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Welcome to Tetherdown Reception Meeting 2026-27



Tetherdown
School

Tetherdown Team



- Fiona Moffatt- EYFS Lead, Lower Phase Lead, class teacher for Ladybirds
- Molly McCann- Class Teacher for Butterflies
- Emma Swinhoe Teaching Assistant and Shanhila Umer Nursery Nurse
- Lisa Robson – Pupil & Parent Contact
- Olive Dining – school catering service
- Friends of Tetherdown – Chairs

FRIENDS OF TETHERDOWN

COMMUNITY

FUNDRAISING

Magic Show

A magician, sometimes with a scientific twist. Two shows: one for the younger ones, another for our bigger children.

Silent Disco

One for the kids - they pick the music, we provide the headphones, the playground becomes the dance floor.

Winter Fair

A new take on a much loved event - more time to celebrate all the festivities the winter brings.

Summer Fair

Our flagship, most important event. This year with more stalls, and all the joyful community vibes

Silent Auction

A variety of prizes from Karate lessons, camps, Personal Training, but hands down the best prizes are the Tetherdown Teacher bundles!

Quiz Night Comedy

Parent's quiz in the winter and comedy in the Summer

Lolly Friday & Uniform Sales

Holi: Colour festival

Year 6 Show

Planning meetings

JOIN US!

We're a friendly group of parents: we juggle jobs and children but want to support our school

TETHERDOWN SCHOOL SUMMER FAIR



FOOD - GAMES - MUSIC

12th July 2026

11.30 - 15.00

TETHERDOWN SCHOOL, N10 3BP

Book entry tickets and spending
tokens on classlist

Overview

- Starting school schedule – dates and times
- Home Visits
- Settling into Reception: daily routines, procedures and what to bring to school...
- How to help your child prepare for school
- Curriculum information
- Parent involvement
- Medical and First Aid
- Questions - slides will be sent to you



Starting school schedule



	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 1				3rd September INSET day (staff only)	4th September INSET day (staff only)
Week 2	7th September Home Visits	8th September Home Visits	9th September Home Visits	10th September Home Visits	11th September Home Visits
Week 3	14th September 9-11.20am Butterflies A Ladybirds A 1- 3.20PM Butterflies B Ladybirds B	15th September 9-11.20am Butterflies A Ladybirds A 1- 3.20PM Butterflies B Ladybirds B	16th September 9-11.20am Butterflies A Ladybirds A 1- 3.20PM Butterflies B Ladybirds B	17th September All children 8.50-1.30PM (stay for lunch)	18th September All children 8.50-1.30PM (stay for lunch)
Week 4	21 st September FULL TIME SCHOOL	22 rd September 8.50am-3.20pm	23 rd September	24 th September	25 th September

Your child has already been allocated a class group A or B. In Week 2 they will attend school for mornings **OR** afternoons only, according to their group. *These groups are the same as your Taster session groups.*

Home Visits

Purpose of Home Visits

To get to know you and your child and for you to get to know us.

Please encourage your child to show us a favourite toy or photo of something special to them.

To discuss concerns, ask questions, share any useful information.

Sign up details:

You will be emailed a link tomorrow which will enable you to sign up for the date you are available for a Home Visit. You can choose a morning or afternoon slot and you will need to keep the whole morning or afternoon free.

Each visit is 10 minutes in duration.



Getting ready for school!

This isn't about knowing the alphabet or being able to count to ten. It's about your child building confidence, skills and habits that will help them to feel like they belong, make friends and get the most out of their learning opportunities. Children develop at different rates and in different ways, but all children with benefit from some support and preparation for school. Home is where this starts.

Building relationships and communicating: needs, feelings (their own and others). Listen and follow instructions, wait their turn, accept losing at something, accept being frustrated by not being able to do something, accept feedback about how to do something better.

Growth requires some discomfort – we don't build resilience by removing every obstacle, but rather by helping our children work through the obstacles.

Independence : coats, shoes, socks, jumpers, toilet, eating and drinking, opening drink bottle, wait for an adult to respond.

Physical development: running, jumping, bike and scooter skills, scissors, spoons, forks...all help develop the motor skills needed for school activities and learning. Guidance is more than 3 hours of 'moving' a day.

