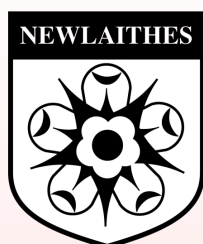
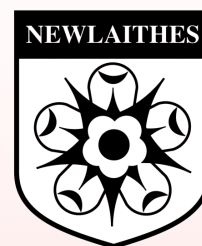


Newlaithes Nursery & Infant School



Langrigg Road
Carlisle
CA2 6DX
01228 525756
www.newinf.cumbria.sch.uk



Prospectus - 2026-27



Be Happy. Learn. Be Proud.

NEWLAITHES NURSERY & INFANT SCHOOL

LANGRIGG ROAD, CARLISLE, CA2 6DX.

Telephone: 01228 525756

Email: secretary@newinf.cumbria.sch.uk

Web: www.newinf.cumbria.sch.uk



Headteacher

Mr Simon Wilkinson BA (Hons) PGCE MEd NASENCO

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Newlaithes Nursery & Infant School. Choosing a school is a very difficult and important decision and I hope this prospectus will help to inform your choice. All our team are delighted to be able to share this snapshot of just some of the great things about our school and, hopefully, answer any questions you may have. We hope that you will decide to play a part in our continued success. You are welcome to visit us to find out more about us.

Our school vision is **"Be Happy. Learn. Be Proud."** We think that sums up what we want for our children.

Be Happy— We want learning to be fun and our main concern when children start school is that they settle happily into this new and exciting place. Our friendly and approachable staff are always available to share any concerns you may have and we do our utmost to get to know the children really well.

Learn— We aim to work with you, as your child's first teacher, to help your child to do the very best he or she can, both academically and socially. We can't all be the best, but we can all try our best and we all have something we are good at doing.

Be Proud— We want all our children to become caring individuals and confident, successful, independent learners who are proud of their achievements. We believe that helping your child to become an independent learner is a distinctive feature of our school.

In December 2022, an Ofsted inspector commented that the children are, "bursting with fun." We have high expectations of our children and we are very proud of them too.

We look forward to welcoming you and working with you to make your child's years at Newlaithes Nursery & Infant School a truly happy and rewarding time. If you have any questions after reading this prospectus, please don't hesitate to contact us. Our values are at the heart of all that we do. Together we can always achieve more.

Yours sincerely

Simon Wilkinson
Headteacher



Newlaithes Nursery & Infant School Governors

Mr Simon Wilkinson	Headteacher
Chairman	
Mr Ian Harker	Local Authority
Ms Sarah Richardson	Parent
Mrs Denise Oliver	Parent
Mrs Amy Renshaw	Co-opted
Mrs Nina Orchard	Co-opted
Miss Bethany Fisher	Staff
Mrs Wendy Nicholls	Clerk

We belong to
Children's Services
Cumbria House
Botchergate
Carlisle
CA1 1RD

01228 226633

The information in this booklet relates to the
school year 2026/27

Staff

Headteacher

Mr Simon Wilkinson

Child Protection
Reading Leader
Assessment
Professional Development
Children Looked After
Disadvantaged
Numeracy/Computing

School Business Manager

Mrs Wendy Nicholls

Health & Safety
Educational Visits

Teaching Staff

Miss Vicki Boertien (N)
Mrs Katie Thompson (R)
Miss Jessica Sibley (R)
Mrs Rachel Kerr (R)
Mr Steven Howes (R)
Mrs Camille Harkness (Y1)
Miss Bethany Fisher (Y1)
Mr Tom Harker (Y2)
Miss Bethany Millar (Y2)

EYFS
Music
EAL
Literacy
Science
Art/ DT
Geography/History
SEND/CO PE/PSHE/RE
Computing

