



TARRADALE NURSERY



HANDBOOK 2022/23



The ongoing pandemic continues to affect the normal running of schools in many ways. This Handbook reflects the way the school *usually* runs but does not cover all of the changes that we have made because of the pandemic. Our arrangements have changed in many ways since March 2020, and may well change again, depending on how the pandemic develops. For the most up-to-date information about any aspect of the work of the school, please make contact and we will be able to tell you about our current arrangements. For the latest information about how the pandemic affects children, young people and families across Scotland, please visit the Scottish Government website, which has helpful information [about Coronavirus and its impact on education and children.](#)

Working together, with our community to encourage and nurture young learners to achieve their full potential and be responsible, confident and happy.

Welcome to Tarradale School Nursery

It is a real pleasure for me to introduce this brochure to you. I hope through the various photographs and pictures from this year's children it will give you an idea of the types of wonderful activities and opportunities our staff provide for your children in our care.



This is a huge step for you as a parent. It's about giving yourself a pat on the back at the good job you have done with your child so far - and then having the courage to let go slightly, to trust us to take all that you have taught them, and extend it.

Nursery within the new Curriculum for Excellence is recognised as a vital part in your child's transition through learning. We will explore, investigate and plan with your child in preparation of them becoming confident in their own learning. We will encourage their own natural creativity and ideas and let them flourish.



We cannot however do this alone. We need your input. By bringing your child to Tarradale Nursery you are becoming one of our team and as such you will be given as much opportunity as possible to come and be a part of what we do.

I hope the information held here will be of interest and help to you over the next year. You will have plenty of opportunity to come in and meet us before your child starts so that you can ask any questions to see the nursery and the school. Invitations will out.



and also be sent

We very much look forward to working with you.

Tracy Sinclair
Head Teacher

Our Tarradale Team

Early Years Practitioners

Mrs Mary Newton



Mr Darren Williamson



Mrs Dawn Mackinnon



Mrs Vicki MacIver



Mrs Teresa MacLennan



Miss Dance



Mrs Tracy Sinclair
Head Teacher



Mrs Shona Mitchell
Depute Head



Tarradale Nursery, Muir of Ord, Ross-shire, IV6 7RR

School Telephone: 01463 870484

Nursery Telephone: 01463 872601

E-mail: Tarradale.primary@highland.gov.uk

Blog: <http://tarradaleblog.edublogs.org/>

Facebook: Tarradale Primary School

Website: www.tarradaleprimary.wordpress.com

Nursery Aims

Working together, with our community to encourage and nurture young learners to achieve their full potential and be responsible, confident and happy.

Our Aims have been created by the children and outline what they want from their school.

To be a place where it doesn't matter who you are; just be yourself because everyone is welcome to Tarradale.

We will make you feel welcome, be happy, make good friendships by sharing and playing together, look up to each other, and make you feel part of our Tarradale family.

We want Tarradale pupils to have good manners, be kind and happy. We listen to our teachers so that we can achieve our very best, achieving in sport, dancing, singing or anything we put our minds to. We want to be confident and proud of how well we work and be a part of Tarradale School.

In our school we will want to celebrate everything we can do and help us to try lots of new things - to make us active, amazing, the best we can be and more importantly - good people.

Our teachers will help us to learn and understand by using lots of fun activities and by playing outside in the big garden.

We learn about real life through working with our community. We learn about the weather, not wasting food, recycling all through our partnerships with MOO Food and making healthy choices. We bring History to life through dinosaur museums and making links with Urray.

We learn about grown up jobs because we work together with our local shops and businesses. We have Bad girl bakery, the Hub, Co-op and Urray house. We want to be hard working and learn from each other.

Created by all children in Childrens' Voice session Nov 2018



GENERAL INFORMATION



We are delighted to offer flexibility in Tarradale Nursery's provision allowing all children to be offered full time nursery places of 1140 hours.

Tarradale Nursery is open between the hours of 8:30am and 3:30pm with a maximum of 30h per week government funded. Any additional hours would be self-funded.

Any additional hours can be self-funded through our Preference Forms or contacting the nursery directly. (Additional hours are currently charged £4.70 per hour).



All nursery children are entitled to a free school lunch.

