Welcome to Reception

Northfields Infants & Nursery School

Starting school is a big milestone for children and families.

This evening we'll share everything you need to know about life in Reception, helping your child settle confidently, make new friends and enjoy a happy start to their school journey.

Meet the Reception Team

Welcome to Pegasus Class

Together we create a happy, nurturing and engaging environment where every child is encouraged to explore, learn and grow in confidence.

Jo Parr
Reception Teacher & Early Years Lead

Carolyn Holmes
Teaching Assistant

Kerry Wilson
Teaching Assistant

Northfields Infants & Nursery

Meet the Wider Team

Working together to support every child and family

Rob Dell

Headteacher &
Designated Safeguarding Lead

Susanne Hall-Bailey

Deputy Headteacher &
Deputy Designated
Safeguarding Lead

Lorraine Yates

SENCo, Family Support Worker
& Deputy Designated
Safeguarding Lead

Jo Parr

Early Years Lead

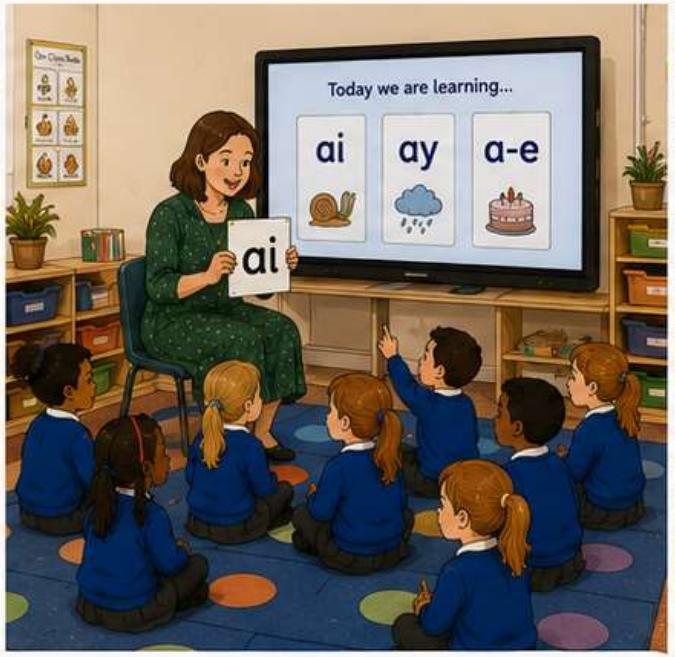
From Nursery to Year 2,
our team works closely together to help every child thrive.

Respect | Expression | Achievement | Creative and Curious | Hearts Full of Fun

Northfields Infants' & Nursery

Welcome to Pegasus Class

A place to learn, explore and belong



In Reception, children learn through a balance of:

- Adult-led learning
- Play and exploration
- Conversation and language
- Indoor and outdoor experiences
- Friendship, confidence and independence

Northfields INFANTS & NURSERY

Every day brings new opportunities to learn, discover and grow.

Starting and Ending the School Day

Helping everyone stay safe, happy and ready to learn

8:35am

Families arrive

From 8:35am, families are welcome to wait in the playground.

8:45am

Bell rings and line up

At 8:45am, the bell is rung and children line up at their classroom doors ready to start the day.

11:45am

Lunchtime

Children enjoy lunch and lunchtime play from approximately 11:45am.

3:10pm

Home Time

The school day finishes at 3:10pm. Children are collected from their classroom door by an authorised adult.

Please Help Us By:

- Staying close to your child
- Waiting with your child until the bell rings
- Walking bikes and scooters through the playground
- Leaving play equipment for break and lunchtime

Please do not climb on the school equipment before or after school.

Please do not ride bikes or scooters around the playground at this time.

Please stay close to your parent/carers at all times.

Important Times

8:35am	Families wait in the playground
8:45am	Bell rings – line up at doors
11:45am	Lunchtime and lunchtime play
3:10pm	End of school day – collection from classroom door

Northfields INFANTS & NURSERY

A calm start and finish to the day helps every child feel safe, settled and ready to learn.

Uniform and What to Bring

Helping children feel ready for school

PLEASE LABEL EVERYTHING

Please ensure all clothing, shoes, coats, book bags, reading books and water bottles are clearly named.

