

WELCOME TO RECEPTION



SCHOOL VISION

- Together we will provide a safe, secure, caring environment where children have a clear understanding of rights and responsibilities.
- Together we will provide a rich curriculum to inspire children to enjoy and achieve.
- Together we will provide opportunities to find out about ourselves, other people and places around the world.
- Together we will develop life skills to respond to the challenges and changes in our future lives

THE EYFS VISION

- As a team we support the children to be the best version of themselves.
- Celebrating uniqueness.
- Setting a safe, caring environment that allows our children to gain confidence and become resilient.
- Providing a range of enjoyable, motivating opportunities that are accessible to all.
- Inspiring children to achieve.



ORGANISATION

We operate as an EYFS unit:

- 2 Reception classes 4 - 5 Year Olds
- 1 Nursery 3 - 4 Year Olds
- Little stars 2 - 3 Year Olds



PARENTS AS PARTNERS

We provide many opportunities for parents and carers to take an active part in their child's education.

These include:

- Yearly parent assemblies to share our class' success and topic work
- Online learning Journey - Tapestry
- Parent's evenings
- Sporting events
- Regular newsletters
- Parent texts (please make sure the office have your up to date mobile phone number to receive this useful service)
- Parent workshops
- Whole school events.
- `Open-Door Policy' - Our staff are available at 3.15pm to answer any questions or you can phone the office to arrange an appointment.



PREPARING YOUR CHILD FOR SCHOOL

As your child will now be part of a class they will need to become more independent. It will make starting school much easier and happier if they are able to do as many things as possible for themselves.

What should he/she be able to do?

Can he/she...

- Dress and undress themselves? Very important for P.E.
- Put on and fasten their own coat?
- Use the toilet independently and ask to go there?
- Tidy up after himself/herself?
- Recognise and begin to write their own name? Please tell your child's teacher if their name is abbreviated in any way.
- Feed himself/herself?
- Share toys and equipment?
- Hold a pencil correctly?
- Sing some nursery rhymes?
- Practise counting to 20?
- Listen well and follow simple instructions?

HELPING PREPARE YOUR CHILD FOR SCHOOL

Number Skills

- Count daily with your child
- Count objects, actions, numbers and a range of things.
- Identify numbers wherever you go—a neighbour's house number or the number on a bus.
- Help children putting numbers in order.
- Let children help with the tidying and sorting. Can they sort the DVDs by colour?
- Identify shapes around the home.
- Use fingers to represent a number.

Writing

- Encourage your child to mark make without feeling pressured.
- Get your children colourful pens, gel pens and exciting new tools to encourage them to mark make.
- Let children write their name on cards or letters.
- If your child is already writing with a pen or pencil, support their pencil grip so they do not develop a bad habit.

WHAT CAN I DO WITH MY CHILD BEFORE THEY START SCHOOL?

- Give your child as many varied experiences as possible: drawing, painting, cooking, singing, making models, playing games, jigsaws, etc
- Get them used to: pencils, crayons, felt pens, chalks, paints, play dough, scissors
- Share stories, books and rhymes. Read to them.
- Count everything and share things out.
- Use lots of everyday counting opportunities —cup, plate, knife, fork and spoon for each person.
- Talk to them all of the time. Name familiar things and discuss what they see around them and what things are for. Talk about what you see when you are out and about. Watch people work and discuss what they are doing.
- Support us by reinforcing the importance of regular attendance.

THE SCHOOL DAY

START/END OF DAY

We need to stagger the start and end of day to help keep everybody safe. Surnames beginning with A-L need to drop off 8:45am and pick up 3:00pm and Surnames beginning with M-Z need to drop off 9:00am and pick up 3:15pm. If you have different family surnames in your house, bring all of the children in one slot and pick up in the slot that matches your drop off time. You must leave the school grounds straight away. ONE family member must drop children off and they need to be well. ANYONE WHO IS FEELING UNWELL IN ANY WAY SHOULD NOT BE DROPPING CHILDREN OFF AT SCHOOL.

8:45am - 11:25am Registration / Literacy and continuous provision linked to topic / rolling Letters and Sounds (Phonics)

11:25am Readers and whole class book talk

11:45am Lunch time

1:00pm Afternoon Registration

1:05 pm Maths and continuous provision linked to topic

2:55pm - 3:15pm Story time/Tidy up time/ focused learning/ Home time /

SCHOOL DINNERS

At the start of reception we encourage all children to try school dinners, especially as they are free. Teaching staff accompany the children for dinner and will be able to tell you what your child has eaten. If staff have any concerns about how much your child is eating they will ask you to highlight foods your child usually eats on the school menu to help staff to support your child to select foods they like. However if your child still finds it hard to choose something to eat we will ask you to provide a packed lunch.