Healthy routines: sleep (11-13 hours) and bedtime routine, brush teeth twice a day (supervised until they are at least 7), screen time (less than 1 hour per day)



Drop off and pick up routine

Routine for September:

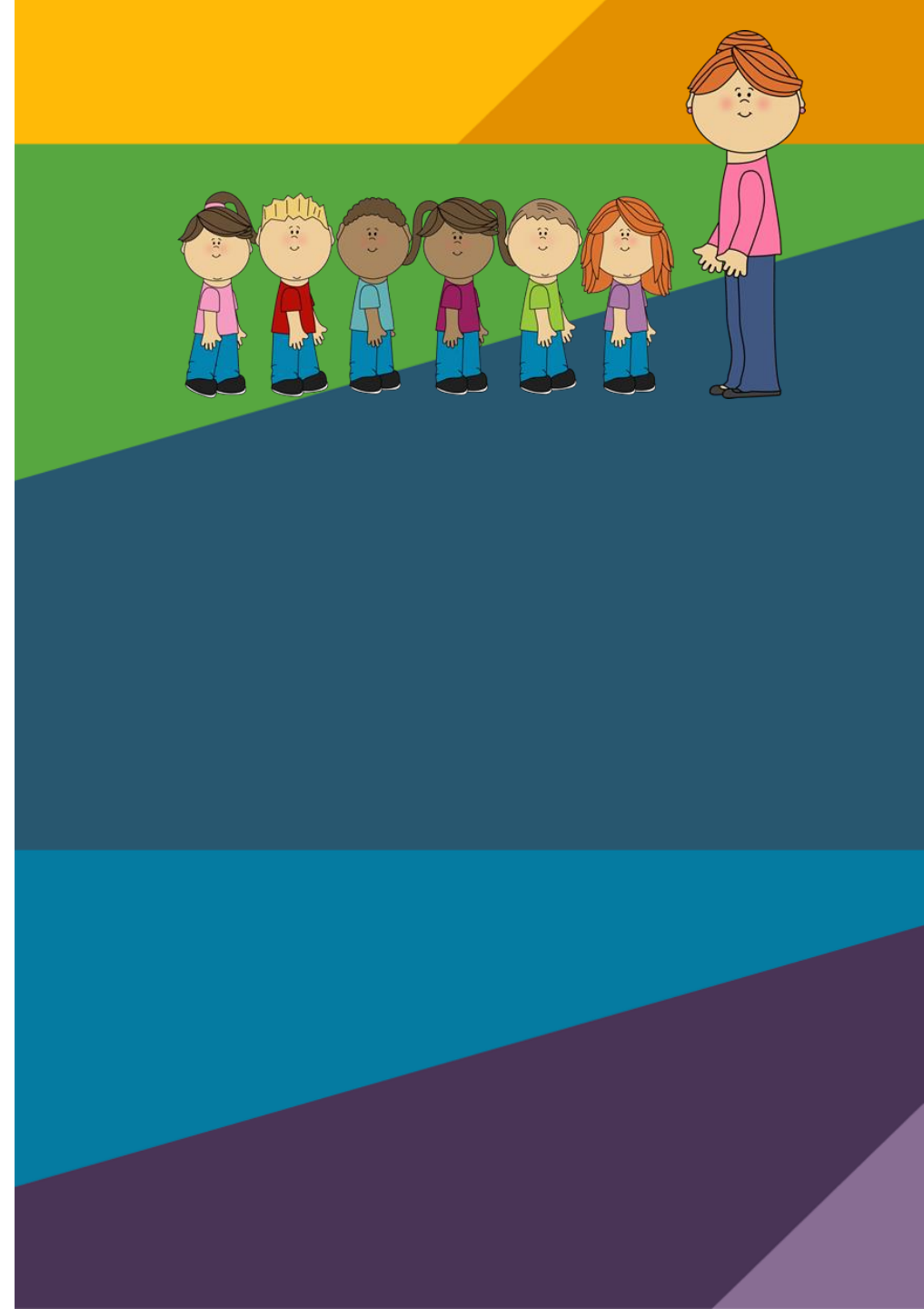
Normal school hours are 8.50-3.20pm.