With thirty children in a busy Reception classroom, belongings can easily become mixed up or misplaced.

Whilst we will always do our best to reunite lost property with its owner, **we cannot take responsibility for unnamed items that are lost or mixed up.**

If it's labelled, there's a very good chance it will find its way back to your child.

PE DAYS

Children come to school already dressed in their PE kit on PE days.

PE days will be shared with families at the start of the school year.

Plain white T-shirt

Black or navy shorts

Trainers or plimsolls

Joggers or leggings may be worn at any time and are often more comfortable for active learning and independent toileting

UNIFORM

- Blue Northfields jumper or cardigan (with logo)
- White polo shirt
- Grey trousers, shorts, skirt or pinafore
- Blue gingham summer dress (optional)
- Black shoes

PLEASE BRING EVERY DAY

- Named water bottle
- Reading book
- Book bag
- Suitable coat for the weather

PLEASE KEEP IN SCHOOL

- Named spare clothes
- Named indoor shoes / plimsolls

Children feel more confident and independent when they can recognise, organise and manage their own belongings.

Attendance Matters

Every day counts

WHY ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Good attendance helps children to:

- Build strong reading and phonics skills
- Develop friendships and confidence
- Feel settled and secure in school
- Take part in exciting learning experiences
- Make the best possible progress

OUR EXPECTATION

We expect children to attend school regularly and aim for attendance of **at least 95%.**

Children who attend regularly are more likely to feel confident, develop positive friendships and make strong progress in their learning.

Every day makes a difference

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
✓	✓	✓	★	✓

REPORTING AN ABSENCE

If your child is absent, please contact the school as early as possible using:

Arbor | Telephone | Email

As part of our safeguarding responsibilities, we must know why a child is not in school.

If we do not receive an explanation for an absence, we will contact you and the absence may be recorded as unauthorised.

HOLIDAYS DURING TERM TIME

- Parents must request leave in advance.
- Leave of absence during term time will only be authorised in exceptional circumstances.
- Family holidays should be taken during school holiday periods wherever possible.

Being in school, on time, every day gives children the best chance to thrive.

Evidence Me & Home-School Communication

Working together to support your child

WE BELIEVE

Children make the greatest progress when school and home work closely together.

We will keep you informed through:

- Evidence Me
- Email
- Arbor
- School Website
- Newsletters
- School Podcast
- Parents' Evenings

HOW YOU CAN HELP

- Read messages regularly
- Keep contact details up to date
- Share achievements from home
- Talk with your child about their learning
- Contact us if you have any questions or concerns

EVIDENCE ME

Evidence Me allows us to share special moments from your child's learning journey.

You may see:

- Reading
- Writing
- Creative activities
- Language development
- Outdoor learning
- Achievements and milestones

IMPORTANT REMINDER

Images shared through Evidence Me are **for families only.**

Photographs and videos shared via Evidence Me **must not** be uploaded to social media or shared online.

This helps us protect the privacy and safety of all children.

When school and home work together, children flourish.

