



Danemill

Primary School

Only the best is good enough.

Foundation Stage



Getting Ready For School

Follow this easy checklist to help prepare your child for school!*

Starting school can be an exciting yet apprehensive time. Small steps can make a big difference and families can help to prepare their child for school.

- I am curious and want to play and learn
 - I feel good about myself and like it when you praise me
- I am starting to know when I am happy, sad or cross
 - I can let you know what I need and tell you what is important to me
- I can settle when you leave me knowing you will be back soon
 - I can play with other children and am learning to take turns
- I can make simple choices and follow simple instructions
 - I am willing to have a go and keep on trying
- I can use lots of different words about things that interest me and use them when I play
 - I can listen and take turns in conversation with grown-ups and children
- I can join in with favourite songs, rhymes and stories
 - I can go to the toilet and dress myself most of the time
- I am an active and confident mover both inside and outside

Only the best is good enough

*If your child is developing typically for their age

Welcome to Danemill Pre-School

We understand that the Reception year is a special time of learning and discovery for both children and their families. Within EYFS, we provide a safe and secure environment where children are valued and supported, allowing each child to reach their full potential. We understand the importance of quality early interactions and have developed a communication friendly environment that supports each child's unique needs. Love of learning is promoted through a child-centred curriculum, knowledgeable staff and strong parent school partnerships.

If you would like to see our awesome EYFS in action, we welcome you to arrange a visit and meet the team!

Miss Tracey Lawrence
Headteacher

Emily Hainsworth
Foundation Stage Lead



Headteacher



Teacher



Welcome to Danemill!



"A child's life is like a piece of paper in which every person leaves a mark."

Our Approach to Learning

We are passionate about play! Research has proven that children's brains are most active during periods of high-level involvement. It is during these times that children make the most progress and development. Play fuels these rich opportunities for children to learn and grow, giving them time to pursue their own interests and develop their own ideas. Our skilled staff observe and respond to these teachable moments during play, ensuring each child is challenged and working towards their next steps. We respond in the moment and celebrate the here and now, with a curriculum that is led by the child and built for the future.



"The more that you read, the more you will know.
The more you learn, the more places you'll go."
(Dr. Seuss)



"Play gives children a chance to
practice what they are learning!"
(Fred Rogers)



Learn, play and grow
together!



"Children learn and develop well in enabling environments, in which their experiences respond to their individual needs and there is a strong partnership between practitioners and parents and carers." (DfE)



Our outside learning area



"Will you succeed?
Yes you will indeed!"
(Dr Seuss)



Children explore, create,
think, learn and develop!



Children are encouraged to take control of their
own learning through hands on experiences.



Children feel safe, happy, cared for
and relaxed!

Our Enabling Environment

Our learning environment enables children to be confident to explore and learn in a safe, nurturing and challenging space. We are a communication friendly environment, ensuring that all children have the support to have their voices heard. The environment belongs to the class and reflects their interests, achievements and next steps. Throughout the day, both the indoor and outdoor environment is freely accessible. The children are actively encouraged to take ownership of their environment, resulting in respect, tolerance and understanding of the world around them.



"Play is the work of the child" (Maria Montessori)



Playing and Exploring!



Explore, create, think and develop!



Encouraging curiosity, imagination and passion!



Learning can be messy!



Working Together!



Active Learning!



"Every child is an artist."
(Pablo Picasso)

A day in the life of a Foundation Stage child

Although every day is different in Foundation Stage, a typical day is shown below. Ensuring children's happiness is at the heart of everything we do.



Throughout the day, we have short class teaching sessions.



Children learn through play in the continuous provision



We teach phonics using the Read Write Inc. scheme.



Learning takes place both inside and out. The children thrive in an environment that supports active learning and development



Lunchtime.



Storytime is one of our favourite times of the day



Adult led activities support children to develop a rich vocabulary and allows opportunities to challenge thinking.



Positive reinforcement is extremely important to us and the children are continually praised throughout the day.

Forest Schools

We are lucky to have a fantastic woodland and outdoor area. Each week the children explore the woods, learning new skills and taking risks within a well-managed environment. Our sessions take place in all weathers and the children learn how to dress appropriately for the seasons. Children participate in engaging, motivating and achievable tasks and activities related to the curriculum, helping to develop all areas of their personal, social and emotional skills. They learn practical skills, such as tool use, caring for the environment and cooking on an open fire.





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**Come and visit us at
Danemill!**

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