
11.50-12.00	Singing time
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

Children in FS2 will also join the rest of school for our weekly celebration Praise assemblies on a Friday.

PE

In Foundation Stage 2 we have a PE lesson once a week.

We ask for children to come to school dressed in their school uniform on their PE day. They will then need to get changed into the PE kit. Our lessons will either take place outside on the KS1 playground and field or in the school hall depending on the weather and PE unit we are covering. Children will need a plain white t-shirt, plain black/navy jacket, plain black/navy joggers/shorts and trainers. Please make it as easy as possible for us to reunite clothing with the correct child by labelling all their clothes including shoes. Being able to dress themselves independently is a vital life skill that we want to promote in our children so please find opportunities to allow your child to practise this at home as much as possible.



What To Bring

- PE kit – Bring your PE kit to school on the first day of each half term in a Dalestorth Rucksack or draw string 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. **Please put names in everything.**
- A Dalestorth Bookbag – Please bring these daily with your child's reading book and diary. Children should read regularly at home to support their learning (at least 3 times per week), please sign or write a comment so we know they have read with you. We keep a record of children who read at home. Please also check bookbags daily for important letters.
- Water bottle – Children may bring a named water bottle to school to access whenever they are thirsty. Please only fill with water or sugar free dilute juice. Please do not put these bottles into your child's bookbag as our reading books may get damaged.
- Children in Reception are provided with free school dinners. If you do not want your child to have these please send them with a healthy lunchbox.
- Children do not need to bring their own snack as free fruit and milk are provided daily. The week your child turns 5 they will no longer be on the milk register so if you wish for them to continue please log on to the Cool Milk website to pay.
- We ask for a voluntary half termly donation of up to £3 (50p per week) to help towards resources and enhancements for the children's learning. This allows us to pay for special activities such as food tasting, baking and additional craft materials, as well as saving up to buy more substantial resources e.g. playdough for whole class Dough Disco.

Absence

- If your child is ill or if you suspect that they may be ill, please keep them at home to avoid spreading infection.
- If your child has sickness and/or diarrhoea, please keep them off school for at least 48 HOURS AFTER THE LAST ATTACK.
- If your child has a contagious illness e.g. measles, chickenpox, mumps etc. please let us know so that we can inform other parents.
- If your child is absent for any reason, please ring and let us know.
The school office number is 01623 459339.



Themes

In Foundation we love using the children's ideas and interests to influence our planning. We use the same overarching themes but have a two-year cycle for our key texts and learning focuses. We also regularly branch off into other areas depending on what gets the children excited.

	Autumn Terms	Spring Terms	Summer Terms
2025 – 2026	<u>Autumn 1</u> Who am I? Who Are You? (All About Me) <u>Autumn 2</u> Why Do We Celebrate? (Celebrations)	<u>Spring 1</u> Who Lives in a Land Far, Far Away? (Traditional Tales) <u>Spring 2</u> Do You Fly, Walk or Swim? (Lifecycles & Animals)	<u>Summer 1</u> What's Above Me? What's Below Me? (Growing) <u>Summer 2</u> Do You Wish You Were Here? (Travel)

For more information about our curriculum please see our website.

Keeping You Informed

Our aim is to work in partnership with you as parents/carers as best we can to support your children. We will keep you regularly updated with our activities with a termly newsletter. We will also post on our class pages about what we have been up to so please keep an eye out for updates.

We use an online programme called Tapestry to log children's achievements in their learning journeys. You will receive a login so that you can see what your child has been doing in school. This is a fantastic way for you to see what they have been learning and further support them at home. As we aim for a partnership, we also hope to hear from you too! You will be able to post on Tapestry what your child is achieving at home. Have they wowed you with a fantastic drawing or completed a puzzle by themselves? Maybe they have achieved a sports badge? Anything that makes you proud, we want to know about it too!

We will also run parent workshops based around Phonics and early maths skills throughout the year, as well as hosting parents' evenings in the Autumn and Spring terms and written reports at the end of the year.

Communication

We will use Class Dojo to contact you and send information to you. FS specific messages may still be sent via Tapestry memos, but whole school messages and reminders will be sent through Class Dojo. Therefore, it is vital that you follow the steps below 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.



Above all we want you and your child to enjoy their time in FS2. We hope this handbook is useful for you, if you do have any further questions or suggestions please feel free to speak to any member of the FS2 team who will be happy to help. Should you have any more serious concerns you may speak to Mrs Bailey (FS Lead) or Mr Robertson (Head Teacher).

We are problem solvers.



We learn life skills.

We learn through play.

We love to keep active!

