

Frequently Asked Questions

What will my child need for starting school in September?

When your child starts Reception, they will need a book bag and a water bottle. They need to wear their school uniform to school. See the welcome pack for the uniform. For Nursery, please provide your child with a whole set of spare clothes that can stay at school. For Reception, please provide your children with a spare set of bottoms. This is because we sometimes get messy when completing different activities.

How do I help my child prepare for starting school?

There are lots of activities you can do with your child before starting school, that you can continue to do even after they have started. These include: recognising numbers to 10, recognising and writing their name, sharing stories and talking about what has happened and practising putting on coats; making sure they are as independent as possible when using the toilet. Please make sure you send your child to school in clothing that they are able to manage independently. For example, elasticated-waist trousers, leggings, polo shirts and shoes with Velcro straps.

What forms of communication does the school use?

The school will use phone calls, emails, texts and will send you learning updates via Evidence Me. If we need to contact you for an emergency, we will give you a phone call. Please make sure you regularly update your contact details so we can contact you if needed.

Will I be able to stay in the classroom with my child?

We know that it is important for you and your child to become familiar with the staff and setting during the first few days of transition. However, we know that children tend to settle sooner when they stay in the classroom without their parent so would encourage you to leave them as soon as you possibly can.

Will children be provided with milk and fruit?

Children have access to a daily piece of fruit or vegetables to eat in the classroom throughout the day, such as apples, pears, bananas, carrots and strawberries in the summer!

If you would like your child to have milk, please sign up at the following website.

<https://www.coolmilk.com/>

Once registered, children will have access to free milk until their 5th birthday. After that, you will have to pay if you would like your child to continue having milk.

How do lunchtimes work and will my child be provided with lunch?

In Reception, lunchtimes are from 11.30- 12.30. Children have the option to have a hot school dinner or you can provide them with a packed lunch. Make the most of our school dinners as meals are free. We are a healthy eating school so no crisps, chocolate or fizzy drinks. We are also a nut free school, so please do not send your child with peanut butter sandwiches. Chocolate spread can also contain nuts, so watch out!

You are able to decide between a packed lunch option or a school dinner option throughout the week. You will receive a menu which will tell you what will be served on each day. We have halal and vegetarian options available each day too.

Do you have a breakfast and after school club?

We are able to provide a breakfast club and after school club for children from Reception. Please visit the school office or look at our website for more information.

When do we do PE?

We do not have a specific PE session as we combine PE with our outdoor learning time. In the summer term, we will start to introduce PE in the outdoors, and will give you more information nearer the time.

What homework do they do?

Your child will be able to take home two Reading for Pleasure books weekly. These are books that you can share together at home, talking about what is happening in the story and what they liked or disliked about the book. In the second half of the autumn term, we will begin to also send home a Learning to Read book. These books are more closely linked to their phonetic knowledge, allowing children to begin to read more independently. More details will be sent out closer to the time.

We will also be sending home a weekly maths, technology and creative activities via Evidence Me in order to consolidate their learning that week.

In Nursery, your child will be able to take home two Reading for Pleasure books weekly. These are books that you can share together at home, talking about what is happening in the story and what they liked or disliked about the book.

How do they learn in the classroom?

We help the children to learn through playing, exploring and being active. This means children will take part in a range of fun, practical activities; some of which are adult led, some guided by adults and some will be child-initiated.

We follow the EYFS Framework which explains how and what your child will be learning. It is very flexible so it can be adapted to the children's needs and interests.

What happens if they have an accident at school?

If your child hurts themselves during the school day, they will be attended to by a member of staff who is first aid trained. If they bump their head, they will receive a bumped head letter and you are likely to receive a phone call to let you know. If we feel that the accident needs your attention, we will ask you to come and see your child and possibly take them home.