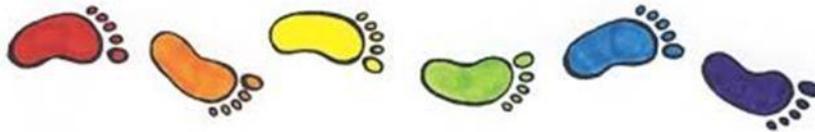


Welcome to Abernethy Nursery

2021-2022



Welcome to Abernethy Primary School Nursery

We want you and your child to enjoy Nursery.

If you have any queries or concerns, please telephone or come and talk to one of the nursery staff.

Abernethy Primary School: 01479 821274

Abernethy Primary School Nursery Team

Head Teacher: Rhona Bootle

Principal Teacher: Adele Law

Early Years Practitioners:

Mrs Fiona Wells

Mrs Sas Roberts

Ms Jade Jacob

Early Years Support Assistant:

Ms Sally Garrow

The Nursery session:

Monday to Thursday: 9.00am - 3.30pm

Friday: 9.00am - 1.00pm

At Abernethy Primary School Nursery, we aim:

- To create a welcoming, happy atmosphere for children, staff, parents and visitors.
- Provide a safe and stimulating environment for everyone to enjoy and work in.
- Encourage everyone to be polite, kind, co-operative and share.
- Follow the early level outcomes of Curriculum for Excellence and meet National Care Standards, as children explore, make discoveries and develop through play.
- Use active learning to support children's development in the four capacities of Curriculum for Excellence.
- Build on knowledge and skill already learned and in partnership with parents, recognise progress and further achievement, so that children can achieve their full potential.
- Develop the children's awareness, understanding, respect and enjoyment of the environment, within their own community and beyond.
- Ensure the smooth transition to Primary 1 through weekly activities in the main school and by getting to know older pupils and staff.
- Ensure each child grows in confidence, independence and self-esteem and is valued and respected as an individual.

Abernethy Primary School Nursery follows Highland Council Guidelines on Child Protection and has a Child Protection Policy.

Children who will be starting school in August have the opportunity to take part in three "**Safe, Strong and Free**" workshops led by a Safe, Strong and Free project worker. Each workshop has a different theme and tries to give children strategies to cope with difficult situations. If restrictions allow, the children's workshops are preceded by a parents' workshop which outlines the issues raised.

Safety

Please sign the home-time record and tell staff if someone different will be collecting your child. If, in exceptional circumstances your child has to be collected by someone he/she doesn't know, please telephone the school to inform us.

Encourage your child to say goodbye to staff so that we know children are safely on their way home. No child should be outside the building or nursery grounds unless supervised by an adult.

If your child is unwell

If your child is unable to attend nursery, please telephone **01479 821274** to let staff know.

If your child is unwell at nursery and we are unable to get in touch with you, we will then phone your emergency contacts. (Please keep us informed of any change of address, telephone numbers and emergency contacts.)

Parents are asked not to bring into nursery any child who has been vomiting or had diarrhoea until at least 48 hours since the last attack.

Is your child up to date with vaccinations?

We have been asked to remind parents that children may come into contact with infections at nursery, so it is important to ensure that they have an up to date vaccination record. If your child has missed a vaccination, please contact your GP or Health Visitor for further advice.

Clothing

Please provide your child with indoor shoes that are named inside. **Gym shoes are ideal for nursery.** These may be left in a bag on your child's peg. Spare clothing is a good idea, in case of any accidents. These too may be left at nursery. We go outside every day, so it is essential that children have a waterproof jacket, jumper or cardigan and suitable shoes for running around.

Toileting

Going to the toilet can be a worrying experience for young children. Please let us know if your child needs assistance or has concerns at any time.

For any child who is not toilet trained, we will discuss arrangements for nappy changing with parents.

Snack

Abernethy Primary is a Health Promoting School. For snacks we provide a variety of fruit and water or milk daily. For topics, we occasionally include foods from around the world. Children are encouraged to try different fruits and vegetables.

The children lay the table, pour their own drink and sometimes help prepare the fruit/vegetables.

Please inform staff of any food allergies, parental preferences and particular dislikes.

Tooth Brushing

Once the children are settled into nursery, they will be encouraged to brush their teeth. The dental hygienist provides tooth brushes and toothpaste and visits the children during the year.

Transition to School

The nursery is located within the school and a transition programme allows the children to get to know school staff and older children very easily.

The nursery usually joins the rest of the school for the Christmas party and takes part in whole school events, assemblies and performances where appropriate.

Buddies

In the summer term, Primary 6 pupils visit the nursery regularly to play with the children, accompany them in the playground, and support them at Sports Day.

Children who will be going to school in August, join older pupils in the main school playground during the summer term. This allows us to reinforce safety messages in the playground and prepares the children for independent play.

Partnership with Parents

We like to involve parents in nursery life and welcome any skills or interests you can share with us. We value help with projects and initiatives.

Nursery Cluster

Abernethy is part of a nursery cluster consisting of Deshar, Grantown and Carrbridge Nurseries and Grantown Play Group. We often share resources and ideas and visit one another when the opportunity arises.

Working together: Statement for Parents

All pre-school education centres work closely with NHS Highland and other agencies so that the resources and information we have will bring the most benefit to families. The aim is to ensure we have the right services for your child at the right time.

Early Education services and NHS Highland collaborate to plan services and offer interventions, such as the Child Smile Oral Health Programme and the Pre-school Vision Screening Programme. To assist the administration of these programmes, we confirm your child's name, date of birth and address to NHS Highland.

We have a Link Health Visitor, who visits the centre at least once a term. Their main role is to offer advice on children's health and development. They will also liaise with your own Family Health visitor if necessary.

Our named Link Health Visitor is **CHRISTINE MACKINNON** and she can be contacted on:

Tel no: 01479 813403

You will be asked to complete a Personal Care Plan for our Early Learning and Childcare setting when your child starts nursery. This enables all staff to gain a rounded picture of your child and ensures a consistent approach to their care. If your child's immediate safety or welfare is at risk, information may legally be shared without your consent.

Keeping in touch

We are always happy to talk with you about your child. On a day to day basis, we will inform you of achievements and/or concerns.

At any time, if you feel the need for information about your child, please ask. We do take a note of things children particularly like, dislike, manage well, or struggle with. We try to make our records factual and objective.

We plan parent consultations twice a year, in September and May, but may ask to meet more regularly if the need arises.

Parents are welcome to see the National Care and Health Standards and Nursery Policies. Nursery plans are displayed on the notice board outside the nursery.

School Closures

In the event of severe weather, we will inform you of special arrangements.

For up to date information, you can phone the Highland Council Snow Information Line on **0800 5642272**

Enter Abernethy's pin number: **041290**

Listen to Moray Firth Radio or BBC Radio Highland to find out about school closures.

In the event of an emergency, the nursery will follow the procedures set out in the school emergency evacuation plan, a copy of which may be seen on the notice board.

Comments and Complaints

We hope you and your child will enjoy their time at nursery and we welcome comments and suggestions.

For day to day concerns or queries, please speak to staff at the beginning or end of a session. If there is a problem, please ask to speak with a member of

staff in private. If the matter cannot be resolved, or you feel unable to speak to nursery staff, please make an appointment with the Head Teacher, Mrs Rhona Bootle.

All nurseries follow regulations set by the Care Inspectorate. If you wish to discuss a complaint with them, the local address is displayed on the notice board.

We hope you have found this booklet useful. If you have any further questions, please don't hesitate to speak to a member of staff.