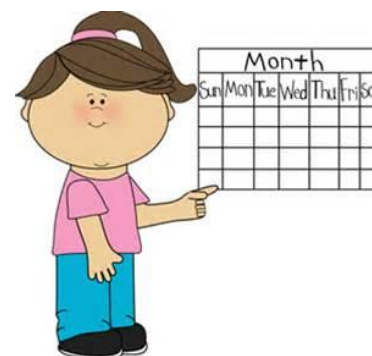
Due to the flexible hours and security fencing around the school, it is important that you try to be as punctual as possible, both when taking your child to Nursery and collecting him/her.

All children must be brought to the Nursery and collected by an adult known to the child. The adult must be over 16 years of age. We have a sheet for you to sign if someone else is collecting your child that day.



SCHOOL CALENDAR SESSION 2021-2022

The following table lists the term dates for year 2021-2022.



Open	Close
Monday 16 th August 2021 (Staff Only)	
Tuesday 17 th August 2021 (Pupils)	Friday 8 th October 2021
Monday 25 th October 2021	Wednesday 22 nd December 2021
Thursday 6 th January 2022	Friday 1 st April 2022
Monday 19 th April 2022	Thursday 30 th June 2022

Notes:

Mid-term break - Monday 21st February and Tuesday 22nd February 2022

Public Holidays

- Good Friday - 15th April 2022
- Easter Monday - 17th April 2022
- May Day - 2nd May 2022
- The Queen's Platinum Jubilee - 3rd June 2022



In-service Days



- The first day back after summer - Monday 16th August 2021
- Monday 13th September and Tuesday 14th September 2021
- One day following the February mid-term break - Wednesday 23rd February 2022
- Thursday 5th May 2022

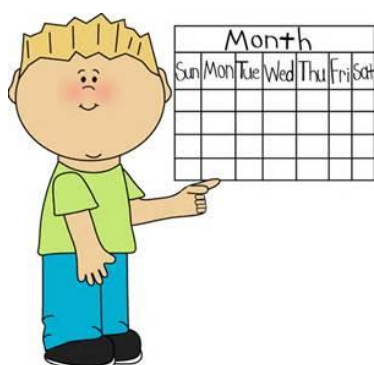
SCHOOL CALENDAR SESSION 2022-2023

The following table lists the term dates for year 2022-2023

Open	Close
Monday 15 th August 2022 (Staff Only)	
Tuesday 16 th August 2022 (Pupils)	Friday 7 th October 2022
Monday 24 th October 2022	Thursday 22 nd December 2022
Thursday 9 th January 2023	Friday 31 st March 2023
Monday 17 th April 2023	Thursday 29 th June 2023

Notes:

- Mid-term break - Monday 20th February and Tuesday 21st February 2023



Public Holidays

- Good Friday - 7th April 2023
- Easter Monday - 10th April 2023
- May Day - 1st May 2023

In-service Days

- The first day back after summer - Monday 15th August 2022
- Monday 12th September and Tuesday 13th September 2022
- One day following the February mid-term break - Wednesday 22nd February 2023
- Monday 5th June 2023



Adverse Weather Conditions and Emergency Closures

In the event of adverse weather conditions or an emergency closure parents can:

- Log onto www.highland.gov.uk/schoolclosures to access relevant information
- Use Highland Council's Messaging Service to enquire about school closures in times of adverse weather/emergency conditions:
 1. Phone 08005642272
 2. Then enter the school's PIN when prompted, 043120
- Listen to MFR Broadcasts
- Tarradale Primary Facebook Page



Friends of Tarradale



The 'Friends of Tarradale' is a group of parents who work with the head teacher, staff and children to try and improve the school experience for all. We meet every 6/7 weeks and are always looking for new members to join in.

We are delighted to be a part of what our school life entails. Our children at Tarradale are part and parcel of an ethos which is centered around community involvement and inclusion of the children. The school works hard making sure the children are invested in the life of the village and developing respect for their community and surroundings.

Being a part of the Parent Council means a lot to us as we feel that we are part of the schools extended family. It is a very important role and we take supporting our school and our school staff very seriously. As a team we feel that we can extra support in any way needed for parents, staff and children.

