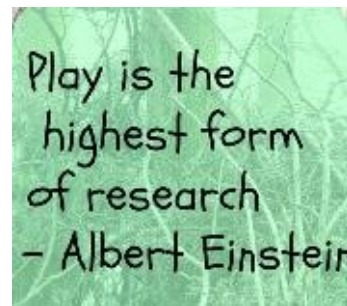
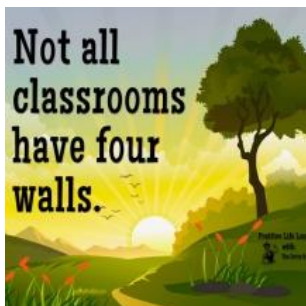


St. Joseph's RC Primary School
Ramsbottom



Welcome to Nursery
Foundation Stage 1 – FS1



Welcome to our F\$1!

Thank you for choosing to send your child to St. Joseph's.



Our Mission Statement

“There are three things that last: FAITH, HOPE and LOVE

Love one another as I have loved you”

Our School is proud to be part of the Roman Catholic Church in the parish of St. Joseph's. Our mission is to serve God, uphold the worth and dignity of every person and enable them to develop their talents. Everything we do is rooted in the values of the Gospel, as we seek to deepen faith, strengthen hope and grow in love in a respectful, safe and happy environment.



This Statement is supported by the following aims and how we fulfil them in our Early Years and beyond:

- Together as adults and children, we respect, value and cherish each other as unique individuals.
- Everyone has something special to give, and we look for ways to recognise nurture and celebrate each other's talents. We shall strive to offer a broad and varied curriculum.
- Our community is a partnership between home, school and Parish.
- We provide a welcoming, well mannered, safe and happy environment.
- Our Faith life is an integral part of our community, we will strive to be witnesses of Christ's teaching within the world community.

A very warm welcome!

We hope that within this booklet we can give you a taster of Nursery life, some of the experiences your child will have during their time with us and lots of useful information. We recognise that starting school is a big step for every child and their families and we hope that by working together we can support each other in providing a safe, stimulating and rewarding experience for your child. If after reading this booklet, you have any further questions, please don't hesitate to ask one of the members of staff.

Kind regards, Mrs Watson – F\$1 Teacher / EYF\$ Lead

Meet the FS1 Team ...



Hello and welcome everyone. I love Nursery and look forward to meeting you and us having lots of fun together. My three children all came to our Nursery and School – they loved it here. I have a dog called Chester who does lots of tricks.

Mrs Watson FS1 Teacher and EYFS Lead



Hello. I look after you at dinner time, both in the hall as you eat and then on the playground as you play. We play out with the FS2 children and have fun together. I love being outside. I have horses and dogs – I love animals.

Mrs Brooks FS1 Lunch Time Welfare



Hello, I am really looking forward to teaching you PE on Wednesdays and having lots of fun. We will be working on individual strengths as well as working together as a team.

Mrs Brown PE Coach



Hello, we started Nursery this year and will be staying in Nursery next year too. We will help you to settle in and have fun in Nursery.

Friends already at St. Joseph's Nursery

Our EYFS Ethos

**Happiness first
and all else
follows!**

(Aristotle)

WE DIDN'T REALISE WE WERE
MAKING MEMORIES, WE JUST KNEW
WE WERE HAVING FUN



how do you spell love?
- piglet



you don't spell it.
you feel it.
Saturday Designs
- pooh

"The things
that make
me different
are the
things
that
make
me."



winnie the pooh

**Educating the
mind without
educating the
heart is no
education at all.**

(Aristotle)

goodbye..?
oh no, please. Can't
we go back to page one
and do it all over
again?

-Winnie The Pooh



**From tiny
acorns, grow
might oaks.**

(Proverb)



AS SOON AS I
SAW YOU, I KNEW A
GRAND ADVENTURE
WAS ABOUT TO
HAPPEN

- POOH -



**Play is the
highest form
of research.**

(Einstein)



"Don't walk behind me;
I may not lead.
Don't walk in front of me;
I may not follow.
Just walk beside me
and be my friend."