Higher Level Teaching Assistant

Mrs Donna Ewbank

Senior Teaching Assistant

Mrs Camilla Stamper

Teaching Assistants

Ms Anna Sidney
Mrs Laura Davidson
Mrs Jody O'Connell

Mrs Sinead Tobin
Miss Hayley Tait
Miss Kate Hamer

Mid Day Supervisors

Ms Porter
Mrs Wallace
Miss Welsh

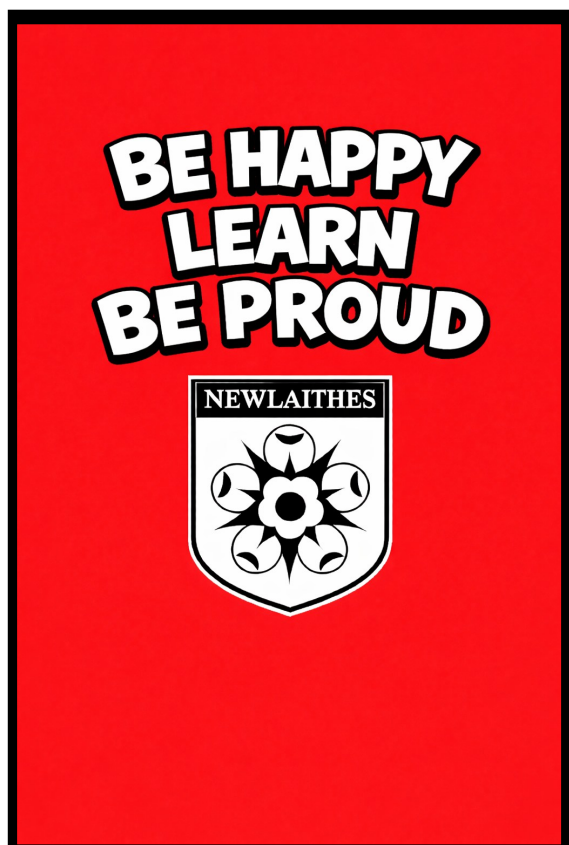
Miss Fisher
Mrs Wade
Miss Ruddick

Caretaking Team

Mr Carl Little
Mr Peter Tickner
Ms Sarah-Jane Porter
Miss Sharon Kelly
Miss Cheryl Graham

Caretaker
Cleaner-in-Charge

We also welcome trainee teachers from providers
including School Direct and the University of Cumbria as
well as TA students.



About Our School

Newlaithe Nursery & Infant School is a Community Infant School for children between 3 and 7 years of age. Our warm and friendly school is two form entry, admitting up to 60 children each year. Our school nursery has a capacity of up to 26 children at any time. The spacious classrooms are grouped in pairs, each pair having a separate entrance and its own toilet block.

Apart from our six bright, attractive teaching spaces we also have a hall, library, medical room, various withdrawal spaces and office accommodation. We have an ICT suite, with 16 laptops and have invested in banks of iPads. We are proud of our school environment and are always trying to improve it. We have recently added a kitchen and wellbeing room, partly funded by the Healthy Schools Capital Fund. Our library is also home to our very popular morning club, available from 8am. The library is open to all families every Friday after school.

Outside, we have extensive grounds including a Multi User Games Area, a climbing frame, named The Treehouse by the children, an adventure trail and sandpit. There is an outdoor quiet area used to support play and learning during playtime and across the curriculum. The school council purchases new toys to help children enjoy play-times. For this reason we ask you not to let your child bring toys from home. The children are heavily involved in planning school improvements.

The staff and governors are committed to achieving the highest possible standards of social, academic and moral education for the children. Over the years we have received various awards.

Our School Council has received certificates from the Speaker of the House of Commons in recognition of work done, such as introducing playtime rangers.



“Newlaithe has made such a difference. It’s been such a pleasure to see all the staff really care about their jobs. I only hope that the teachers in their next school are just as kind, passionate and caring”

Reception parent



Safeguarding

www.cumberlandsafeguardingchildren.co.uk

Newlaithe Nursery & Infant School is committed to promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff to share this commitment. Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

The Headteacher is the Designated Safeguarding Lead. The School Business Manager also trained to Safeguarding Level 3 and is a member of the Safeguarding team.

Uniform

All our children wear school uniform as we believe the wearing of uniform helps the children take a pride in themselves and their school. **Please label clothing!**

We have always been committed towards saving parents money and we don't insist that school wear has a logo—although these items are available to order. You are free to buy your uniform from any outlet, but items embroidered with our school logo are available from the BE Uniform shop in Carlisle or alternatively online at www.oneidentity.co.uk There is a direct link to this site online via our website.