In the mornings, please wait with your child outside our Reception playground gate. Do bear in mind that this is a public footpath. We will open the gate at 8.50am.

We would like you to say a quick goodbye at the gate before the children enter our playground. Unfortunately, you will be unable to come into the classroom but trust us to reassure and settle your children.

At pick up time, please wait in the Reception playground – we will open the gate at around 3.15pm and we will call the children one by one to be collected when we see their adult. Please make a quick exit from the school premises/pick up older sibling(s).

Please let us know who will be picking up your child. We cannot hand your child over to any person we have not been given authorisation. Inform us in the morning directly or email office if last minute changes occur during the day.





What to bring:

Yellow Book Bag – daily. Available on 'Friends of Tetherdown' on our website (Parent Organisation). No backpacks please!

Drink bottle – daily (pop up NOT screw tops). Water only.

PE kit – at this stage they are not needed but we will advise you as soon as possible. Children will wear their PE kit to school on their allocated PE day.

NAMES NAMES NAMES!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Sensible clothing (no laces, shoes – slip on or velcro, no jewellery, no tight jeans).

Spare set of named clothes in a named bag – this will stay in school.



A typical day in Reception



8.50am – Come into school, morning routine, self-register, independent ;learning time or 1:1 reading with an adult

9:20 am – Short activity on the carpet (circle time, maths games or songs, story, phonics etc)

INDEPENDENT LEARNING TIME INDOORS AND OUTDOORS (children are free to choose their own activities, supported and guided by adults)

10:45 am – Tidy up, snack time and story (snack is provided by the school)

11am – Playtime outdoors or bikes and scooters time

11:30am – Short activity on the carpet (circle time, maths games or songs, story, phonics etc)

INDEPENDENT LEARNING TIME INDOORS AND OUTDOORS (children are free to choose their own activities, supported and guided by adults)

12:15 am – Lunch time. Children eat in the school hall – most children choose school dinners, rather than bringing in their own packed lunch.



1:30 pm - Short activity on the carpet (circle time, maths games or songs, story, phonics etc)

INDEPENDENT LEARNING TIME INDOORS AND OUTDOORS (children are free to choose their own activities, supported and guided by adults)

2:50 pm – Story/songs/rhymes

3:20pm – Home time. Teachers will release children from the classroom doors only when they see the child's parent or carer.



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Clubs:

Breakfast club and Afterschool club are available to Reception children when they are full time.