You can contact us for more information through the school, or by e-mailing us directly on tarradaleprimarypc@gmail.com and we will be happy to answer any questions. Details of dates of meetings and minutes can be found on the school facebook site.

Yours sincerely

Nicola King (Chairperson)



Julile Moran (Secretary)



Samantha Wunder (Treasurer)



Clothing



The children should bring a pair of gym shoes to nursery and a spare change of clothing that they can keep in their bags in case of any accidents. We would be extremely grateful if the children's shoes were easy to get on and off to save time and congestion in the cloakroom.



Please make sure that all the children's shoes and clothes are identified with their name - preferably with permanent pen.

Jumpers and T-shirts with the nursery logo are available to purchase from the School.

Hoodies	£11.00
Sweatshirts	£9.00
Cardigans	£11.00
Polo shirts	£7.00



Absences/Illness

If your child becomes ill, or has an accident while attending nursery, we will contact you by telephone. If there is no reply, we will ring your emergency contact. Please advise us of any change to emergency details such as new mobile phone numbers or change of names or addresses.

If a child is ill or absent for any other reason please let us know as early as possible. Telephone the nursery directly on 01463 872601. If a child has sickness or diarrhoea they **MUST** stay away from nursery for 48 hours from the last bout of illness.

Up To Date Information

If there is a change to your personal circumstances please notify a member of staff as it helps us support your child through difficult times (e.g. grandparent bereavement) and keep your child safe (e.g. restricted access of parent)



Snack

Parents should advise the nursery staff of any food allergies which their child may have and complete the special diet form when you enrol your little online.

- Inclusion is paramount to what we do here at Tarradale and we are delighted to allow all of our children the same experience. Our new snack menu is completely dairy free. This enables all our children to participate at snack time.
- The children will help and be offered snack every day. The main purpose of this activity is to develop a range of social and practical skills associated with eating to develop independence and to reinforce children's understanding of the importance of healthy eating.
- The children are encouraged to prepare much of the snack themselves under adult supervision. Highland Council also supply free semi skimmed milk for the children and we provide the necessary requirements for children with allergies.



Home/Nursery Links

The ongoing pandemic has affected the way in which we are able to engage with parents. For the latest information, please contact the school.



Partnership with Parents

Parents are children's most important educators in their earliest years and continue to play a major role in their young child's learning when they enter the early years setting.

(A Curriculum Framework for Children 3 -5)

We want to work with you to create open and supportive relationships, where you feel welcome, involved and fully informed about what is happening in our nursery. We feel this is vital in order to provide a happy and caring environment for both you and your child. We value your role and look forward to working in partnership with you.

Here are some ways you can become more involved with your child's learning experiences:



- Log on to your child's online learning journal to have a look at their progress. This also gives you a wonderful insight to the everyday goings on in our nursery. From whole school events to dressing up, singing and dancing!

- Read to your child every day, talk about the books, read familiar words to them, for example, labels on their favourite foods, titles of TV programmes etc.

- Encourage your child to listen to songs, music, stories and rhymes and retell or sing them back to you

- Talk with them, answer questions and play remembering games and guessing games such as "I Spy"

- Encourage them to ask questions





- Encourage them to count and use numbers in everyday situations and in nursery rhymes
- Help them to match and sort things, e.g. putting knives and forks, cups and saucers and socks into pairs or sorting out big and little tins and putting packets into order of size
- Give them the chance to use their fingers and hands, e.g. building with bricks, cutting out with scissors, helping with baking or food preparation and fastening zips and buttons

- Encourage them to express their own ideas and feelings through using crayons, pens, pencils, paint, music and play
- Encourage them to explore their own environment



Reporting to Parents

From the very beginning, your child will be involved in keeping a profile, which we call a 'Learning Journal'. Along with your child's key worker, they will have ownership of what they would like to put into their file from achievements to photographs and pictures of their experiences throughout their year at nursery.

Our learning journals are web based so you can login and see your child's progress wherever you are, be it at home, work, on the bus on your phone or iPad or even abroad. You can also add comments to your child's observations and photographs so you can be a real part of their learning.

It also lets us see the kinds of things that your wee one gets up to at home, any personal achievements or celebrations that are important to you. Use it as another means of communication if you don't manage to get through on the phone.