**Teamwork
makes the
dream work!**

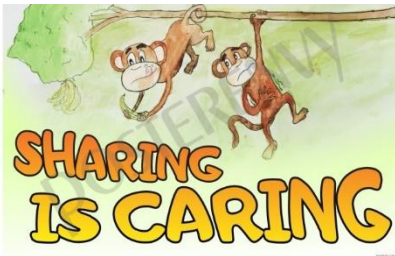
(John Maxwell)



Our Foundation Stage

Class Rules

Caring
Sharing
Helping



Class Promise

Kind Hands

Kind Words

Kind Feet



Our School Rules

St Joseph's RC Primary School

"There are 3 things that last:
Faith, Hope and Love."



School Rules

1. Ready



2. Respectful

3. Safe





Our FS1 Day

8.55 am start - 3.00 pm finish,
lunch 11.30 am to 12.20 pm

[Note: Outdoor Learning Tuesdays, PE Wednesdays]



Welcome



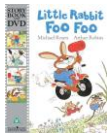
Good Morning!



Morning Greetings - Our Day



Movement Time



Focused Activity - Literacy



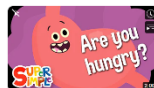
Play Partners



Focused Activity - Maths



Lunch



Looking after Ourselves



Focused Activity - Our Curriculum



Play Partners



Book and Talk Time



Our Day - Goodbyes



The Early Years Curriculum



The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) is divided into the seven Areas of Learning (AoL), each with their own Early Learning Outcomes (ELO).

Communication and Language (CAL)

- Listening, Attention and Understanding
- Speaking




Personal, Social and Emotional Development (PSED)

- Self-Regulation
- Managing Self
- Building Relationships




Personal Development (PD)

- Gross Motor Skills
- Fine Motor Skills




Literacy (LIT)

- Comprehension
- Word Reading
- Writing




Mathematics (MATHS)

- Number
- Numerical Patterns




Understanding the World (UW)

- Past and Present
- People, Culture and Communities
- The Natural World



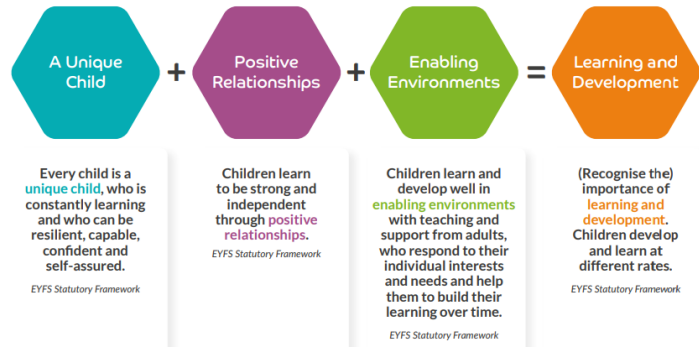

Expressive Arts and Design (EAD)

- Creating with Materials
- Being Imaginative and Expressive




These seven Areas of Learning (AoL) are developed into subjects in Year 1 and form the basis of the National Curriculum (NC). During Nursery, children have begun to progress through the Early Learning Outcomes (i.e. age-related targets for each sub-area within the seven Area of Learning). Throughout Reception, children continue through the Early Learning Outcomes (ELO), which lead to the Early Learning Goals (ELG). Most children are at expected by the end of their Reception year and achieve what is referred to as a Good Level of Development (GLD).

The Four Principles of EYF5:



Characteristics of Effective Learning - Behaviours and Attitudes

We want our children to be life-long learners with an array of skills.

It is as much how we do something as what we do.

We continually seek to develop, extend and celebrate such characteristics.



