

# Welcome to Carterhatch Infant School



**Carterhatch Infant School**  
Carterhatch Lane, Enfield, Middlesex, EN1 4JY

**Co-Heads: Adrienne Barrell and Sarah Clements**

## **Start and Finish Time:**

Nursery:

Morning Session: 8:30am – 11.30am  
Afternoon Session: 12.30pm – 3.30pm

Reception – Year 2

Start Time 8:45am - 3.15pm

T: 020 8804 6886

Email: [office@carterhatch-inf.enfield.sch.uk](mailto:office@carterhatch-inf.enfield.sch.uk)

Website: [www.carterhatchinfants.com](http://www.carterhatchinfants.com)

For term dates please visit the website. The school calendar is also on the website and is updated throughout the year with details of events taking place.

Welcome to Carterhatch Infant School, we hope that you will have a long and happy relationship with us. The partnership between home and school is crucial to the development and progression of your child. We know starting school, joining a new school or moving up to the next year group can create a mixture of feelings for you and your child, including feeling excited and anxious.

This leaflet will give you some general information and key ways in which you can support your child. However, feel free to talk to your child's class teacher if you have any further questions or concerns. We also have a family support worker, Jeanette Fuster, should you wish to discuss more sensitive information about your child or family. Jeanette is outside most mornings to greet our families and can be contacted via the school office.

**Our** school values, **Kindness, Resilience, Perseverance and Being the best we can be**, underpin life at Carterhatch Infant School and feed into everything we do for the whole school community.

**Attendance** - Refer to our attendance policy in the **Information and Policies** section on our school website for further information. Everybody on time and in school every day. Every day counts..... As we want the best for our children, we would like to work with you to achieve good attendance. Young children's brains develop rapidly, which is why poor attendance quickly affects your child's progress.

**Holidays in term time will not be authorised under any circumstances. Absences which are unauthorised may lead to parents/carers receiving a Penalty Notice Warning and a possible Fixed Fine.**

There may be times when your child is unwell. Please call or email the school office as early as possible on the first day of absence, stating the reason your child is not in school.

If your child has been sick or had diarrhoea, please allow 48 hours since the last bout, before returning to school.

**School Dinners** - Refer to **school meals** in the **Parent** section on our school website.

All children are encouraged to have our healthy school dinners. Lunchtimes are an important social time for the children. Staff serve the children their lunch and encourage positive table manners. Lunches are free for children from Reception to Year 2.

**Uniform** - Refer to **uniform** on the **Parent** section on our school website.

All children should be in school uniform. Please speak to the school office if purchasing any uniform will be difficult for you as we may be able to support you with this. We have kept our uniform as simple as possible.



- Trousers/skirts/dresses can be worn in black or grey.
- Polo shirts must be white.
- Coats must be warm and waterproof.
- Shoes/trainers must be black and where possible have velcro straps.
- Summer dresses should be green check (gingham).
- Sweatshirts, cardigans and book bags can be purchased from the school office.

**P.E. Kit: - Required from Year 1**

**Please name all your child's clothes, so that they can be returned to them if they are misplaced. Our lost property rail and boxes are situated in the school office area.**

### **Policy on Outdoor Learning**

All children will be given the opportunity to explore and learn outside whatever the weather.

It is important that you dress your child for school appropriately: warm clothes and waterproof coat when it is cold and/or wet; sun hat and sun screen for when it is sunny.

Children get wet, muddy and messy when they explore outside. We provide wellington boots if your child chooses to wear them, or you can send in their own. We teach children how to minimise how messy they get and they do get better at this as they get older, but it is part of their learning and development – they will get a bit dirty when they are playing in mud.

We will not compromise on allowing children to explore outdoors as we believe it to be an essential component of young children's learning and development.

Children must be allowed to experience the world around them in a full, messy, muddy, wet environment if they are to make useful meaning of it. Children are expected to complete a range of outdoor challenges linked to the National Curriculum.

Getting wet does not cause us to get a cold. If the cold virus is around, we will pick it up regardless of whether we are wet or dry.

### **Forest School**

We have established a Forest School on our school field, and one of our members of staff is a trained Forest School leader. This provides further opportunities for a child-centred inspirational learning process. Forest School day is once a week and each class will have the opportunity to take part in a half terms worth of sessions twice each year. The Forest School curriculum adds another dimension to the curriculum taking part in the traditional classroom. The process helps learners develop socially, emotionally, physically and intellectually. Many children have increased interest and concentration and confidence in this open natural world environment, supporting as well children's mental health.

*For more information you can refer to **Forest School** in the **Curriculum** section on our school website. We are currently updating this, there will be details added from September and throughout the school year.*

### **Educational Visits**

Your child will be offered many opportunities for Educational Visits whilst they are with us. These vary from short walks and trips within the local area, to Theatre, Beach and Orienteering experiences. You will always be informed via letter when your child is going out on a trip. For some trips where a cost is involved, we will ask you to contribute towards these. If this will cause you financial difficulty, we do ask you to speak to us as we do not want any child to miss out on these valuable experiences.

## Reading

Good reading skills are the key to success across the curriculum and are the cornerstone for lifelong learning. There is a large emphasis on reading in school ensuring that children have the foundation skills required to support this. In our school this work starts from Nursery up to year 2. As well as staff, this also relies on parents and families sharing books and reading to their child and also listening to them read each day. Throughout the year we will hold events in school to help you support your child with reading.

*For more information refer to our school website. You will find this information in the **Parents** section - **How to Help Your Child at Home - Reading**. We are currently updating this, there will be details added from September and throughout the school year.*

## Daily Supported Reading (DSR)

DSR will start in Reception once children have mastered the phonics basics. It is carried out each day with children working in small groups with a trained adult. This programme aims to engage our young readers with texts they can enjoy and is carried out with a particular sequence of steps in mind to maximise this time. It helps to build the children's confidence with language, as they often have to say a phrase or sentence repeatedly.

