



Welcome to Reception

Welcome!

We do hope you and your child settle well and enjoy the year ahead in our Reception Class.

We have put together this information booklet to hopefully answer any questions you may have about your child starting school; giving you an understanding of our routines and expectations of the children.

If you have any more questions please just ask!

Mrs Hobson and Mrs Darwin

Your child's first year in school is their last year within the **Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)**. This is the name the Government and early years professionals have used to describe the time in your child's life between birth and age 5.

The last year in the EYFS is a very important stage as it helps your child get ready for their future learning and successes they will continue to develop as they move into Year 1. Your child's early years experiences should be happy, active, exciting, fun and secure; and support their development, care and learning needs.

What will my child will be learning?

Your child will be learning skills, acquiring new knowledge and demonstrating their understanding through **7 areas of learning and development**.

Children mostly develop the **3 prime areas** first. These are:

- Communication and language;
- Physical development; and
- Personal, social and emotional development.

These prime areas are those most essential for your child's healthy development and for future learning.

As children grow, the prime areas will help them to develop skills in **4 specific areas**. These are:

Literacy;
Mathematics;
Understanding the world; and
Expressive arts and design.



Within school these **specific areas** are taught through adult directed activities. An example of this is a ‘phonics session’ which will help your child recognise letters and the sounds they make to help them read and write.

Children in the EYFS learn by playing and exploring, being active, and through creative and critical thinking. All these experiences can take place both indoors and outside, and this is how your child will spend the majority of their day. As a team we will regularly make observations of your child to help us plan the activities within class. These observations are kept within an online platform called ‘2Simple’ using our ipads. We will send you regular updates of your child’s development via email with a link to access the photographs we have taken

How can I help with my child’s learning?

All the fun activities that you do with your child at home are important in supporting their learning and development, and have a really long lasting effect on your child’s learning as they progress through school. **We expect that your child will be able to write their name and be able to count from 1-10 when they start school.**

We will also give your child a ‘**Learning Log**’ to complete over the weekend. The activities within the learning log will have something to do with an aspect of learning which has taken place that week. The learning log is aimed at giving your child the opportunity to talk about and share what they have done in school with you, and to extend their learning further.

To help develop your child’s speaking and listening skills we encourage them to share something from home during our ‘**Show and Tell**’ time. This will help your child to gain confidence talking to the whole class, speak in full sentences, as well as learning about the interests of their new friends. Your child will be allocated a show and tell group, which are displayed in the corridor, and we ask that you child only brings something in from home during their week.

During the weeks ahead your child will be developing and learning so many new things, we are sure you will have many ‘WOW’ moments when your child impresses you. **We would love to hear about these moments.** If you could find the time to complete a ‘**wow moment**’ slip and post this into the WOW box in the corridor. We will then share your

child's achievements with the rest of the class. These slips will also go inside your child's **Learning Journey**.

OUTDOOR AREA

Your child will have access to the outdoor area each day regardless of the weather. Please make sure they have a waterproof warm coat, with a hood. If your child has wellies and/or waterproof trousers these can be left in school if you wish. We would like children to learn to fasten and unfasten their own coat.



When does the school day start?

The reception day starts at 9.00am. However, the doors are opened at 8.50am to allow the children to come in with you to be settled into the classroom. We encourage our children to develop their independence by hanging up their own coats and saying goodbye to their parents and carers. Obviously if you wish to see the class teacher then do take this opportunity to come and talk to us.

The school day ends at 3.20pm. We will lead the class out of the same door that they came in. Once we have seen a parent or carer then we will allow the children to leave. Please allow space for the classes to come outside and not to congregate on the steps or ramp.

General Information

Your child will require the following items:

- A school uniform.
- A spare set of clothes.
- A PE kit - navy shorts and a white t-shirt. These should be kept in a bag on your child's peg for the duration of the school term.
- All clothing needs to be named
- No jewellery should be worn expect for earrings – studs only. These should be covered up or removed for PE.
- A book bag that should be brought in every day.
- A 50p contribution every week for baking & snacks.
- A named water bottle to keep in school.