Northfields Infants & Nursery

Reading, Phonics and Early Writing

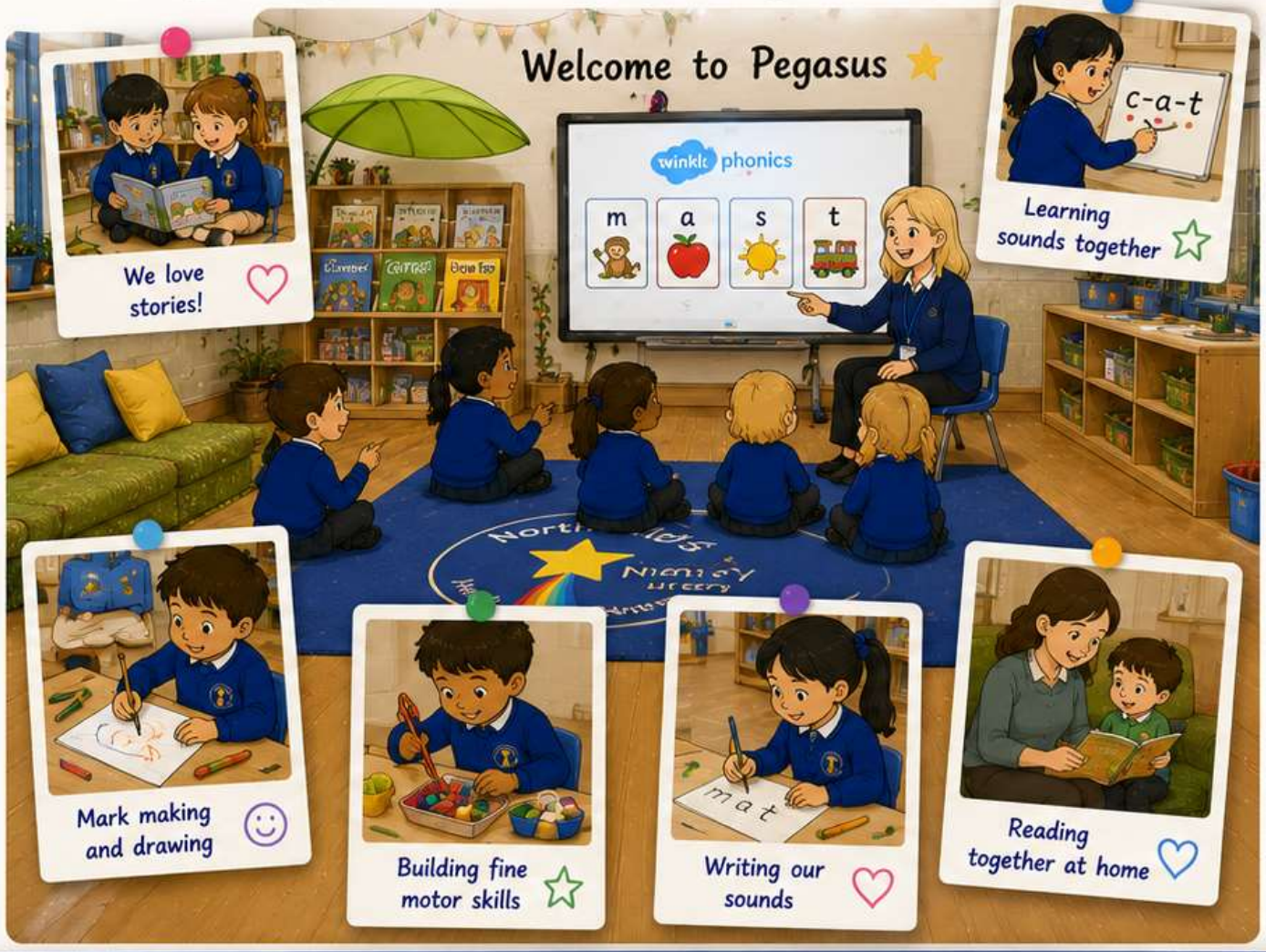
Building strong foundations for lifelong learning

At Northfields, we believe learning to read is one of the most important things children will do.

We teach reading and phonics every day, helping children become confident readers and writers.

TWINKL PHONICS

- Daily phonics lessons
- Learning sounds and letter patterns
- Blending sounds to read words
- Segmenting sounds to spell words
- Applying phonics in reading and writing



READING AT HOME

Children make the strongest progress when school and home work together.

We encourage families to:

- Read every day
- Share stories together
- Talk about books
- Practise phonics sounds
- Celebrate progress

EARLY WRITING

Writing begins long before children write full sentences.

Children develop writing through:

- Mark making
- Drawing
- Fine motor activities
- Learning sounds
- Shared writing experiences

SCREEN TIME

We encourage children to spend plenty of time:

Reading · Talking · Playing games · Being creative · Exploring outdoors

These experiences support language development and early literacy.

A few minutes of reading every day makes a huge difference.

You Might Just See Children Playing...

...but here's what they're really learning.

Reception follows the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) curriculum.

Rather than teaching subjects in isolation, children learn through carefully planned play, exploration, conversations and exciting experiences.

Every activity helps children grow across the seven Areas of Learning.

- Communication & Language
- Personal, Social & Emotional Development
- Physical Development
- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the World
- Expressive Arts & Design

Children don't experience the day as separate lessons—
they experience one exciting day full of opportunities to learn.