Every day your child will get milk, fruit and snack.

Snack - £1 a week.

Children need to bring a water bottle to school every day. Water is essential to hydrate your child's brain and to help them to learn. Bottles must only contain water. Juice and flavoured waters are not allowed. If your child brings anything other than water, the bottle will be returned to you at the end of the day, unused. Sweets and crisps are not allowed to be brought into school.

Parent Consent Forms

We will ask you to complete a form at the start of the year giving us consent for local trips, photographic consent and for emergencies. We will also ask you to sign and give your personal email to be able to access our Online Learning Journal app 'Tapestry'.

Photographs and Videos

If you do not wish your child's photograph to be used for the school website or other forms of media please let the school know and do not sign the form. When we hold an event in school, photographs and videos are taken for private use only. Parents are permitted to record the event and any parents objecting to this need to inform the school in writing. Please be aware when sharing photographs from these events on social media sites such as Facebook not to post any other child than your own.

OUR LEARNING GARDEN - LEARNING IN THE FOUNDATION STAGE

Reception is where the excitement begins! Foundation stage children learn together in an environment which is developed around the children's interests. We pride ourselves on being an exciting and engaging place to be - encouraging our children to be independent learners through a range of practical activities. We follow a curriculum which allows us to be creative. We take into account the child's individual interests and needs.

As our Foundation Stage children enter the classroom they learn primarily through a variety of play and real-life experiences. Our teaching is delivered through carefully planned tasks and guided challenges. The children access their environment freely; however they understand they must complete 'challenges' throughout the week which will scaffold and extend their learning. Their development is tracked through detailed, daily observations and child-initiated interaction. This information is then transferred into your child's personal learning journey - a diary of information and photographs. We use these to record individual interests, progress and plan the next steps of your child's learning.





EARLY LEARNING GOALS

Within 'Development Matters' there are 3 prime areas of learning and 4 specific areas. This framework provides the basis of how we structure the setting, the activities and opportunities we provide; as well as how we assess your child's development. For each of these areas your child will have an 'Early Learning Goal' to work towards.

Prime Areas

Communication and language

Personal, social and emotional development
Physical development

Specific Areas

Literacy

Mathematics

Understanding the world

Expressive arts and design

Characteristics of Effective Learning

Playing and exploring

Active learning

Creating and thinking critically

Outdoor Learning

We are very fortunate to be able to provide rich outdoor experiences within the school grounds. This gives the children a wonderful opportunity to become independent and lead their own learning in a natural environment. Please send your child to school with old, warm clothing and suitable footwear for them to keep and wear in school. Outdoor learning can often get muddy.



Letters and Sounds

We currently follow Letters and Sounds scheme for phonics and the Oxford Reading Tree reading scheme. Information on this scheme can be found online. Parent sessions will also be held in school to help you to understand the system and therefore support your child with their learning. We want every child to be the best reader they can be as we believe this opens up the world to children and gives them the best opportunity to succeed in life.



SCHOOL UNIFORM

Grey skirt/pinafore or grey trousers

Light blue shirt/polo shirt

Lilac or blue dress or grey shorts for Summer

Purple school sweatshirt/cardigan. Can be purchased from Smart Clothing

P.E kit - black shorts, white t-shirt and black pumps in a named drawstring bag

Jewellery is not allowed other than one small stud per earlobe

Earrings must be removed on P.E days or covered with plasters

Purple Book Bags are available from Smart Clothing

Make sure clothing and footwear is practical especially for younger children who need to get to the toilet quickly (we will change children unless you object to this)



THINGS TO BRING TO SCHOOL

Suitable coats—nothing too special as it is likely to get sandy, muddy or wet. Hats, scarves and gloves. Sun hats. Water bottles.

Book bag, reading record and reading book (chosen by the teacher)—these are signed and changed once a week. Please write in the reading record the dates in which your child reads, so staff can quickly see if your child has achieved their next steps.

PE bag and Bag of outdoor clothes - the bags need to be labelled with a name and will be sent home every half term.

Reading books. One book is for you to read to your child. These do not need recording in your child's reading record. The other book is linked to your child's Phonic Phase and your child will read this book to you. This encourages a range of rich vocabulary and begins a love for reading.

WE WILL BE IN TOUCH

- Phased starting times
- EYFS staff
- Virtual tour around the unit.
- Before and after School club
- Doorstep and virtual meet the teachers.