The uniform is as follows:-

Polo shirt (white or red)
Round-necked sweatshirt /V-necked jumper/cardigan (red)
School formal trousers (long or short, grey)
Skirt or pinafore (grey)
Dresses can be worn in summer (red and white)

PE

Shorts (red)
T-shirt (white)
Plimsolls

Footwear

Plain black shoes. Please ensure these are suitable for comfort and safety. If your child comes to school in boots they will need a change of footwear as they are not suitable to wear all day. Please try to get velcro shoes if your child cannot tie laces!

Jewellery is not permitted. This includes earrings.

"I love everything. I wish I could stay here forever!"

Year Two child



Our Aims

Our most basic purpose is to encourage and help our children achieve their full potential.

At Newlaithes Nursery & Infant School we want every child to:

“Be Happy. Learn. Be Proud.”

Our aims are:

- create a family atmosphere where our children are happy, safe and secure.
- help our children develop a life-long love of learning.
- help our children reach their full potential.
- establish an ‘I can do it’ attitude by focusing on the keys to success—confidence, persistence, organisation and getting along.



“What a friendly school. My child is just so happy here — and that makes me happy”

We are a warm and welcoming school. We have clear and consistent expectations of all involved in our school's journey. When all the members of our community work together, we believe we can achieve the best outcomes for all of the children at Newlaithes Nursery and Infant school.

We know that not every day can start with a smile but we always aim to help our children find a reason to have one.



Admissions

As we are a Local Authority Community School, Cumberland Council lays down our admissions criteria. The school's standard admission number is 60. Should there be more applications for places than the school has available the School Admissions and Appeals Team will allocate them in accordance with the current criteria, which can be viewed below.

CUMBERLAND COUNCIL GENERAL ADMISSIONS POLICY 2026/2027 Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools

Where there are more applications than places available at a community or voluntary controlled school for entry to all year groups except Year 12, applications will be prioritised using the criteria below. They will be applied in conjunction with explanatory notes 1 – 7 which form part of the policy.

1. Children looked after, i.e. in public care, giving priority, if necessary, to the youngest child(ren); children who were previously looked after; and children who were previously looked after outside of England - see note 1.
2. Children living in the catchment area who have brothers or sisters in the school (or associated infant or junior school) at the time of admission - see notes 2, 3 and 4.
3. Children living outside the catchment area who, at the time of their admission, have brothers or sisters in the school (or associated infant or junior school) who were allocated a place at that school by the Local Authority either (a) in the absence of a place being available in the catchment area school due to oversubscription and the school was identified by the Local Authority as the next nearest with a place available or (b) the school is named in the sibling's Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) - see notes 2, 3 and 5.
4. Other children living in the catchment area giving priority to those living closest to the school, measured by a straight-line measurement between the centre of the pupil's home address and a common point on the school site as determined by the Local Authority - see notes 6 and 7.
5. Children living outside the catchment area who have brothers or sisters in the school (or associated infant or junior school) at the time of their admission - see notes 2, 3 and 4.
6. Children living outside the catchment area, giving priority to those who live closest to the school, measured by a straight-line measurement between the centre of the pupil's home address and a common point on the school site as determined by the Local Authority - see notes 6 and 7.

Applications will be prioritised on the above basis. An exception will be made under the Local Authority's policy for the education of children with special educational needs where a child holds an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP), that names the school.

Explanatory Notes [These notes are part of the policy]

Note 1

A child looked after is a child in public care, who is looked after by a local authority within the meaning of Section 22 of the Children Act 1989. Children previously looked after are children who were looked after, but have ceased to be so because they were adopted (under the terms of the Adoption and Children Act 2002) or became subject to a Child Arrangements Order or Special Guardianship Order (Children Act 1989).

Advice issued by the Department for Education (DfE) in July 2021 states that a child previously looked after outside of England is one that was looked after, outside England, by a public authority, a religious organisation or another provider of care whose sole purpose is to benefit society.