Northfields INFANTS NURSERY

Your Child's Reception Journey

A year of discovery, growth and amazing achievements

Every child shines in their own way.
We help them grow, learn and reach for the stars.

Like stars in the night sky, children **shine brightest** when they feel safe, valued and encouraged.

1 SETTLING IN *September*

We help children feel safe, happy and part of our Northfields family.

- Building relationships
- Learning routines
- Making friends
- Exploring our environment
- Starting to become independent

2 GROWING CONFIDENCE *Autumn*

Children gain confidence and develop their independence.

- Trying new things
- Developing communication
- Building perseverance
- Learning through play
- Growing independence

3 FLOURISHING AND EXPLORING *Spring*

Learning flourishes as curiosity and skills grow.

- Reading and writing with purpose
- Exploring numbers and problem solving
- Understanding the world
- Creating and expressing ideas
- Building friendships

4 READY FOR YEAR 1 *Summer*

Children become confident, capable learners, ready for their next adventure.

- Confident communicators
- Independent learners
- Resilient and curious
- Ready for new challenges
- Excited for Year 1!

BY THE END OF RECEPTION, YOUR CHILD WILL...

- Be confident, happy and secure
- Communicate effectively
- Read and write for meaning
- Understand and enjoy numbers
- Explore the world with curiosity
- Build positive relationships
- Develop independence and resilience

OUR MISSION

To help every child shine brightly, reach their potential and be ready for a joyful future.

Northfields Infants & Nursery

Together, we help every child shine.

The REACH Way

Our values guide everything we do, every day.

Respect

We are kind, caring and considerate to each other and to our world.

Expression

We share our ideas, feelings and creativity with confidence.

Achievement

We persevere, take pride in our learning and celebrate our successes.

Creative and Curious

We ask questions, explore, experiment and discover new possibilities.

Hearts Full of Fun

We laugh, play and enjoy every moment together.

Our REACH values shine in everything we do.

- They help children feel safe, valued and included.
- They build confidence and strong relationships.
- They encourage resilience and a love of learning.
- They help children become curious, creative thinkers.
- They make Northfields a happy place where everyone belongs.

Together, we help every child shine.

Every lesson, every friendship and every experience helps children shine a little brighter.

Northfields Infants & Nursery

Helping Children Feel Safe, Calm and Ready to Learn

Every child has good days and tricky days – that's completely normal.

Relationships First

Children learn best when they feel safe, understood and valued.

We Help Children Regulate

We don't expect children to manage every big feeling on their own.

We teach them how to:

- recognise emotions
- ask for help
- solve problems
- calm their bodies
- return to learning

We Work Together

When home and school use similar language and routines, children feel more secure and confident.

Parent Top Tip – Try the 3–3–3 Rule

When your child feels worried or overwhelmed, ask them to:

- **Name** 3 things they can see.
- **Listen for** 3 sounds they can hear.
- **Move** 3 parts of their body.

This simple activity helps children reconnect with the present moment and often makes it easier to talk about what's worrying them.

Big feelings are part of growing up. Learning how to manage them is part of learning too.

Northfields Infant's & Nursery

Helping Your Child Be Ready to Learn

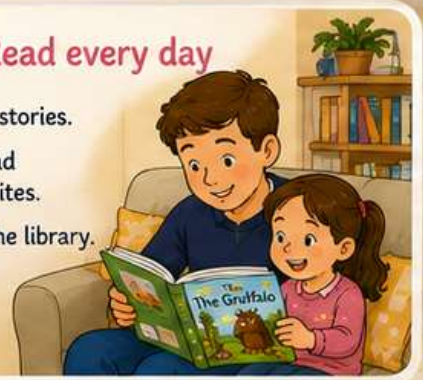
Small things you can do every day make a big difference.

1 Talk together

- Ask about their day.
- Encourage conversation.
- Listen to their ideas.

2 Read every day

- Share stories.
- Re-read favourites.
- Visit the library.



3 Play together

- Board games and jigsaws.
- Take turns.
- Win and lose gracefully.

4 Grow independence

- Dress themselves.
- Put on coats and zip up.
- Open lunch boxes.
- Use the toilet independently.

