Welcome

We would like to welcome you and your child to the Early Years at Torriano Primary School. At Torriano we believe every child is unique, with questions and ideas about the world that we seek to develop and enrich within an environment that nurtures, supports and challenges young children. Our staff will work with you to ensure your child thrives through carefully planned opportunities and experiences that focus on building self-confident, independent learners. Our aim is to give the children the best possible start to their journey through school.

Torriano Primary School is a Rights Respecting School, this means we are committed to placing the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child at the heart of our core values and ethos; believing children’s participation is integral to all aspects of school life. The result is a raised sense of security and self-confidence, which allows the children to take the next step in advocating the rights of children everywhere.

This booklet will give you a brief insight into your child’s Early Years Foundation Stage, with basic information which we hope you will find useful.

We very much look forward to working with you over the coming year. Please do not hesitate to come and talk to me, or any member of my staff, if you have any concerns or questions regarding our provision at Torriano.

Helen Bruckdorfer

Headteacher

Who do I want to be?
Important Information

Communication

Address
Torriano Primary School
Torriano Avenue
London
NW5 2SJ

Telephone Number
0207 424 0202

Email
admin@torriano.camden.sch.uk

School Website
http://www.torriano.camden.sch.uk/

Important information regarding the school, including polices, dates for the diary, attendance and what the children will be learning can be found on the school’s website.

Weekly Newsletter
A newsletter, summarising the events of the week at Torriano and important upcoming dates is emailed to parents and carers every Friday. Please take your time to read this as important information is included.

Absence
If your child cannot come into to school due to illness or medical appointment, please let us know via the school office. The school office opens at 8.00am.

Torriano Primary School seeks to ensure that all pupils receive a full-time education which maximises opportunities for each child to realise their potential. The school has an effective system of incentives and rewards, which acknowledges the efforts of pupils to improve their attendance and timekeeping.
The Early Years Foundation Stage Team

Helen Bruckdorfer, Headteacher

Michelle Rae, Deputy Headteacher & Inclusion Leader

Holly Churchill, Assistant Headteacher & EYFS Leader

Stana Downie, Nursery Teacher

Victoria Mott, Reception Teacher

Hannah Avis, Reception Teacher

Tuula Laurila Lynch, Early Years Education

Rana Begum, Early Years Education

Emily Church, Early Years Education

Melanie McGuinness, Early Years Education

Sadiya Waseige, Early Years Education
The School Day

Times
Nursery & Reception begins at 9.05 am
Nursery ends at 3.15 pm
Reception ends at 3.25 pm

It is important to bring and collect your child on time. If for any reason you are going to be late, please telephone the school to let us know.

Home visits
Before your child starts, members of the EYFS team, including the class teacher, will visit you and your child in your home. A home visit is the first step towards settling into school. The purpose of a home visit is to:

- Learn about some of your child’s interests before they start.
- Discuss the daily routine and the settling in procedure.
- Provide you with an opportunity to raise any queries you may have about the school.

The First Days at Torriano
Please be prepared to spend time settling your child into school, it can take several days depending on the needs of each child. Staff will advise and support you to ensure your child becomes confident and independent.

Each child will have their own start date. Small groups of children will join each day in order to ensure the children have the best possible transition into Early Years.

Once your child is settled, a quick, definite “goodbye” is best, but please reassure them that you will be back soon to see what they have been doing, and explain what you’ll be doing while they are at school.

Toileting
We expect all children to be toilet trained by the time they start school (unless there is a medical reason).
Clothing
- Dress them in easy clothes to take on and off by themselves. Dungarees, trousers and jeans with buttons and fasteners can be difficult. Tracksuits and joggers for example are much easier to manage.
- Well-fitting and sturdy shoes or trainers that allow them to climb, run and use the playground equipment safely. **No laces please unless they can tie them themselves.** Children are given the choice to not wear shoes inside the classroom environment.
- A waterproof coat with a hood.
- Playing can be very messy business – **please dress your child in old play clothes.** Children do wear aprons but accidents can and do happen.
- If your child needs to be changed for any reason and comes home in school clothes, we would appreciate them being returned as soon as possible.
- Please remember to write your child’s name on their clothes.
- Please bring a bag of spare clothes to keep on a peg.

Supporting Your Child
Working with parents and carers is essential to building the children’s self-confidence as successful learners; we have a number of opportunities in place to ensure we effectively work together.