For a previously looked after child to be considered under criteria 1, the parent or carer must provide appropriate written evidence to support the application. Without this evidence it will not be possible to consider the application under category 1 of the LA General Admissions Policy.

Note 2

In criteria 2, 3 and 5, priority will be given to those children with the youngest siblings. Brothers and sisters are those living at the same address and includes step and foster children. Priority will only be given where it is known at the time of allocating places that a sibling will be attending the school (excluding a nursery class – see note 4) at the time of admission.

Note 3

Where reference is made to 'associated' infant and junior schools this is to describe those situations where infant and junior schools share the same catchment area.

Note 4

Brothers and sisters in the school at the time of admission does not include a brother or sister who will be attending a nursery class that is attached to the school.

Note 5

If a parent or carer believes that they qualify for consideration under criterion 3, they should indicate this on their preference form in the place provided for this purpose.

Note 6

Distance measurements will be undertaken using the Local Authority's computerised Geographical Information System [GIS]. This measures a straight-line measurement between the centre of the pupil's home address and a common point on the school site as determined by the Local Authority.

Note 7

Random allocation will be used as a tie-break in categories 4 and 6 to decide who has the highest priority for admission if the distance between the children's home address and the school is the same. This process will be independently verified.

Induction

Once you receive your offer of a place at Newlaithes Nursery & Infant School you will receive an invitation to a meeting in the summer term to find out more about our induction into school. At our induction meeting you will meet the Headteacher and your child's new teacher and will be able to ask any questions you may have. You will also be given a welcome booklet that will give you more information about our school, including photographs of all the adults who will be working with your child.

If your child does not attend our nursery, you will be offered a home visit later in the summer term.

Later on there will also be opportunity for you and your child to spend some time in their new classroom to meet the teachers and make some new friends.

In the past the children have started school on a part-time basis either for morning or afternoon sessions. However, in the past few years children have started with us full time immediately, and will do so unless you would prefer them to start on a part-time basis. You can discuss this with your child's new teacher during the home visit in the summer term.

If you have any concerns or worries please speak to us. We will listen!

Transition

Although we have our own school nursery we take children from a wide variety of pre-school providers and we contact all of them to start to get to know your child. The information provided by the nurseries also informs our decision about which class to place your child in.

We have excellent transition arrangements in place to ensure the children move throughout the school happily. Each year there is an opportunity for you and your child to meet your child's new teacher and you will receive a booklet with information about your new year group.

After year 2, most of our children move to Newlaithes Junior School. We work with the junior school to support each child with their progress to Key Stage 2. We often welcome junior children back to see us, to help with events or work with our children.

“Leaders have designed a curriculum that is ambitious for all pupils, including those with SEND.”

Ofsted 2022



Our School Day

The school doors are opened at 8.45am each morning. Our morning club is available daily from 8.00am at £3 per session. Bookings should be made in school.

Please note that children are **NOT** supervised on the playground by school staff before school starts and for this reason we request you don't let your child play on the adventure trail, on the treehouse or in the MUGA.

Morning session

8:45am to 12 noon

Afternoon session

1.00pm to 3.15pm

At home time the teacher will bring the children to the doors for each year group. Your child will be asked to come back to the classroom if you are delayed for any reason. We operate a password system and ask you to let the teacher know if someone not on your agreed list will be collecting your child.

Various clubs are held in school throughout the year. These change from time to time, but have recently included activity club, dance club, sewing club, multi-skills and Japanese club.

A Healthy School

The government currently provides every child in school with a free piece of fruit each day.

We have an empty water bottle policy. This means you bring your child's Newlaithes bottle in empty and it will be filled with water in school each day. The children can have access to water bottles throughout the day. Milk can be purchased from www.coolmilk.com and is currently free to under fives.

School meals are provided by DOLCE. If your child prefers a packed lunch that is fine too. However, we ask that you don't send sweets, fizzy drinks or chocolate as we are keen to promote healthy lifestyles for our children.

Universal Free School Meals are currently available to all infant children. However, if you are in receipt of benefits your child may also be eligible for pupil premium funding and this must be applied for. Please ask us for details.