5 Build routines

- Good sleep.
- Healthy breakfast.
- Arrive on time.
- Pack bags together.

6 Celebrate effort

- Praise perseverance.
- Encourage "having a go".
- Mistakes help us learn.

YOU PLAY A BIG PART

Your love, encouragement and consistent routines give your child the best start.

Every small step helps them become confident, independent and ready to learn.

TOGETHER, WE HELP EVERY CHILD SHINE.

If you ever need ideas or support, just let us know – we're here to help.

When home and school work together, children feel secure, confident and ready to learn.

Northfields Infants & Nursery

Working Together

The best outcomes happen when school and home work as one team.

Read together every day

Sharing stories and talking about books helps your child build confidence and a love of reading.

Talk about school

Ask about their day, listen to their worries and celebrate the things they are proud of.

Arrive on time

Being on time helps your child start the day calmly, ready to learn and not miss important routines or learning.

Speak to us early if you're worried

We are here to help. The sooner we know about any concerns, the sooner we can support your child.

Celebrate effort, not just success

Praise their effort, perseverance and kindness. This helps build resilience and a positive mindset.

Join in school life

Come to events, join in where you can and be part of our wonderful Northfields community.

We are a team. When we work together with trust, kindness and open communication, we give your child the very best start to school life.

Together, we can give your child the very best start to school life.

Northfields INFANTS & NURSERY

Pupil Premium & Northfields Enrichment Fund

Extra support and enrichment make a big difference to every child.

Pupil Premium

Could your child be eligible?

Every child deserves the best possible start

- Additional funding from the government
- Supports your child's learning and wider school experiences
- Quick and confidential to apply
- Even if your child receives Universal Infant Free School Meals, you may still qualify for Pupil Premium

Check eligibility today:
www.northfieldsinfants.co.uk/pupil-premium

Northfields Enrichment Fund

£20 per year

Helps fund the extras that make learning exciting, memorable and meaningful:

- Cooking ingredients
- Enrichment activities
- DT projects
- Curriculum events
- Visitors & workshops
- Memorable experiences

Every contribution makes a big difference!

We're always grateful for donations of:

Boxes of tissues
Every box is used and always appreciated!

Clean junk modelling materials
Cardboard, tubes, boxes, bottle tops and more!

Your support helps us create rich experiences and happy memories for your child.

Northfields Infants & Nursery

Together, we can give your child the very best start to school life.

Health & Safety at Northfields

Keeping our children safe, well and cared for every day.

Emergency Contacts

- Please ensure we have at least two up-to-date contact numbers for your child.
- Let us know immediately of any changes.

Medicines

- We can only administer medicines that have been prescribed by a doctor.
- All medicines must be in the original container with the pharmacy label.

Asthma

- Please ensure we have an up-to-date asthma care plan and inhaler in school.
- Inhalers should be in date and taken to school every day.

EpiPens

- If your child has an allergy requiring an EpiPen, please provide an in-date EpiPen and care plan.
- Staff are trained to use them.

Jewellery

- For safety, please only small stud earrings (which your child must be able to remove themselves).
- No other jewellery to be worn.

Parking

- Please park considerately and legally.
- Do not block driveways or the school entrance.
- Our children's safety depends on it.

Dogs

- For the safety of all children, dogs (except assistance dogs) are not allowed on the school site.

Smoking & Vaping

- Smoking and vaping are not permitted anywhere on the school site, including the playground and entrances.

Collection Arrangements

- Please let us know who will be collecting your child. If there is a change, contact the office.
- We will not release your child to anyone we do not recognise.

Road Safety

- Please hold hands and use crossings.
- Talk to your child about staying safe near roads.
- Let's work together to keep everyone safe.

Safeguarding

- Your child's safety and wellbeing are our highest priority.
- If you have any concerns, please speak to a member of staff.

If your child has any medical conditions, allergies or additional needs, please inform us as soon as possible so we can put the right plans in place to keep them safe and supported.

Thank you!

Working together to keep every child safe, healthy and happy at Northfields.

Northfields INFANTS & NURSERY

Thank you for coming today!

We hope this has given you a flavour of life in Reception at Northfields.

We can't wait to welcome your child to our school family.

Together, we can give your child the very best start to school life.