

Nursery Uniform

Uniform is available to order from the main office. It is not compulsory but does help your child to understand when it is nursery time. If you do not choose to wear uniform, please save best clothes for home. We use paint, glue, and many different malleable materials that will end up on your child's clothing. Please remember your child is exploring and they will not always remember to push their sleeves up or put on an apron. These skills will develop over time.

Changing Bags

Your child will have a named drawstring bag in nursery and we ask that you place their spare clothing, nappies and wipes into this bag. This bag will then stay in nursery and we ask that you replenish it often with more supplies. If supplies are not provided parents will be charged for this. Please name all items of clothing (shoes, socks, vests and spares in changing bags). The easiest option is to use a permanent marker pen. Please do not dress children in vests with popper closures and all-in-one outfits to help with changing nappies and children engaging in using the toilet.

Outdoor Exploration

All nursery children are given the opportunity to access the outdoor learning environment each day. Research confirms that "**Outdoor learning improves child development, supports mental health and wellbeing, deepens nature connection and promotes more inclusive and engaging learning**".

As the weather is improving, please ensure your child arrives at nursery wearing a named sun hat and with sunscreen already applied. **Do not send children to nursery in crocs or sandals** as these can be dangerous when children are using outdoor climbing equipment.

Packed Lunch Bags

Please ensure you place an ice pack inside your child's lunch bag to ensure the contents of the lunch remains fresh until it is eaten. Don't forget to write your child's name on this with a permanent marker pen, to ensure it is returned in the correct lunch bag.

If your child has hot food at lunch this **MUST** be sent in a thermos due to concern over foodborne illnesses.

Safeguarding Reminders

- Please **do not leave any young children unattended** in cars when dropping off and collecting.
- Please **ensure all children coming to nursery are strapped into a suitable car seat**. This is UK law.

Parents and carers who do not use the correct car seats and those who leave children unattended can be **reported to social services for failure to safeguard** a child by calling 03000 267 979.



Summer Term 2026 Newsletter Willow Room



Welcome to all the new children and families who have joined us in nursery this term. We are very excited for you to be part of our wonderful school community. Please do not hesitate to ask any member of staff if you have a query. Or alternatively email us at rosemary.lane@durhamlearning.net or telephone 0191 5271168.

Our planned curriculum for the Willow room children

The nursery environment within the Willow room has been carefully created with resources to encourage exploration and investigation. The provision has been selected to follow the interests of the children whilst promoting the development of the PRIME areas of learning – Personal Social and Emotional, Communication and Language and Physical development. Resources are displayed to encourage independence and child led enquiry. Children in the Willow room often explore through schematic play. They gain a fascination and become very engrossed in this, repeating it over and over. For example, transporting objects around by using their hands, pockets, bags and baskets. Children in the Maple room meet together with their peers to share snack, read a short story, sing some familiar songs and rehearse some favourite nursery rhymes.

Celebrations

- Celebration of being unique
- End of year parties

Core Songs

- Friends
- Twinkle star
- Incey Wincey Spider
- Hello Mister Sun

Core Books

- Whose stripes?
- Pets
- Jump
- Orange Pear Apple Bear
- Dogs
- Elephant Wellyphant
- Goodnight Moon

Termly focus transition to Maple room

Family engagement

- Beach visit – we will visit South Shields beach and park with all children and families.

Parent workshop

- Regulation

Parent evening dates

- 22nd June 3-5pm. All parents are invited to sign up for an appointment to find out about their child's progress and engage with setting outcomes for their child to work towards.

Nursery fees are paid via your code. We ask for a voluntary contribution towards the cost of snack food, and baking/play dough materials. 15hour places pay £2 and 30 hours places pay £2.50. This should be given to your child's teachers in the Willow room each week or as a lump sum for the half term. Thank you

April / May 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
	20 Return to nursery	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
3	4 Bank Holiday	5 Nursery photo day 1	6 Nursery photo day 2	7 Nursery photo day 3	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 / 31	25 Half Term	26 Half Term	27 Half Term	28 Half Term	29 Half Term	30

June 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
	1	2 Little movers session 1 AM	3	4	5 Little movers session 1 PM	6
7	8	9 Little movers session 2 AM	10	11	12 Little movers session 2 PM	13
14	15	16 Little movers session 3 AM	17	18	19 Little movers session 3 PM	20
21	22 Willow room parent meetings	23 Little movers session 4 AM Parent workshop on co-regulation PM	24 We are all unique – celebration day	25	26 Little movers session 4 PM	27
28	29	30 Sponsored wiggle				

If your child is unwell and unable to come to nursery you must let us know by either telephoning 01915271168 or emailing rosemary.lane@durhamlearning.net

As a school we have to follow safeguarding policy and this requires us to find out where a child is when they do not attend school

July 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
			1 Stay and play 11am & 2pm	2 Sponsored wiggle	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16 South Shields Beach trip	17 Music and movement morning	18
Summer Holiday						

September 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
		1 Staff training day	2 Nursery start date	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19

Thank you to the parents who provided plant donations for the nursery gardens. We are very lucky to have such generous families in our school community

Transition

More information will be circulated prior to the end of term regarding transition to the Maple room in September including dates, times and key people.

End of term

To mark the end of term the Willow children will have a music and movement morning in the nursery on 17th July. There will be no afternoon nursery on this day. All children who attend on this day should be dropped off as usual at 8.45 and collected at 11.40. There will be no lunch provision on this day.

All children and families are invited to attend the end of term beach visit to South Shields on Thursday 16th July. Nursery will not be open for parents and children on this day. Nursery staff will be offering parents the opportunity to buy discounted tickets to Ocean Beach Pleasure Park Amusements and Rides for the trip. More information will be sent via Seesaw closer to the time. As under 2s should travel in a car seat, unfortunately we are unable to offer South Shields bus places for younger sibling. Families are still welcome to join us by using their own transport to South Shields.