Playing & Exploring Engagement	Finding out and exploring <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Show curiosity about objects, events and people ❖ Use senses to explore the world around them ❖ Engage in open-ended activity ❖ Show particular interests
	Playing with what they know <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Pretend objects are things from their experience ❖ Represent their experiences in play ❖ Take on a role in their play ❖ Act out experiences with other people
	Being willing to have a go <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Initiate activities ❖ Seek challenge ❖ Show a 'can do' attitude ❖ Take a risk, engage in new experiences, and learn by trial and error
Active Learning Motivation	Being involved and concentrating <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Maintain focus on their activity for a period of time ❖ Show high levels of energy, fascination ❖ Not easily distracted ❖ Pay attention to details
	Keeping on trying <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Persist with activity when challenges occur ❖ Show belief that more effort or different approach will pay off ❖ Bounce back after difficulties
	Enjoying achieving what they set out to do <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Show satisfaction in meeting their own goals ❖ Be proud of how they accomplished something - not just the end result ❖ Enjoy meeting challenges for their own sake rather than external rewards or praise
Creating & Thinking Critically Thinking	Having their own ideas <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Think of ideas ❖ Find ways to solve problems ❖ Find new ways to do things
	Making links <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Make links and noticing patterns in their experience ❖ Make predictions ❖ Test their ideas ❖ Develop ideas of grouping, sequences, cause and effect
	Choosing ways to do things <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Plan, making decisions about how to approach a task, solve a problem and reach a goal ❖ Check how well their activities are going ❖ Change strategy as needed ❖ Review how well the approach worked

For us, how your child learns is equally important to what they learn!

Helping your child prepare for FS1

In preparing your child, don't worry that you might do the 'wrong' thing. You know your child best and what is right for them. In order to develop your child's interest in learning, the following ideas may be helpful.

What will help my child?



- Support your child to undress and dress themselves with increasing independence.
- Encourage them to use a knife and fork and carry a tray with a filled cup on.
- Help your child to recognise their name such as in their school uniform, on their book bag.
- Encourage them to begin to hold pens/pencils etc. with an appropriate grip.
- As the year goes on, practise writing their name with them. They may write/mark make on paper, in the air, with a paint brush, in sand with a stick, on your back with their finger - anything goes!
- Share stories with them, emphasising the pleasure that can be had from text and books.
- Look out for numbers important to them and in the environment and talk about them eg. being 3, door number.
- Spot shapes, name them and talk about them.
- Count out objects together - being sure to say each number name as each item is touched, we aim to be 'Careful Counters'!
- Show interest in things they like and talk about their interests.
- Participate in music, singing and dancing.
- Help to cut pictures out of magazines and cards to make pictures and collages.
- Talk about what will happen when they first come into nursery school.
- Reassure your child about starting nursery school.
- Please complete and return requested information - thank you.

We look forward to our time together with your child.



Growing and Learning Together ~ Our Learning Journey

Learning has started well before your child begins at St. Joseph's. They will have been learning at home and whilst out and about.

You are your child's first educator and our role in FS1 is to build upon what your child already knows and can do, to take their learning and development forwards and prepare them for the learning ahead of them. Together we are a partnership, ensuring your child achieves their full potential.

We all look forward to supporting your child's learning and development in a happy place and being with them on their Learning Journey through their Nursery/FS1 days, with their new learning adventure beginning in September!

I have learnt lots. I am good at working with numbers.



We love playing number games.



I like making things.



Your child will learn and develop so much, it is a truly wonderful time in their learning journey and a privilege for us to be part of.



Throughout their year, your child will have the opportunities to:

- Pursue their own interests as a way of fostering a positive attitude and enthusiasm for learning.
- Develop social and physical skills which are vital when learning to play together and develop co-ordination.
- Develop early reading and writing skills.
- Explore numbers, shapes and patterns in a wide variety of contexts.
- Experience aspects of the world around us, which is central to developing children's understanding.
- Develop their creative and imaginative sides.
- Use technology to develop skills and support their learning.
- Handle and manipulate materials and equipment.
- Learn out of doors as well as indoors.
- Be involved in a mixture of both child-led and teacher led activities and so much more.

