

Hendal Primary Foundation Unit

Hendal Lane, Kettlethorpe, WAKEFIELD WF2 7QW/ Fax: 01924 259465
www.hendalprimary.org.uk

Head Teacher: Mrs K Ashton



WELCOME!

What does the Foundation Stage mean?

At Hendal Primary Foundation Unit we educate children from the age of three, through to the age of six.

Children are offered initially a morning or an afternoon session, until they attain statutory school age. This is called Lower Foundation, traditionally known as Nursery. In the term in which they are five, children move to Upper Foundation (Reception) and attend all day.



Session Times

Lower Foundation

Morning: 8.45 - 11.45

Afternoon: 12.30 - 3.30

Upper Foundation:

9.00 - 3.30

Facilities

Hendal Foundation Unit is part of Hendal Primary School and maintains good links with the mainstream school into which the children will transfer.

We have a large, well-equipped main room and three additional bases to cater for a wide range of activities. We are fortunate also to have a secure, child-friendly outdoor play area.

Hendal Primary offers an after school care facility. The children are collected from their classrooms and cared for up until 5.30 p.m. There is a charge for this; please ask for further details

Staffing

Foundation Coordinator/ Foundation SENCo-	Stage Lower Teacher &
Mrs R Knowles	

Foundation Teachers

Mrs K Marshall

Miss Lang

Miss Lee

Nursery Nurses

Mrs C Wheeler

Teaching Assistant

Mrs D Stewart

Mrs Turner- Broadhead

Mrs Woodcock

Miss G Pinfield

SEN Teaching Assistant

Mrs Furness

Mrs Green

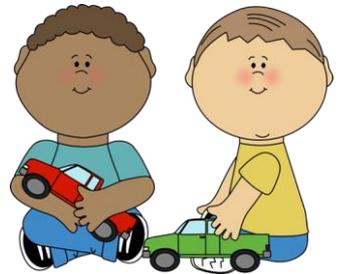
We have a team of experienced professionals who provide a happy, safe and stimulating environment for all our children.

Please come and visit us to discuss your child's education.

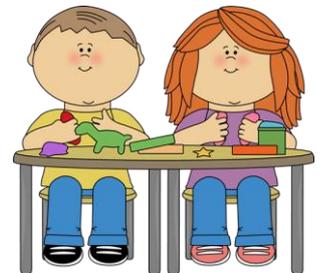
Aims of Henda Foundation Unit

We believe that childhood is a time of play and that through play we discover the excitement of learning, the rewards of achievement and acquire our life skills.

Progression from age three...



We believe that the years children spend in the Foundation Stage are the most important in their lives. The early years setting, with its bright, colourful, noisy, well-planned, busy environment, encourages the children in the development of skills, attitudes and understanding that will help them to live full satisfying lives and become confident, useful active members of a diverse constantly changing society.



We will maximise each child's learning potential, working in close partnership with parents, who are the child's first and most important educators.



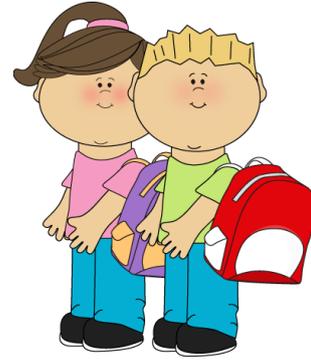
It is through this process that children will work towards, achieve and in some cases exceed the Early Learning Goals.



To the end of the Foundation Stage

Starting Lower Foundation

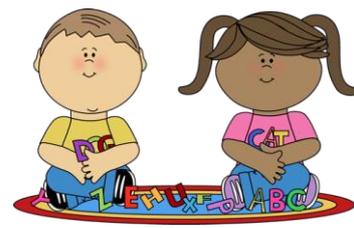
After an introductory visit, accompanied by a parent or carer, the child will start either morning or afternoon sessions. It may take a few days before the child is ready to be left, so we ask you to be prepared to come back a little early at first until they feel comfortable and settled. We will do all we can to help your child.



What kind of things will the children do?

There are many and varied activities which the staff have carefully planned to cover the Foundation curriculum. These may include sand and water, dough, painting and other creative experiences. Construction, model making and jigsaws promote co-ordination. Imaginative play may take place in role-play e.g. travel agent, building site or home area.

The love of books is greatly encouraged. Children have access to a wide range of books and have a daily story session. They may also listen to taped stories or music at the listening centre. A number of books and story sacks are available to take home. Every day, the children have access to the outdoor areas, where physical activities such as climbing, riding, throwing and catching are developed. Children are encouraged to take turns, follow rules, etc. Children can continue and extend their play in our outdoor provision where all areas of the curriculum are catered for.



What should children wear?

Foundation can be quite a messy place, with paint and glue around every day. The children will always wear aprons for these activities, but clothes can still be accidentally marked. For that reason, please send your child in ordinary play clothes. We encourage children to be as independent as possible, so we would ask that fasteners are ones that the child can manage wherever possible.

Learning and teaching in the Foundation Stage

Progression from age three...

The Curriculum for the Foundation Stage underpins all future learning by supporting, fostering, promoting and developing children's:

- ❖ Personal, social and emotional wellbeing, providing opportunities for each child to become a valued member, with positive self-image and self-esteem.
- ❖ Language and communication, with opportunities for all children to practise and extend the range of vocabulary they use and to listen carefully.
- ❖ Reading and writing, with all children exploring and enjoying a rich variety of books.
- ❖ Mathematics, with children developing their understanding of number, pattern, shape and space.
- ❖ Knowledge and understanding of the world, with opportunities to solve problems, make decisions, experiment, predict, plan and question so they can find out about their environment, people and places that have significance in their lives.
- ❖ Physical development, to increase understanding of how their bodies work and what they need to do to stay fit and healthy.
- ❖ Creative development, sharing thoughts and feelings through a variety of art, design and technology, music, movement, dance, imaginative and role-play activities.



Evidence produced nationally shows that those children who have the opportunity to learn through play in Lower Foundation become more effective learners by the time they are in Key Stage 2.

To the end of the Foundation

Upper Foundation

In the term in which the children are of statutory school age, they will become part of Upper Foundation. This is when they will attend full day sessions and may wear school uniform. To ease the change, they will be invited to stay until lunch, for lunch and then finally all day.

What will they do?

Children continue to share the many, varied and carefully structured activities provided in the Foundation Unit, following the Early Learning Goals. They are drawn together as a class to follow elements of the Literacy and Numeracy Strategies during the day. The Foundation Stage prepares children for learning in Key Stage 1 and is consistent with the National Curriculum. In order to ensure smooth transition, the literacy hour and daily mathematics lesson are in place by the end of the Foundation Stage.



Transition into main school

Towards the end of the year, Upper Foundation children are invited into assemblies and join Key Stage 1 children for other activities when appropriate. The Year 1 teacher visits Foundation regularly towards the end of the year and the children in turn have time to familiarise themselves with their new classroom.



Foundation Fund

In order to provide a healthy snack with the children's milk, we ask for a weekly donation of 20p. This also helps to pay for the baking ingredients. We hold fund-raising events to allow us to buy new resources for Foundation and would appreciate your support in these. Thank you.

Role of Parents and Carers

Parents and carers are the children's first and most enduring educators. When parents, carers and practitioners work together, the results have a positive impact on the child's development and learning. We have an open door policy, where parents and carers can talk to any of the staff about the education of their child. We have a parent's notice board and display a copy of our planning. Please read these and ask your child what they have been doing today! This means that learning and play activities may be continued at home. Similarly, the interests of the children and any expertise of the parents will enhance the work in Foundation.

We look forward to working with you and your child!