Don't forget
Parents'
Evening!

We would also like to invite you to a Parent's Evening which is held in the main building alongside Primary 1 -7 appointments and a short written report will be issued to you later in the year. There will also be an Open Afternoon and Evening across the year.

Stay and play sessions
Come and join us for a play session at the end of the morning or afternoon. Just add your name to our Calendar.

We offer Stay, Play and Learn sessions where you can come in and be a part of your child's learning. We are always here to chat, whether it's to see how your child is doing, to look at any work, guidance as to how you can help at home or to discuss any worries. Don't let anything go by.



Communication



On an informal basis you will see your child in nursery every day, as you drop off and collect. You will have the opportunity of exchanging information with the staff eg. if your child has a cold and hasn't slept well. In turn the staff will be able to say how the day went for your child. If you have any worries or concerns we would much rather you come and say rather than sit at home and worry.

We will endeavour to keep you up to date with events that are happening both in the nursery and the school through regular newsletters, emails, facebook, learning journals and notices on the nursery noticeboard.



Getting it Right for Every Child

We are part of a multi-agency approach to ensure that all children are Safe, Healthy, Achieving, Nurtured, Active, Respected & Responsible and Included. Tarradale is an inclusive school catering for a wide range of educational needs. In the case of educational needs relating to behavioural and/or learning difficulties, the nursery staff and members of the Additional Support Needs Team provide support. Where a child's needs cannot be met by nursery and school staff alone, discussions are held with partner agencies such as Health or Social Work as appropriate. The aim is to ensure that we have the right services for your child at the right time.

Included
Respected &
Responsible

Safe

Healthy

Active

Nurtured

Achieving



We have a link Health Visitor, who meets with the nursery staff. Her main role is to offer advice on children's development and to be the lead person if your child requires any extra support. She will also liaise with your own Family Health Visitor who is your child's named person.

Our link Health Visitor is Janet Williams, telephone 01349 868520. If your child would benefit from help from other agencies, you will be asked for permission so that relevant information can be shared.


The named person for your school aged children at Tarradale Primary School is the Head teacher

Child Protection

We are committed to creating in the Nursery an environment in which children are safe from abuse and in which any suspicion of abuse is responded to promptly and appropriately. The well-being of children in our care takes precedence over any other consideration. We all have a duty of care for the children in our school and the health and safety of all the children is of paramount importance.

Any child protection issue will be reported to the statutory agencies.

Absence also comes under this area. If your child is absent you **must** phone us before the beginning of the session. If we have been unable to contact you within 3 days social work will be informed.



'I like to climb trees and eat the pears.'

'I like to play with trains.'

'I love drawing pictures.'

'I like to come and play with my friends at nursery.'

'The best thing about nursery is playing in the garden.'

Complaints Procedure

Your first point of contact would be your child's key worker as they are the people who know your child inside out.

However, from time to time parents may wish to make a formal complaint about a particular issue.

This should be done via the Head Teacher either by making an appointment to discuss the issue or in a letter.



When the complaint is made the following action will be taken by the school -

- An investigation will be carried out or evidence gathered immediately.
- The Nursery Staff will be informed if the issue relates to a specific child.
- The school's response will be relayed to the parent, either by letter, by a telephone call or by a further appointment with the Head Teacher, Class Teacher and parents and pupils.
 - Formal documentation will be kept of each complaint and its resolution.
 - We want to reassure parents that we take seriously any complaints and endeavour to resolve them as expeditiously as possible.
- If need be then subsequent meetings will be arranged in an effort to resolve the situation to everyone's satisfaction.
- Parents/carer's are also able to contact Head Office directly with a complaint, if they so wish. The local address and telephone no is

Derek Martin, Dingwall Council Offices and Service Point, Dingwall, 01349 868603

Parents/carers are also able to contact the Care Commission directly with a complaint, if they so wish. The local address and telephone number is Care Inspectorate, Scottish Natural Heritage, Great Glen House, Leachkin Road, Inverness, IV3 8NN, telephone: 0345 600 9527 or email on

enquires@careinspectorate.com

The Curriculum

In Tarradale Nursery, we follow the Scottish Curriculum for Excellence, which offers a single coherent curriculum for all young people aged 3-18.