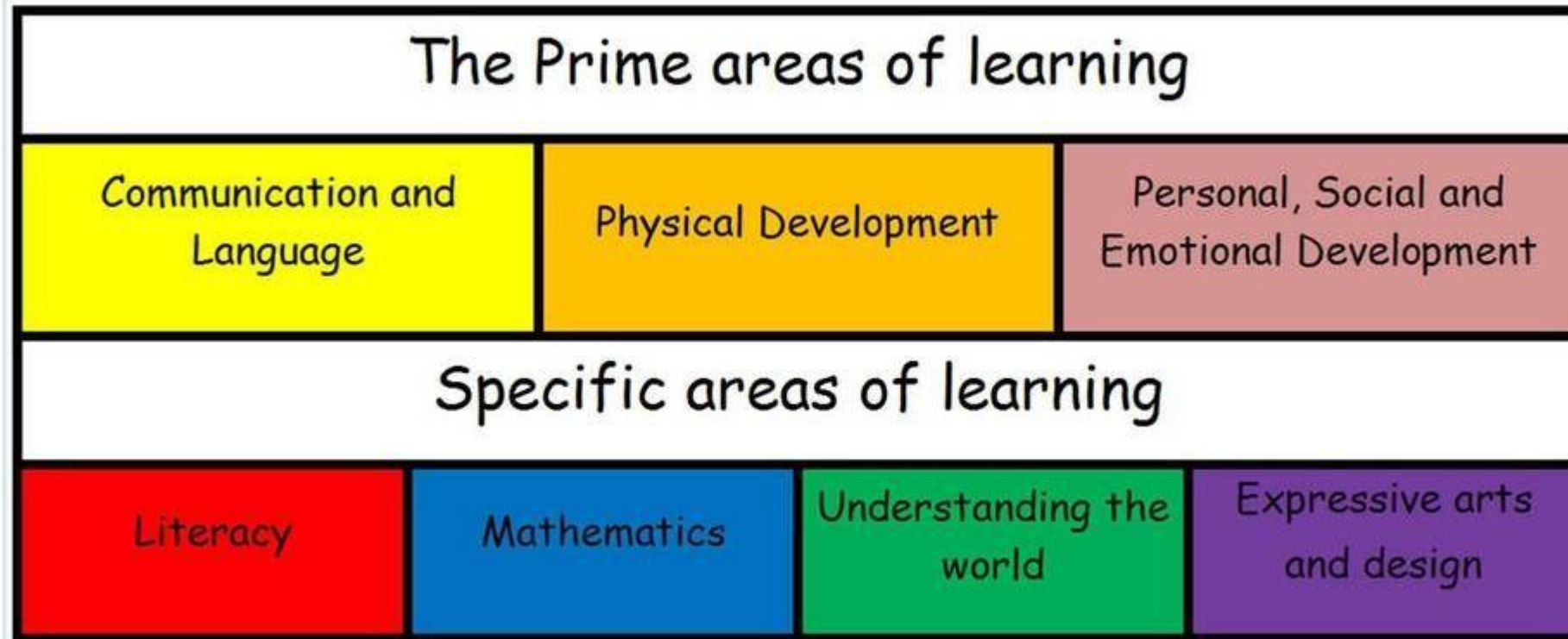
We offer some activity clubs at lunchtimes and after school for Reception children. E.g ballet, art club, French, drama, gymnastics. These start after half term in Autumn Term.

Tetherdown run clubs (sports/breakfast and after school club) are available as soon as the children are full time. The external led clubs will begin from after OCTOBER half term.

Information about all these clubs is on our Tetherdown website and emails will be sent to you so that you can register your interest. You need to email the club directly to determine place availability. They are not managed by the school office.

EYFS: 7 areas of learning

Our curriculum planning for learning is guided by and focused on these 7 areas



- We have play at the heart of our learning. This is supported by all Early Years DfE guidance: “Play is essential for children’s development, building their confidence as they learn to explore, relate to others, set their own goals and solve problems. Children learn by leading their own play, and by taking part in play which is guided by adults.” (DfE March 2025)



Parent Involvement

We welcome parent involvement and encourage a strong link between home and school.



Microsoft Teams



ParentPay

- TRIPS: throughout the year
- PARENT READER: weekly after first half term.
- CONCERNS: we encourage you to make a time to talk to us (the end of the day is better).
- CURRICULUM INFORMATION: related to how we teach maths and literacy and how you can support your child at home
- HOME LEARNING: activities such as reading, phonics and maths will be sent home after the first half term. This is posted on our class MICROSOFT TEAM. Passwords and details will be sent home at the beginning of the school year.
- SCHOOL INFORMATION: most can be found on the school website. Core school information is sent home via PARENTPAY. Check yellow bookbags daily.
- CLASS CHAMPIONS: parent/ carer volunteers are an important link between the teachers and the parents. It is a great opportunity to get to know everyone and contribute to our amazing Tetherdown community. Email your class teacher if you are interested in this role. If you have consented to share your contact information with FOT in your admission form, we will share it with the class champions at the beginning of the year.



Medical and First Aid

Qualified Paediatric First-Aiders

Medical forms (HCP)/emergency contacts – keep updated

Allergies – nut free school

Sickness and Diarrhoea – information on the website about when to keep your child at home. 48 hour rule.

Head Bumps

Antibiotics and ad hoc medication in school:

(we encourage doses to be spaced out of school hours)

No non-prescribed medication can be administered in school and prescribed meds needs a form to be completed.



Loving Learning!

Questions

- You may find many of your questions answered within the documentation we will be sending you so please read these thoroughly, in particular the Child and Parent guides. The 'Welcome to Tetherdown Guide' has already been emailed to you.
- This presentation will be emailed to you.
- Don't forget your home visit in September will be the time to ask specific questions about your child.