**Communication and Language
underpins all we do!**

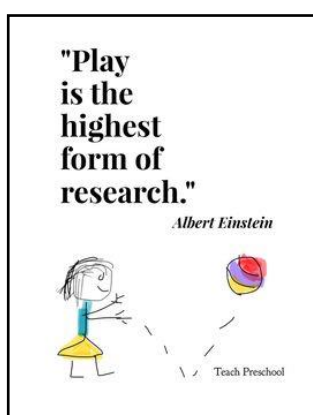
Playing as we Learn

Play is an essential part of teaching within the Early Years Foundation Stage and much of your child's learning will be through play, whether initiated by themselves or structured by adults.



Why is play important?

- Play helps children to take risks and make mistakes without the worry of failure.
- Play develops confidence and self-esteem.
- Play helps children to feel safe to express their feelings.
- Play supports children's speech and language.
- Play supports children's imagination.
- Children learn about the world around them.
- Through creative play children develop various motor skills e.g. drawing, gluing, painting, and cutting. They learn to express their ideas and explore materials and sounds.
- Play helps to develop mathematical skills and language e.g. sorting, matching, building and counting.
- Play helps children to develop their social skills, e.g. taking turns, co-operating, sharing.



We are a Partnership



Together with your child, all the Staff and yourselves are a partnership with the same hopes and aspirations for your child. As at the heart of our School, reflected in our Mission Statement, we believe and work together to ensure each child achieves their potential whilst enjoying school. We seek to build upon prior learning and build memories for their future.

I loved it when my mummy came in.



I loved taking our prayer box home.



We are all committed to involving parents/carers as Partners for Learning in your child's education.

Therefore, we keep you fully informed, including:

- Our learning for the academic year through both our 'Intent Statement' and 'St. Joseph's EYFS Curriculum'.
- Learning for each half term - 'Learning Overview'.
- Ways in which you may support your child's learning at home each half term - 'Home Learning Log'.
- What we have been up to each half term in our newsletter - 'Our Early Years News'.
- School's weekly newsletter.
- Additional suggestions/targets for your child, if and when appropriate.
- Any concerns arising.
We hold an "Open Door" policy - please let us know of any concerns you may have.
- Any whole school events your child is involved in eg. Nativity in Church, Sports Day, Parents' Assembly.
- Our termly, 'Come and Join Us' session.
- Anything that may occur as it occurs!

Please let us know if there is anything else you would like to be informed about.

**We always welcome and appreciate your comments,
your input is invaluable!**



Useful Information

Our Day:

FS1 has two sessions each day:

Morning Session: 8.55 am - 11.30 am

Afternoon Session: 12.30 pm – 3.00 pm



The gate is open before we start our day, so please feel free to come onto the playground.

Lunch Time:

Children staying for the full day have their lunch with us - you have the choice of sending your child with a packed lunch or paying for school dinners as many do, which are cooked in school and ordered by yourself in advance online (menus and links are sent out half termly, two weeks' notice is required should your child wish to swap from School lunches to packed lunches and vice versa – please contact School Office). The Early Years children all eat together in the School hall. We stay with your child whilst they settle to eat, giving any help they may need and chatting. Mrs Brooks then takes the children to go out to play on the Early Years playground, staying and playing with them, before returning to our classroom for the afternoon.

Snack Time:

Milk, fruit and healthy snacks are available daily throughout the day. We have a rolling snack time – with the children choosing when they wish to have their snack. The children wash their hands, choose their snack and sit together with friends, enjoying their food and drink before tidying away. It is a lovely social time.

Water Bottle:

We ask that your child brings in a water bottle each day, ALWAYS CLEARLY LABELLED and only containing water. Your child is encouraged to drink throughout the day and may choose to have their water at snack time.