This curriculum aims to provide:

- More flexibility for teachers and learners
- Greater choice and opportunity for pupils
- Seamless transition from Nursery into P1

We plan for learning against the four capacities of the curriculum:



How we Promote Learning

- We encourage child autonomy and respond to the unique needs of every child.
- We ensure that each child is given sufficient time, resources and support to think, explore and experiment, work (at times uninterrupted), relate new experiences to previous learning and complete tasks to their own satisfaction.
- We make intentional curriculum choices to reflect the interests and experiences' of the children where appropriate.
- We work with individual children, small groups and the whole nursery group on a daily basis.
- We monitor our practices to ensure that balance, breadth, continuity and progression, are being effectively experienced by each child.
- Children are able to select where, with what, and how to play. This allows them to become completely invested and involved in their play.
- We build on **your** knowledge and understanding of your child so that we can plan activities to meet your child's current needs or interests.



What does your nursery team do while your little one is playing and learning?

- We go to the children, getting down to their level being interested in what they are doing.
- We listen, watch and wait!
- While we are waiting, we are planning how, or if, to respond.
- Your children lead the interactions and we respond appropriately.
- We will ponder if we want to find something out by saying 'I wonder how?' or 'I wonder if?'
- We constantly observe, wait and respond.
- We continually interact with children moving their learning on in tiny steps without disrupting their play.



Furthermore, we ensure that each child experiences learning in the key curricular areas of:

- Health and Wellbeing
- Literacy and English
- Numeracy and Mathematics
- Sciences
- Social Studies
- Religious and Moral Education
- Expressive Arts
- Technologies



Health and Wellbeing

Learning in Health and Wellbeing ensures that children gain knowledge and understanding, skills, and attributes they need for emotional, social and physical wellbeing in the future.



Wellbeing develops the capacities for mental, now and in the future.

Learning will encompass aspects of social and emotional learning - through this, children will be encouraged to make choices, develop their interests, communicate their needs and express their feelings. Through learning to take turns and share, children will learn to make friends and consider the thoughts and feelings of others.

Physical wellbeing will be incorporated into daily energetic play both indoors and outdoors. In addition, they use the hall within the school to develop their capabilities in movement and to build confidence in using a range of equipment.



Furthermore, children will have the opportunities to learn about food and exercise. Through preparing, enjoying and tasting a range of food they learn where they come from and how different foods keep them healthy.

healthy. Children will be encouraged to look after their bodies and develop an understanding about growth and development.

Language and Literacy

Literacy is fundamental to all areas of learning as it unlocks access to the wider curriculum. In Tarradale nursery we aim to provide a literacy rich environment.



Our children are exposed to a wide range of books, stories and nursery rhymes. They are encouraged to listen, learn and join in with saying the rhymes as well as clapping out their rhythms. Singing, music making and drama take place regularly both indoors and out.



Language and vocabulary are also developed through playing with a range of resources, giving rise to imaginative play.

Enjoyment of the printed word is fostered in the nursery in a comfortable story corner and in the school library. There is an attractive variety of books for reading to the class, groups and individual children. We also enjoy visits from the children in the school who often come and share their reading books.

Early reading skills are further developed through books where children can learn the connection between the spoken and written word, matching and memory games, jigsaws and other varied activities.

Fine motor skills are the building blocks required to carry out activities that require controlled and precise movements. In Nursery we lay the foundations for acquiring such skills through the wide use of paints, pencils, pens and crayons.



Numeracy and Mathematics

Being numerate helps us to function in everyday life and contribute effectively to society. Numeracy and mathematics support all areas of learning and allow children to be confident in enjoying a variety of settings and activities.

Early skills are learned through play in the nursery. The children learn to sort, match, measure and estimate, arrange and compare using toys and games. They experience the concepts of light and heavy, thick and thin, long and short, shape and colour.



fruit for snack.