Daily Supported reading is continued in year one and for some children in year 2.

In order to support you with reading with your child at home, you will have the opportunity to watch your child read in one of these sessions throughout the year or during one of our reading cafes.

## Phonics – Phonics is part of what children need to help them with their reading.

Each class has a daily phonics lesson using the Little Wandle Letters and Sounds programme, to support children through the different phonic phases. Teachers will send home activities throughout the year so you can support your child with the phonics sounds they are learning.

*For more information refer to our school website. You will find this information in the **Parents** section - **How to Help Your Child at Home - Phonics**. We are currently updating this, there will be details added from September and throughout the school year.*

## Spelling

There are words that children will not be able to sound out using their phonic knowledge in order to read and spell them correctly. They are words that children just need to learn by looking at and remembering them. They are sometimes referred to as 'tricky words', 'high frequency words', 'common exceptional words'. It helps children store these words in their long-term memory if they frequently see them, read them and write them. Teachers will send home activities throughout the year to help support your child with this. They may send home actual words they need to focus on, signpost you to games they can play and when they are ready will involve spelling tests and challenges.

*For more information and a word list refer to our school website. You will find this information in the **Parents** section - **How to Help Your Child at Home - Spellings**. We are currently updating this, there will be details added from September and throughout the school year.*

## Maths

Maths is essential for everyday life. At Carterhatch Infant School we are passionate about our children having a good foundation in the fundamentals of mathematics and aim to foster a sense of pleasure and curiosity about the subject through developing problem solving and reasoning skills. Throughout the year, teachers will send home activities to support your child's mathematical skills, knowledge and understanding.

*For more information refer to our school website. You will find this information in the **Parents** section - **How to Help Your Child at Home - Maths**. We are currently updating this, there will be details added from September and throughout the school year.*

## Home Learning

### How can you help your child?

As well as discussions you have with teachers and the activities they send home, our website offers support in different curriculum areas. The following sections offer further guidance.

**Parents Section** – How to Help Your Child at Home. This will include different areas of the curriculum.

**Curriculum Section** – Theme Webs with details about what your child is learning each term and information about the different subjects.

### Home Reading Expectations

Children need a school book bag, these are available from the school office, these book bags ensure that books are well cared for. Your child must bring their green book bag and reading record to school with them each day. Please sign or comment to show that you have read with your child. It is an expectation that all families listen to their child read for at least 10 to 15 minutes per day. The length of time will depend on what stage of reading your child is at. Please talk to your child's class teacher if you are unsure.

Children also benefit from hearing stories read to them. This helps improve their vocabulary, promotes good reading habits and encourages a love of reading. If they see and hear you read they are more likely to enjoy reading themselves.

**Handwriting**

**Letter and Number Formation**

Regular emphasis and encouragement ensures all children develop their handwriting. The correct formation of letters and numbers that we teach is shown below.

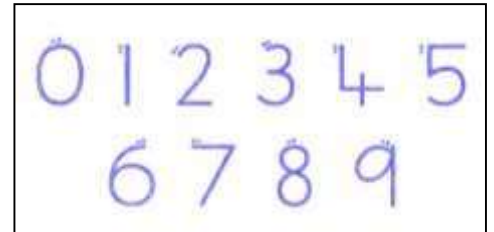
For more information refer to our school website. You will find this information in the **Parents** section - **How to Help Your Child at Home – Letter and Number Formation**. We are currently updating this, there will be details added from September and throughout the school year.

Lower Case Letters

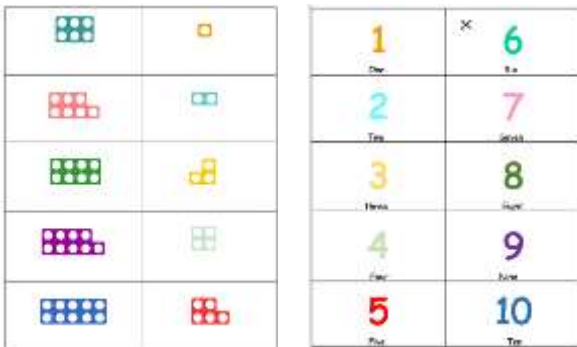
Capital Letters

Numbers

(Bold dot shows the correct starting point for each letter)



**Number Cards**



If you would like a set of Number Cards 1-20 to support Number work with your child at home and to encourage their number recognition skills. Please ask your child’s class teacher if you would like a set.

**Curriculum - The curriculum refers to all the areas or subjects your child is learning at school.**

In Nursery and Reception we follow the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum and in Years 1 and 2- known as Key Stage 1 (KS1) we follow the National Curriculum.

You can find more information on our school website under the **Curriculum Section – Early Years Foundation Stage**.

**Assessment**

Assessment takes place continuously throughout the time your child is with us. This will vary from informal everyday assessment to the statutory assessments we have to do for the Department for Education. We constantly review the progress each child is making, and will discuss this with you. These discussions can be quick catch ups at the end of the school day, parent consultations and your child’s annual report.

**Parents Consultations**

We understand and value the contributions parents and families make to their child’s development and progress in learning. Therefore, we offer a parent consultations each term. During these consultations we will discuss your child’s progress, their strengths, areas they need to work on and any support they may need. It is also an opportunity you to share your views about your child and ask any questions you might have. You may be offered additional meetings if your child has special educational needs or if your child needs support in anyway. However, feel free to speak to the class teacher or arrange an appointment if you have any questions or concerns about your child. Working together is always is the best way to support your child.

We look forward to building a long and happy relationship with you in order to give your child the best start in life.