



Welcome to Discoverers

Today we will be discussing how you can help your child at home.



Communicating



**Growing
independence**



Learning at home

Small, everyday moments can make a big difference.

A Parent's Prayer

For our children, our families and the year ahead

Lord, we pray for our children knowing that you care and watch over each of them completely.

Please encircle them with your great love and protection. Guide their pathways and walk beside them always. Minister by your Holy Spirit into their hearts and souls and bring your peace.

Bless them with goodness, come open their minds to the wonder and beauty of life.

Sow into their lives great heavenly treasure so they might carry light in their hearts and joy in their spirits.

Lord, may they understand more and more of your love for them.

May they appreciate themselves as you see them — unique and precious.

Father, please come and cover our parenting with your amazing love.

In Jesus name, Amen.

The adults working with your child

Your child will be supported by a consistent team across the week.

Teachers



Mrs Gallagher

Monday – Wednesday



Mrs Field

Wednesday afternoon



Ms Hallows

Thursday & Friday

Supported by



Mrs Denisa



Miss Young

We work together to support communication, independence, regulation and learning.

What we are working towards

Small steps, steady progress, always at each child's own pace.



Communication skills

Expressing needs, choices, feelings and ideas in the best way for them



Independence

Trying everyday tasks with the right support, prompts and encouragement



Emotional regulation

Recognising feelings and using strategies to feel calm, safe and ready to learn



The potential to gradually integrate into their base class

Taken at the child's own pace — with careful support, familiar routines and regular celebration of progress.

How learning will look

A more formal curriculum — carefully adapted for the children in Discoverers.



Following the wider school

Children will access the same broad subject areas as the rest of the school, with learning broken into smaller, achievable steps.



A developed curriculum

Lessons will be planned with clear aims, routines and progression, while still allowing flexibility for individual needs.



Suited to needs and interests

Activities will be practical, visual and motivating, using children's strengths and interests to help them engage.

Subjects children will experience

English

Maths

RE

Forest school

Science

History

Geography

PE

Music

Art

Computing

The aim is familiar school learning, made accessible through smaller steps, practical teaching and the right level of support.

Communication

You know your child best — these are some of the approaches we use in Discoverers.

Give processing time

Pause and give your child time to understand and respond.

Keep language clear

Use short, simple sentences and key words.

Model and repeat

Model the word or phrase, then give your child the opportunity to copy or respond.

Offer choices

“Apple or banana?” can be easier to answer than “What do you want?”

Use visual support

Photos, symbols and real objects can make meaning clearer.

Value all communication

Speech, gesture, pointing, symbols and AAC all count as communication.

Create a reason to communicate

Try not to anticipate every need straight away. A small pause can give your child an opportunity to communicate what they want or need.

Small, repeated opportunities throughout the day can make a big difference.

How do we support regulation?

Children learn best when they are calm, safe and regulated.

What we do in school — and how you can support at home:

Predictable routines

Keep routines as familiar as possible.

Visual support

Use a timetable, pictures or now-and-next.

Transition warnings

“5 minutes, then bath” helps children prepare.

Movement breaks

Short movement opportunities can reset the body.

Calming space

A quiet place can help children feel safe.

Recognise feelings

Name simple feelings: happy, sad, worried, cross, tired.

Name it gently

Label the feeling without demanding an explanation.

Morning messages

We are not always able to meet with every parent at the door each day. However, if something may affect your child's day, please let us know in the morning — for example, a difficult night, a change at home, or an upsetting start to the day.

Sharing small bits of information helps us respond with the right support.

Reading, phonics and language

What can you do at home?

Little and often is the key — short, positive moments help children build confidence.

Share a book every day

Even a few minutes together is valuable.

Re-read favourites

Repetition helps children join in and remember language.

Talk about pictures

Comment on what you can see, rather than testing.

Finish familiar phrases

Pause so your child can fill in a repeated word or phrase.

Practise phonics sounds/spellings

Use school sounds little and often.

Notice print around you

Signs, packets, names and labels all count.

Celebrate attempts

Praise trying before correcting every mistake.

A helpful way to talk about books:

“I can see a dog.” “The dog is running.” “Your turn — dog!”

Keep it relaxed: 5 happy minutes is better than a long session that becomes stressful.

Maths through everyday life

What can you do at home?

While we will teach maths concepts in school, everyday maths helps children build strong foundations without always realising they are “doing maths”.

Counting stairs

Count steps as you go up or down.

Counting fruit

Count pieces onto a plate or into a bowl.

Spotting numbers

Look for numbers on doors, buses and signs.

“Give me 3”

Ask for a small number of objects.

Comparing

Use words like more/less, big/small, full/empty.

Seeing groups

Notice small amounts: “I can see 3!”

Using fingers

Show numbers on fingers and match to objects.

Games and dice

Simple board games make counting meaningful.

The aim:

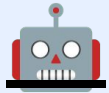
Children begin to notice number, amount, pattern and comparison in real situations.

Keep it playful: everyday routines are full of maths opportunities.

Home learning

Spelling and maths practice linked to the week's learning.

Each Friday, spelling and maths home learning will be sent home. This will link to what the children have been learning in school that week.



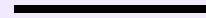
Numbots

Maths fluency practice



MyMaths

Online maths activities



Wonde Login

Access Google
Classroom
and Spelling Shed



Spelling Shed

Spelling games and
practice

Use as and when it works for your family

Children can also access Numbots, MyMaths, Wonde and Spelling Shed at home. Wonde provides access to Google Classroom and Spelling Shed.

Little and often is best — it should feel manageable, positive and useful.

School + home partnership

Working together helps children feel understood, supported and successful.

How we can work together:

Tell us what works at home

Strategies, motivators and routines that help your child.

Let us know about changes

Anything significant that may affect their day.

Celebrate successes with us

Small steps are important and worth sharing.

Use the same approaches where possible

Consistency helps children feel secure.

Ask us if you are unsure

We can help with ways to practise at home.

- If you have any concerns, please speak initially to the class teacher.
- Your class teacher will refer you to the leadership team if necessary.
- Appointments to see the teacher can be arranged through the school office
- Teachers are only available after school (except on Wednesday).

Thank you for working with us — your knowledge of your child really matters.

Reminders:



School Uniform:

- School uniform is listed on the school website
- Long hair (both boys and girls) must be tied back
- No large bows or accessories are allowed
- Earrings must be studs / no nail varnish
- Only school book bags are allowed
- Uniforms, PE kit and book bags must be **clearly labelled** with your child's name
- Girls must have socks for PE (remove tights)
- PE kits must be worn on PE and Forest school days.

Reminders:

Attendance & sickness:



- Children come into class at 8:40
- The class register closes at 8:45am. If your child is late they must enter through the front office.
- School ends at 3:15pm and any children not collected they are sent to the office (Mrs Waugh's office)
- No holidays during term time will be authorised
- Medical treatment abroad requires a covering NHS letter

Please phone the school office by 9:30am if your child is unwell and give the reason for their absence as some illnesses are contagious

If your child has vomited, or has had diarrhoea, they must be **48 hours clear** before returning to school

Any questions?

Thank you for joining us and for everything you do to support your child.

Please ask anything — big or small.

We want Discoverers to feel supportive, clear and collaborative for your child and for you.

Your questions and ideas help us understand what works best.

Questions

about routines or learning

Ideas

about what helps at home

Updates

that may support your child

Thank you