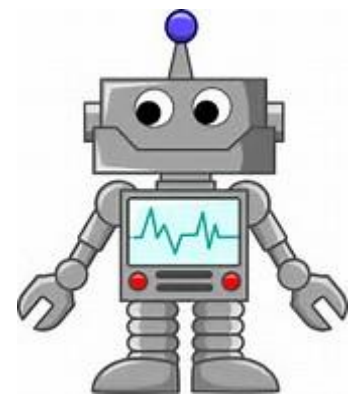
Understanding of number develops as the children learn to count everyday things around them. Children are encouraged to apply their knowledge of using mathematics in everyday life for example,

children  counting how many are at nursery and counting out pieces of

Technologies

As children play and learn they will develop interests, confidence and enjoyment in ICT. The children have access to a variety of technology equipment, ranging from scissors to computers.

In the nursery environment children will explore and use software, electronic equipment, programmable toys etc to develop skills, solve problems and communicate with others.



Sciences

Children will receive opportunities to develop their interest in, and understanding of, the living, material and physical world. Learning will encompass both indoor and outdoor experiences for children to develop and investigate their natural world and surroundings. In their play children will have many opportunities to experiment and explore different materials and resources.



Social Studies



Our children are given opportunities to learn about people and the world around them and people in the past. Many links are made to literacy and numeracy through this curricular area and children are encouraged to become more 'responsible citizens' as they make sense of the world around them.

Religious and Moral Education



In Tarradale nursery we encourage our children to develop an awareness and appreciation of each individual. Children will become aware that people have different values and beliefs through exploring special festivals, customs and traditions. Children will be given opportunities to explore Christianity, other world religions and develop their understanding for what is fair and unfair and the importance of caring for, sharing and co-operating with others.

Expressive Arts

Through art, music, drama and dance our children will be given opportunities to be creative and express their feelings and emotions in different ways.

Our children will be given opportunities to express their ideas and feelings through a variety of media. They are encouraged to enjoy and develop movement, rhythm, singing and music making.



Outdoor Education

Outdoor Learning Experiences are often remembered for a lifetime. Learning Outdoors can be enjoyable, creative, challenging and adventurous and helps children learn by experience and grow as confident and responsible individuals. (Curriculum for Excellence through Outdoor Learning)



Learning outdoors begins in our immediate environment where the Staff and children are working with the school to create an Outside Learning Area in our Garden. We also enjoy exploring the local community and further afield where we would be welcome volunteers to join us. We go outside every day, regardless of the weather so please ensure your child comes to nursery with a coat and sensible footwear.



Learning outdoors can be an enjoyable, creative and challenging experience, where we aim to inspire and motivate our children.



Transitions

We endeavour to make links with Muir of Ord Early Learning Centre on the run up to transition to give the children opportunities to socialise together. We also try to ensure that the transition from Nursery and Partner Centres to Primary 1 is as easy as possible for the children and we have in place various procedures -



MUIR OF ORD EARLY LEARNING CENTRE- NURSERY

- Nursery spend sessions with MOO Early Learning Centre and play together in the park.
- Shared sessions for gym throughout the year.
- Share outdoor facilities and sometimes snack.
- Liaison meetings between our centres to share and plan activities and discuss children's' progress during transition.
- Shared events including discos and Sport's Day.
- Shared outdoor learning activities in term 4.



NURSERY - PRIMARY- CURRICULUM

- Nursery visit P1 on a regular visit from January and are involved with P1 in many shared activities in line with the Curriculum for Excellence 'Early Years'.
- Buddy system in place for 4th term of Nursery, 1st Term of P1 with Primary 6 pupils.
- Share one playtime per week with the rest of the school in 4th Term.
- P1 teacher spends sessions in Nursery to get to know children.
- Transition meetings with P1 teacher and Nursery Staff to discuss Learning Journals.
- The nursery shares some assemblies/special assemblies with the whole school.
- We join in with Christmas Concert activities and many fund raising activities.
- The nursery makes use of the school gym and G.P room on a regular basis.



- Use of the Primary 1 classroom to use ICT resources.
- Nursery children have additional swap over days, where they spend a couple of mornings in Primary 1 prior to starting school.



Thank you so much for taking the time to read our handbook. We hope you have found it useful and informative. As parents we hope you feel welcomed and become very much part of our team. We are looking forward to working with you over the coming years. Please give us a ring if you would like any more information or would like to arrange a visit to come in and have a look around.