Before and After School Club [BASC]:



Many of our families use our BASC, an extension of our School, which children enjoy attending and are well looked after and supported by the BASC Team. Places are limited so please apply as soon as you can. Places are to be booked and paid for via Mrs Cooke, the BASC manager. At the start of our day, the children are brought into our classroom and handed over to our Team, similarly at the end of our day the children are collected and taken to After School Club.

Home Time:

Children must be brought via and collected from the playground by a responsible adult over 16. If for any reason you are unable to collect your child and wish another adult [other than given permission for] to collect them, please let us know in advance and let them know your child's password. Our children's safety is so important so we hand them over to you individually which may take time so please bear with us.

Nursery Funds:

We ask for a voluntary contribution each half term. The children benefit so much from these monies. All donations are used directly on the children, enhancing their experience, fun and learning. We use the money to buy baking resources, gardening resources and other small consumables. We also save for large play equipment such as bikes and scooters. You may send in weekly or the amount for a half term. A massive thank you in advance.

Money:

All other monies such as for dinners, trips, film night, school events are to be paid for online using your child's unique code you receive when your child starts. For buying items for specific events, such as ice pop Friday and cake sales, money is to be sent in within the zipper bag in their book bag, so we encourage the children to handle and pay for things themselves.

Our Curriculum:



We have lots of fun blossoming, learning and developing through our St. Joseph's Early Years Foundation Stage [EYFS] skills-based Curriculum, in line with the DfE Early Years Curriculum. Our enriching Curriculum is on our School website.

Walt Worm, Fred the Frog, Number Dog and Pup and Wiggle :

We have lots of characters in Nursery who help us. "Walt the Worm helps us to learn", introducing and teaching us new things, Fred the Frog helps us with phonics, enjoying books of all kinds/reading and mark making in so many ways/writing, Number Dog and Number Pup have fun with numbers with us and Wiggle helps us exercise. You'll hear of them a lot throughout the year!

Boo Books: [Books of Opportunity]:



Each week, we support your child to choose and bring home a book for you to share at home, with an associated activity to enjoy together. Have fun! We love you to return completed activity for us to share and display. We ask that your child returns their Boo Book each week to be changed.

Our Promise and Rules:



We are CARING, SHARING and HELPING in all we do and say, with KIND HANDS and KIND WORDS, which underpins both our ethos and love and respect for each other. WE firmly believe and uphold: HAPPINESS FIRST AND ALL ELSE FOLLOWS! (Aristotle)

WOW Moments:



Each week, along with their Boo Book, your child will bring home a WOW piece of paper. If your child has showed any new learning, or any new experiences you would like to share with us, we would love to hear about it! You can write, draw or add photographs. We share each WOW moment with the children, which they love and really supports their speech and language development. Many thanks.

Book Bags:



There's lots to be sent home and sent in over the year, so we ask that your child has a book bag which they bring into School each day – preferably a school book bag, as ruck sacks or other bags take up too much space or may not be big enough to send things home. Please ensure your child's book bag is ALWAYS CLEARLY LABELLED. Many children have a key ring or small toy attached to the handle so they can easily identify their own book bag, support their developing independence. Please don't send water bottles in book bags to avoid spillages.

Uniform and Clothing:



We ask that children wear our School uniform [no jewellery]. This shows that we are part of the School family and belong to each other as an Early Years and to the School as a whole. Our PE day is a Wednesday and they may come in each Wednesday wearing black joggers/leggings and trainers being more practical for the session. They may also dress like this on a Tuesday, the day we tend to venture further afield to the School field and beyond. Your child will also need an outdoor coat, wellies and hat and gloves for the colder weather. We play outside every day!

Please make sure your child's name is always on everything!!!

If every child has a blue school jumper aged 3, and no name, it can be almost impossible to work out who it belongs to! 😊

We understand that toileting accidents happen, especially when starting somewhere new, so please don't worry. We have some spare underwear and clothing if any child needs changing, all we ask is if you could please wash and return it ASAP so that we don't run out! Ideally, you may choose to pop spare clothing, socks, underwear in your child's book bag so they have their own items should they ever be needed.