Key Person System
We understand that no one knows their child better than you. That is why we place partnerships with parents at the heart of what we do. When your child joins us they will be assigned a key person. Their role is to offer reassurance and care. The key person ensures that every child’s care is tailored to meet their individual needs and works to build a supportive relationship with the child and parents.

Learning Journals
We use an electronic learning journal called Tapestry, where staff place photographs and observations of the children which you can access with your own secure individual password. Tapestry also allows you to add your own photographs and notes of things the children may have done at home.
**Book Bags**
The book bag is for children to take home two books each week. Included will be a home-school reading journal in which we can share information about their reading. We ask parents to write comments about your child’s reading in this book. In Nursery, children will also take home a poem. In Reception, one of the books will be phonetically de-codable and in line with the sounds they are learning in school. Reception children will also receive a ‘Sound Booklet’ to support phonics learning at home. Parents and carers should work through with their child.

**Class Soft Toy**
Children have the opportunity to take home the class ‘pet’ to look after for the weekend. The pet has its own special diary for you to add pictures and descriptions of what they did over the weekend.

**Learn Together**
Throughout the year we hold Learn Together events where parents and carers are invited to learn along with their children. These are generally held on a Friday. Please see the notice board for upcoming events.

**Parents Evening**
Each term there is an opportunity to meet with your child’s teacher and discuss their progress. Appointments are booked through our online booking system.

**Learning Workshops**
The school runs workshops throughout the year to help parents/carers support their children at home. Please look out for advertised dates and times.
PTA & EYFS Class Reps
A great way to get involved with the school and support school events throughout the year is by joining the PTA and EYFS Class Reps. The PTA and EYFS Class Reps organise fundraising events throughout the year for the whole school community to enjoy. This year this has included the Christmas Fair, Movie Night, Quiz Night, EYFS Teddy Bear’s Picnic & the Summer Fair. Money raised contributes towards extra-curricular activities such as the annual Christmas panto trip and the purchase of the outdoor pizza oven.

If you are interested in getting involved with the PTA or Class Reps, or would like to be kept up to date with upcoming events, please contact them and express your interest!

PTA Chairs:
Natalie Leroy & Charlotte Pyke
torrianopta@gmail.com

EYFS Class Reps:
Nursery: Selma & Aysegul
Reception: Anna, Joe and Jennifer & JD
Year 1: Albyn & Deborah
Year 2: Khadro & Frances

The Early Years Curriculum
High quality outcomes in EYFS come from allowing the children opportunities to play and explore, to think critically and to actively learn. We like to see our space as a lab that allows children, through a range of planned adult led and independent activities, to find out about the world around them. Play is valued as a chance to make friends and a learning tool; opportunities to develop literacy and numeracy skills from play are built upon by practitioners.

We start in the autumn term by exploring the question ‘Who am I?’, then over the year, a range of topics are explored that link big questions about the world we live in to the areas of learning outlined on page 8. Children in Reception also take part in daily phonics sessions which follow the ‘Letters and Sounds’ programme.
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*From the Statutory Framework for Early Years Foundation Stage - DfE 2014*

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*From the Statutory Framework for Early Years Foundation Stage - DfE 2014*
Curriculum Enrichment

Trips
There are a number of trips throughout the year to support learning in termly topics. In addition to this, the children regularly visit the local library and Hampstead Heath.

Visitors
Over the year we have many visitors come and talk to the children. We love having the parents join for large events such as Careers Week and our annual STEAM exhibition; additionally we have welcomed a number of ‘Mystery Readers’ this year which the children have greatly enjoyed!

Gardening
Jo, our gardener, helps the children to plant and grow flowers, vegetables and fruit in the EYFS garden.

Music
The children have the opportunity to take part in music sessions with our music teacher Mr Cambata.

Dance & Fitness
We have dance and fitness teachers who work with the children to explore movement, music and healthy lifestyle choices.

Art
Children will have the opportunity to work on projects with Jack, our resident artist, in our dedicated arts space.
Whole school projects
Each year the children take part in key stage and whole school projects. This year we had a whole school STEAM exhibition where the theme was ‘A Time to Talk, A Time to Change’, which featured cross-curricular learning activities to develop the children is global learning knowledge and understanding, skills and values.

As part of this exhibition, Reception and Nursery children created an installation about their first words on a family tree. They learnt all about sound in our very own Sound School. They also used their phonics sounds to make a music track and video, linking reading, writing science and art.

