



Class Information Booklet for 2024-2025



Welcome to Reception class

Reception class teacher and EYFS leader is Mrs Berryman who will be supported by Mrs Carter, Miss Brennan and Mrs Hegarty throughout the day.

We are really looking forward to meeting and getting to know all of the children.



Mrs Berryman

Starting Reception Class in September

School starts for children on **Tuesday 3rd September**.

Regardless of what hours your child has done in their current setting, we will have a phased start for all children which will build up their time over their first week with us. Timing will be as follows :

Tuesday 3rd September – 8.45am – 1pm.

Wednesday 4th September - 8.45am – 2pm

Thursday 5th September – 8.45am – 2pm

Friday 6th September – 8.45am – 3.10pm

Monday 9th September onwards – 8.45am – 3.10pm every day.

We understand that children will have a range of Nursery experiences and feel that these timings give the children the chance to build up to a full day at school. If your child is not managing at any stage of this process, we will come to arrangements on an individual basis with you.

The School Day

Reception classes are on the left hand side of the school through the tall wooden gates. The gates will be open each morning at 8.45am and a member of staff will be at the canopy gates to greet your child. Please do try to be on time. Gates and doors will be locked promptly at 9am so that we can start our day in the classroom. If you arrive after the gates are locked, please bring your child to the main entrance of school.

At the end of the school day please collect your child from the Reception classroom canopy doors at 3.10pm prompt before collecting older children in school. Staff will pass children over to parents one at a time so please be kind and give us a wave so we can make the whole process quick and easy for everyone. Thank you. Staff will learn parents faces over the first couple of weeks but we will need your help initially. Please ensure you tell us when a different person will be collecting your child as we cannot allow children to leave school with adults staff don't recognise.

Your child's attendance at school becomes statutory once they are in Reception. We do ask that you make every effort to bring your child to school on time every day. If your child is poorly, please ring school before 8.55am to let the staff know of their absence. Holidays are not permitted during term time.

Your new classrooms

We have 2 Reception classrooms full of wonderful resources for your children. There are many areas to play and explore such as the reading areas, construction areas, make and do, writing and mark making, maths zone, fiddling fingers zone, puzzle zone. We also have a fabulous canopy area which runs along the whole Early Years side of the building. Reception and Nursery classrooms have access doors into this area which gives children opportunities to play on a larger scale than indoors no matter what the weather.

Lunchtimes

All children in Reception are entitled to a free school lunch. The children have a choice of meals each day and this is a good way of encouraging even the fussiest of eaters to try a range of foods. We will give you copies of the school menu. Children in Reception will have a choice of 3 lunches each day.

1. A hot meal

2. A vegetarian hot meal
3. A sandwich

Children will self select the dinner they would like each morning when they come through the doors. Staff will be there to help them with this. Please speak to a member of staff if your child has a specific dietary requirement.

If you choose for your child to have packed lunches, this must be for a whole week at a time. Children can not alternate days of packed lunches and school lunches.

The Curriculum

The EYFS curriculum is your child's first steps into learning beginning at birth and finishing at the end of their Reception year. There are 7 areas of learning. These are :-

- Personal, social and emotional Development
- Communication and language
- Physical Development
- Literacy
- Maths
- Understanding the World
- Expressive arts and Design

Everything your child will do whilst in Reception is planned using the objectives from the statutory framework for EYFS. The expectation is that children will have achieved the Early Learning Goals by the end of their Reception year. Please see a copy of this in your pack.

Reception Topic Themes:

Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Who am I and where do I belong? Me and my family.	What do different groups of people celebrate during this time? What happens during Autumn?	Where are the Arctic and Antarctic and what is it like there? How are these places the same/different to where we live?	Where is Africa and what is it like there? How is it the same / different to where we live? What happens during Spring time?	Once upon a time Traditional tales. What are minibeast?	The world around me – Home and Away My local area. Other countries in our world. What happens during Spring time?