Toileting:



When your child starts, they should be fully toilet trained. As mentioned above, we are fully aware that accidents do happen, please speak to us if you need any support with toileting issues, we are happy to work with you on this, and don't worry!

Head Lice:



We kindly ask that long hair is always tied up! If your child ever catches head lice, please let us know and don't worry!

Absences, Sickness and Medicines:



Should your child be unwell, we wish them a speedy recovery and ask that you ring and let the School Office know they will not be in [feel free to leave a message should it be out of School Office hours]. The School's policy is that children are off for 48 hours after a last bout of sickness and/or diarrhoea. If your child will not be attending for other circumstances, please let the School Office know. School dinner payments are adjusted accordingly.

If your child is unwell through the day, we will phone and let you know as it may be appropriate for you to come and collect them. We always send a text message when a child has bumped their head. Should it be a significant bump we ring to ask you to come and collect your child. Please be ensured that your child is well looked after and cared for at all times.

We are unable to administer medicine(s) in School, unless prescribed by a doctor. If your child requires a dose of their prescription throughout the school day, please fill in the required form at the School Office and leave medicine with them to be passed onto us with completed form. This also applies should your child be on a prescribed inhaler.

Walks, Trips and Visitors:



We like to take our children out throughout the year, whether this be a walk around School or to the park or library. We wear our St. Joseph's high-viz jackets and have lots of grown-ups with us. We also visit St. Joseph's Church for Mass with the rest of School. Please ensure you have completed and returned the form that gives your permission for your child to take part in our walks and trips. To enrich our learning, we have visitors who come in and 'chat' with us, such as the dentist, firefighters and new babies. Should you ever wish to come in to talk with the children about your occupation, we'd love that so please let us know.

Our School Website, with our page:



There is lots of useful information and photographs on our page of St. Joseph's website, which is kept updated – please visit our page!

Home Learning Log:



The first week of each half term, your child will bring home a 'Home Learning Log'; an A4 sheet sharing and suggesting activities you may wish to do together at home to support your child's learning and development through the half term. We would love to share what the children have achieved and enjoyed so please send in for us to share. A copy of this latest Log will also be on our website.

Newsletters:



At the end of each half term, look out for our 'Early Years News' sharing what we have been doing and letting you know of any upcoming important Early Years events. We always have lovely feedback about our newsletter, many parents/carers say that they have lovely discussions with their child about what's on the newsletter. Please also look out for the School's weekly newsletter which will keep you fully up-to-date and contains lots of useful information. The latest Newsletters are always on our School's website.

Finally, and so importantly ...

Parents/Carers as Partners:




We really appreciate and value all the support our parents/carers give – we are a team, with the same goal for each child to be happy and succeed as the unique individual they are.

We have an 'open door' policy; if you ever need to speak with a member of staff, we are always available ideally at the end of day, or you can give us a call or we can arrange a day/time to meet up.

We have lovely parents/carers events and you are invited to help and be involved as much as possible. If you have skills you'd be willing to share, we'd love to know! The more hands the merrier and it demonstrates to the children the positive home/school relationship we have!

Each term we have sessions when you can come and join in with us [usually in November, March and July], this is instead of a more formal parents/carers evening.

We are swapping to Seesaw this year, an online journal, we will use to share messages, news etc. Similarly, you can share with us. 

We really do love the children as if they were our own.

We work together with you and your child to provide a loving, nurturing and exciting place for them to learn, grow and play.

We look forward to an exciting year ahead!

PLEASE, PLEASE never hesitate to speak with us or contact us about anything big or small.

Please feel free to email me with any questions: l.watson@stjosephs-primary.co.uk

Or you may telephone School and leave a message: 01706 823645

I will always try to respond as soon as I can

Here's to a great year together!