Please come and help - If you would like to come and help cook, read to the children, or help with an art/music/drama project please let us know.

Healthy Eating
Below is a brief summary of the school’s food guidelines. The complete school Food Policy can be accessed via the school website: http://www.torriano.camden.sch.uk/school-info/school-policies/. We are a Silver Award Healthy School and aim to support the health and wellbeing of all our pupils. Nuts, chocolate, sweets and fizzy drinks are not permitted at Torriano.

Drinks
The school is a water only school; please ensure you do not include fruit juices or fizzy drinks as part of your child’s packed lunch. In the Early Years, milk is also provided for the children.

Snacks
Fruit, vegetables, milk and drinking water are available throughout the day at the snack table. We welcome donations of fresh fruit, vegetables, bread sticks and rice cakes to supplement the fruit provided by Camden.

Birthdays
We would like to celebrate your child’s birthday with you. Please speak to a member of staff before your child’s birthday to arrange a time for you to come into school and celebrate with us. Due to allergies and dietary requirements, please do not bring in sweets or cake. Instead, bring in your child’s favourite fruit to share with their friends.
Lunch
Full time children will stay for lunch; children are given a hot meal and a pudding. The cost of school dinners for children in Nursery is £2.35; there is no cost for school dinners for children in Reception. If you prefer, you can provide your child with a healthy packed lunch.

Regardless of the year group, if you are currently on a low income or receive welfare benefits, we would like to seek your support to register for ‘income based free school meals’.

Once registered, you will not be obligated to take up the free meal and can continue with packed lunches if preferred, but your registration will ensure that the school receives vital additional funding from the Government’s Pupil Premium Fund. This essential funding supports the school in achieving high standards across all year groups.

To check your eligibility for free school meals, please log onto the LGFL Free School Meals Checker: https://pps.lgfl.org.uk/. If you are eligible, the site will inform the school. To thank you for taking the time to register, the site provides you with free Antivirus software to use at home, regardless of the outcome.

Medical Guidelines
Below is a brief summary of the school’s medical guidelines. The complete school Medical Policy can be accessed via the school website: http://www.torriano.camden.sch.uk/school-info/school-policies/

Illness
If your child is ill please phone the school as soon as possible to let us know. If children are not well they are better off at home. If you are unsure, please check with a member of staff or consult your GP. To avoid disrupting your child’s weekly routine, please avoid making medical appointments during school time. Any absences must be accompanied by medical evidence, e.g. appointment card. For more information please see the Attendance Policy via the school website: https://www.torriano.camden.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/Attendance-Policy-2.pdf

Sickness and Diarrhoea: In the case of ‘tummy upsets’ it is vital that children stay at home for at least 48 hours after the last incidence of sickness and diarrhoea to prevent it spreading to others.
**Head Lice:** Please check your child’s hair regularly and if you find any signs of head lice consult your GP, treat the whole family, inform the school and keep your child at home for at least 24 hours. Please tie long hair back for safety and to prevent spread.

**Asthma:** If your child is asthmatic the school must be made aware of this and an inhaler labelled with your child’s name and class must be kept in school at all times.

**Allergies:** Please make sure you let the school know of any allergies that your child may have. If they require an EpiPen, please ensure the school has an in-date EpiPen labelled with your child’s name and class.

**Childhood Infectious Diseases:** There are lots of common infectious diseases which your children will invariably have at some time. Please let us know as soon as you suspect an infection, or have a diagnosis so that we can advise you about the minimum exclusion periods.

**Earache:** Ear, nose and throat infections are very common in young children, but ear infections in particular should not be treated lightly as ears can so easily be damaged permanently if infections are not treated. They are also very painful therefore children need to be at home.

**Medicines**
As a general rule, children who have been prescribed medicines e.g. antibiotics are recovering from an illness and are not well enough to come to school. The school will not give medication (prescription or non-prescription) to any child without a parent’s written consent. Medicines must therefore be accompanied by written consent and the original prescription or prescription label/container. Medicines are only administered in school when it would be detrimental to the child’s health not to do so. For more information, please see the Medical Policy on the school website.
Getting To Know My New School
Please share these pictures with your child and take the time to discuss the transition into a new school/classroom.

Inside Nursery

Inside Reception
Outdoor Play Areas

Lunch Hall