“Thank you for creating such a positive learning environment.”

Parent



Teaching and Learning Foundation Stage

Typically, we take children from 15-20 different nursery providers. Since opening our own nursery in September 2017 the biggest group starting at our school comes from our own nursery, however attending our nursery does not guarantee a Reception place with us.

The Reception year is a continuation of the Early Years Foundation Stage for children from birth to five years old. Teachers plan activities and experiences that are very carefully matched to the children's needs and stages of development.

Learning in the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum takes place around the following seven areas:

- communication and language.
- physical development.
- personal, social and emotional development.
- literacy.
- mathematics.
- understanding the world.
- expressive arts and design

Play, both indoors and out, is an essential part of development and learning. Children learn best by doing things they really enjoy, so our skilled staff plan learning activities that are play-based, active and fun. Staff are skilled in providing the right balance of challenge and support to take the children forward whilst maintaining their confidence.

The children are encouraged to take responsibility from an early stage. Children from all year groups join our School Council and are involved in decision making.

Staff work closely to support the children as they move up through the school.

“Teachers have good subject knowledge and questioning skills. They are also skilled in providing support to meet the needs of all learners, including those with SEND.”

Ofsted 2022



Teaching and Learning

Key Stage One

At Newlaithes Nursery & Infant School we know that confidence is a key to success and we work hard to boost our children in this area. Children are better able to fulfil their potential when their emotional health and well-being are promoted and these aspects are very important. Our nurture group is used to support children in this area when necessary.

Teaching Methods

At Newlaithes Nursery & Infant School we follow the National Curriculum through a skills and knowledge based curriculum. All plans are available on our website www.newinf.cumbria.sch.uk

We use cross curricular topic work to teach the children, but subjects are also taught discreetly. Children are aware of each subject they are learning about in each lesson. All classes are mixed ability and work is planned at the appropriate level for each child. Sometimes children are grouped within lessons and these groupings may change depending on the work or activities involved.

Teachers use a range of strategies and techniques to meet the needs of the children. These include whole class work, group work, teacher and child initiated learning and one to one work.

Learning activities are planned to allow children to learn through play based activities that happen both within the classroom and outside. Our independent learning areas were praised by Ofsted and have been used as an example of good practice within Cumbria. We believe that our skills in developing independence is a distinctive feature of our school and our children have many opportunities to take positions of responsibility within school or represent school in a variety of events, such as playground rangers.



“There is good communication with parents. School is approachable with happy and friendly teachers and school staff.”

Parent

Key Stage One Curriculum

English

We place great emphasis on teaching the children to read and write in a language rich environment. Phonics is taught using Read Write Inc. All children take part in Talk for Writing sessions. We encourage our children to love books. We also develop speaking and listening skills. Reading books are available outside every classroom and we have invested heavily to ensure the books are fun and appealing. Each year we hold a book week and a writing focus, with extra fun activities relating to books.

Mathematics

We have adopted a mastery approach to teaching maths and use Maths No Problem in years one and two. We make our maths work practical and relevant to the children's experiences. We aim to build children's confidence using their maths skills in practical situations. Each year we hold a Maths Day to have extra fun with maths.

Science

We aim to develop scientific skills and understanding through practical investigations wherever possible. Children are encouraged to ask questions, make observations and draw conclusions.

Our annual Science Week also gives the children further enthusiasm about science.

Computing

Most children love using technology and use it within the classroom and in our computer suite. Every class has access to appropriate devices and there are 16 laptops in our computer suite. In addition we have invested in i-pads as well as wireless internet throughout school.

We teach programming skills as part of our curriculum.

Art and Design

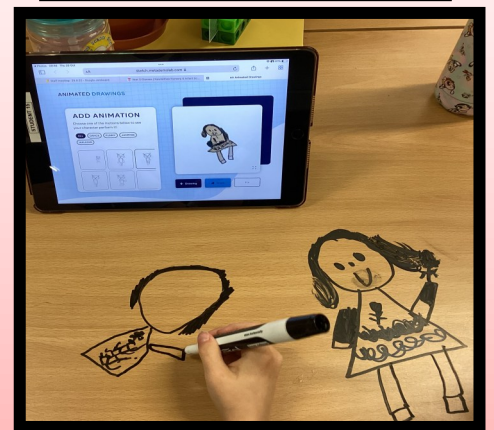
In art the children use a variety of materials, working on their own or in groups to develop their creativity and art skills. They find out about famous artists and exhibit their work.

