



Headteacher: Mrs. Diane Frainer  
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York Road Nursery School  
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6<sup>th</sup> September 2021

Dear Parents & Carers,

Welcome to the start of a new and exciting autumn term at York Road!

I know that I speak on behalf of all the team here when I say that we are so pleased to be back and with a sense of normality and doing what we used to do before the last 18 months of hardship.

For new parents I hope that you managed to find a few minutes over the weekend to look at the Transition page on our school website and that it provided you with some useful information.

The Pre-School team are carrying out home visits for our very new 2-year-olds and we very much look forward to meeting those children soon. It has been a delight to see some of our previous pre-school children 'move up' to the Nursery School- well done on your big step!

#### Food:

Please don't forget that your child needs a piece of fruit each day- please put their name on it and if it is grapes or tomatoes please cut them lengthways in half to reduce the risk of choking. Any containers need to be named so we can return them to you.

Please see attached healthy lunch ideas and our lunch policy to advice you on what type of food to bring in if your child is having lunches at York Road. Please ensure your child's lunchbox is named.

#### Water Bottles:

Please bring in a named water bottle each day for your child. No sippy cups unless arranged with the staff for individual reasons.

#### Absences:

We are a school and therefore expect your child to be in everyday (there may be some bespoke arrangements for our children with medical or additional needs that may also be attending other therapy or hospital appointments), otherwise Monday- Friday is the expectation! If your child has not arrived and we have not been informed, then you will receive a 'phone call from a member of the team to ask where your child is'. We do this for safeguarding reasons and to ensure you and your child are well.

#### Bumped heads:

If your child bumps their head while in our care, then we will call you to inform you. This is our protocol and please do not be alarmed. We will advise if we think that your child needs to be collected or to seek medical attention.

#### Clothing:

Please dress your child in comfortable and practical clothes. You have chosen a school for your child that is emersed in outdoor play and a Forest School ethos! Please ensure your child wears trousers that they can easily pull down and up independently and shoes that that can easily run and climb in. No open toed or open back shoes please and velcro- no laces!

### Bags:

Please bring your child's belongings in a bag that does not have string as these can be a choking hazard on the pegs. Rucksacks are the best option.

### Friends of York Road (fundraising group):

If you are happy to be part of our 'FOYR' group please email me your name and contact number ([head@yorkroad.herts.sch.uk](mailto:head@yorkroad.herts.sch.uk)) and we will try and set up a whats app group for willing adults. We are still fundraising for our garden and needs several more thousand pounds!

### Our Emotional Support Dog:

'Ebony' is our lovely dog that comes to school most days at York Road. Ebony is a cockapoo and has been part of school life here for 3 years. She is a hypoallergenic dog which means that if you are allergic to dogs then you won't be to this one! Please can you remind your child to be gentle around Ebony and to not chase her in the garden. Two of our important rules are: 'do not put your head next to Ebony's face and to tell a grown up if you see some dog poo!'

### Parent Consultations:

These will be on the 3<sup>rd</sup> November after school online. Details to follow nearer the time.

### Dropping off and Collecting your child:

*For all 12pm pickups please come to:*

Rabbits, Hedgehogs and Fox groups please collect from the front building- please line up and an adult will be there in the front entrance to hand over your child.

Robins, Otters, Squirrels, Ladybirds and Owls please come through the green side gate and collect from the Garden room which is at the end of the garden by the mud kitchen.

*If your child is attending 30 hours provision, they will be going to 'Rainbow' group each afternoon- please put their lunch box in the boxes near the green side gate and collection times are:*

Monday- Thursday 3.30 and Fridays 1.00pm – please collect from the first classroom on the right of the green gate as you come in.

Drop off for Breakfast and collecting from Yorkies is all via the main front door.

Please avoid collecting your child between 4.15- 5.00pm any day as this is the Yorkies tea time and we value the children and adults using this time to eat calmly and to develop social skills.

WE WANT YOUR CHILD TO SETTLE IN TO THIS TERM HAPPY AND CALM, IF YOUR CHILD IS NEW TO YORK ROAD, PLEASE TRUST THE STAFF. THEY ARE ALL EXCEPTIONALLY EXPERIENCED AND HAVE SETTLED THOUSANDS OF CHILDREN BETWEEN THEM OVER THE YEARS!

For children here in the mornings, we are offering a 9.00-9.10am settling in time where you can start your child off with an activity if they need you to. Please advise we will close the gate after this time. If your child is happy to come to their classroom then don't feel obliged to stay. Of course, if your child is very unsettled then you will be working with your child's teacher to support them, and we won't make any parent leave unhappy!

We will also be arranging some special times for you to visit and to come to some workshops during the term.

**PLEASE CHECK BOTH THE SCHOOL WEBSITE AND YORKIES WEBSITE FOR GENERAL INFORMATION.**

Please talk to your child's teacher or key worker in the first instance for any general questions and I look forward to seeing you at the gate! Enjoy the sunshine and have a lovely week,

*Diane Frainer*, Yorkies Manager and York Road Headteacher