Design Technology

The children work with a range of materials, including wood, textiles, food and construction kits to design and make a lot of things! They then evaluate their work and decide what they would improve.

Drama

Drama is used in a variety of ways. Sessions could be part of a literacy lesson or to support other areas of the curriculum. There are role play areas in all classrooms and the children are encouraged to act out various scenarios.



"Pupils behave very well. They rarely disturb the learning of others. They enjoy taking on responsibilities in school, such as being 'playtime rangers', who help the little ones during break."

Ofsted 2022



Key Stage One Curriculum

Music

At Newlaithes Nursery & Infants we love music! The children develop their music skills and have the opportunity to compose and perform using a variety of musical instruments. Our children have performed in Church and at local retirement homes.

Geography

Geography is finding out about the world we live in; the people and the environment. The children are taught to recognise features of a landscape, different buildings and the value of their environment. They are taught about our local area as well as places further afield.

History

Children develop an awareness of the past, sequencing events and learning about famous people in the past. We encourage the children to find out about the past from their family members too. We visit Tullie House and use their outreach service.

Religious Education

We teach our children to respect each other and the things around them. We want our children to have a caring and sharing approach towards each other in and beyond school. We make the children aware of other cultures and religions and the children learn about Christianity, Islam and Humanism. We celebrate special events in the Christian year in partnership with our local church.

Physical Education

We are an active school and children are taught at least two hours of PE every week. In addition we have clubs after school to encourage the children to enjoy sports. Children are taught dance, gymnastics and apparatus skills as well as joining in with competitive games. Our annual sports and health week is always very successful. We have a Golden Mile painted on our playground to encourage walking and jogging.

Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE)

We aim to develop children's confidence and self-esteem. The children are taught to think highly of themselves and others, acknowledging that we are all different and all special.

Keeping Safe

Our children are taught to keep themselves safe through Kidsafe sessions. This includes online safety.



Special Educational Needs

Sometimes children need special help at some time with their schooling. Needs are identified in several ways: information is gathered from parents, pre-school groups, outside agencies, teacher observations or assessments. Children with needs identified will be supported appropriately. An Individual Education Plan (IEP) may be drawn up. Support will be given in the classroom, but small groups may be withdrawn when appropriate. Advice from outside agencies may be sought and Team Around the Child Meetings may be arranged.

The value of parental support and its effect on the learning and development of children is recognised and valued and we involve parents at all stages.

If you have any concerns about your child please speak to us — we are approachable and will take your concerns seriously.

Our SEN Policy and details of our local offer are available from our website or the school office. Mr Harker is our SENDCO.

Celebrating Progress

Children making progress towards the keys to success are rewarded at our weekly 'You Can Do It' assembly. Parents of children receiving an award will be invited to attend. Keys are awarded to children who show 'confidence', 'persistence', 'organisation' or the ability to 'get along'.

The school is committed to making provision for children who achieve at an exceptionally high level and we also provide opportunities for children who are talented in areas such as sport and art to develop and display their talents.



“We are always welcomed with a smile and a hello. Very approachable staff.”

Year Two Parent



Partnerships with Parents

Home-School Partnership

We are proud to work with our parents to maximise the opportunities we offer the children.

We know that children are not always forthcoming about school so we provide other opportunities for parents to find out more about life in school. We host open mornings or afternoons throughout the year, each class performs in productions that parents are invited to, termly newsletters from the Headteacher, helpful texts/emails, invitations to our weekly **'You Can Do It'** assembly if your child has won an award and teachers send out termly newsletters. There are also other curriculum specific events such as information on supporting your child to read.

Attendance

It is vital that your child attends school regularly, unless they are ill. Please telephone us on the first day of absence. Please do not book holidays in term time as your child may miss vital aspects of their education. An unauthorised absence will stay on your child's school record throughout their school life.

Homework

Homework can be hugely helpful—but we also appreciate that after a long day at school, some children need encouragement. Reading and sharing books with your child is encouraged daily. As with reading, any homework sent is an opportunity for you and your child to have enjoyable, quality time together. Speak to us if you ever need any support.

Helping in School

Many parents help out in school and we welcome this. You might even be able to share particular skills or interesting hobbies or come to talk to the children about the work you do.

Parental Concerns

Although we have a formal complaints procedure (which is available from the office) we ask that if you have any worries or concerns please call in to see us. We are friendly and approachable and have the interests of the children at the forefront of all we do.

“Leaders and teachers check on pupils' learning in phonics meticulously.

Consequently, pupils who may be falling behind in reading receive timely support to catch up.”

Ofsted, 2022



How to find out more about us

Come and visit us - call us on 01228 525756 to make an appointment

Have a look at our website - www.newinf.cumbria.sch.uk

Email us if you have any questions: secretary@newinf.cumbria.sch.uk



Have a look at some of our newsletters
(available online)

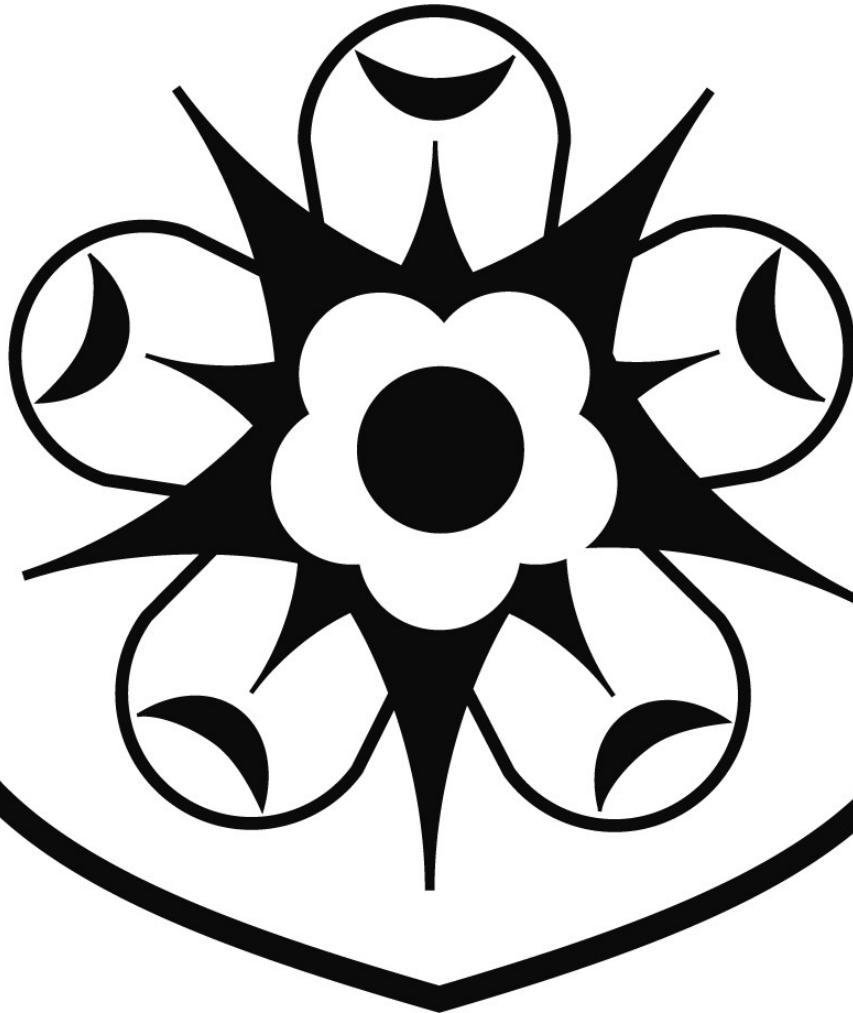
Visit www.cumberland.gov.uk and look at the
schools and learning page for more information
about applying for a place.



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