Phonics

In school we use a scheme called 'Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised' to teach children how to read and spell across the school.

The majority of the Autumn term will be based on learning the sounds that individual letters make and each letter sound has a picture associated with it to help the children remember. We will be sharing this with you so that you can help to support your child at home. We ask that you use lower case letters and stick to the sounds they make not the names of the letters at this stage. Please see your pack for more information.

Homework

Once children are settled into their new class, they will be given a homework book which will have either Maths or Literacy based homework for your child to complete. This will be to consolidate learning from that week in school. Your child will need support from an adult to complete their homework. We do ask that the homework book is kept in a safe place whilst at home and children are not allowed to draw freely in it. Reading books and decodable/tricky words books will follow later in the year.

We will also send home a list of websites and on line programmes with passwords for your child. These will support learning in the classroom. Each week we will share on our class story dojo page what the children have been learning so that you can support them further at home.

To encourage a love of reading and sharing stories, your child will also bring home a library book of their choosing to share each week.

The homework will be given out on a **Friday** and needs to be returned by the following **Wednesday**. Your child will need a book bag to bring homework home.

Absence from School

If your child is absent from school, parents must telephone the school office by 8.55am.

- ❖ Contact school as soon as possible to let us know the reason why your child is absent and how long they are likely to be off for.
- ❖ Without an explanation the absence will be marked as **UNAUTHORISED**.
- ❖ Children should not return to school for 48 hours after the last occurrence of sickness.
- ❖ Please arrange to take family holidays during school holidays. Permission will not be given for holidays during term time.
- ❖ Please try to organise all Dentist and non-urgent Doctors' appointments outside of school time. If you need to take your child out of school before 3.15pm, you will be required to fill in a form at the school office explaining the reason for the early collection.

P.E.

Children in early years spend a significant amount of curriculum time outdoors engaged in physical activity. They have access to a range of equipment and play resources which develop gross motor skills of jumping, balancing, skipping, throwing, catching, kicking, riding a bike etc.

Once the children are settled into school, we will be having PE sessions in the hall. We will ask children to come to school already dressed in PE kit and trainers on these days. We will let you know nearer the time which day of the week this will be.

What should my child wear?

Please write your child's name in **ALL** clothing they have at school including coats and shoes. Many shops now sell fabric pens that don't wash out or iron on labels that you can put inside clothes.

SCHOOL UNIFORM LIST

Grey sweatshirt or cardigan preferably with school logo.

Black or grey trousers, leggings skirts, pinafore dresses.
White polo shirts with school logo or plain white polo shirts.
Green checked dresses may be worn in warmer weather.
Black shoes or trainers with no markings.

PE KIT LIST

Black shorts
White or grey 'T' shirt
Plimsolls, pumps for indoor PE (Velcro fasteners are better for younger children), trainers for outdoors Jogging bottoms may be worn outdoors in colder weather.
Grey PE tops with the school logo can be bought from 'Tots to Teams'.

Children come into school in PE kit on their specified PE days.

JEWELLERY, HAIR ORNAMENTS, MAKE-UP AND NAIL VARNISH

For safety reasons, we do not allow children to wear jewellery. The exceptions to this are watches (no smart watches) and earring studs in pierced ears.

Children are required to remove these for PE to prevent them causing injury. Please note that staff are not allowed to remove earrings.

Make-up and nail-varnish should not be worn in school.

Hair bands, ribbons, bows or 'scrunchies' should be as plain as possible without large decorations. Extreme hairstyles are not appropriate for school.

The use of styling products should be kept to a minimum, children should not have decorative patterns cut into their hair or have their hair coloured or dyed.

FOOTWEAR

For health and safety reasons, children should not wear shoes with platform soles or heels. All children are required to wear plain black shoes or trainers without logos or markings. If children are wearing boots or wellies, they may be asked to change into their PE shoes when inside the school building. This is because it may be uncomfortable to sit on the carpet when wearing boots or wellies, especially if they are wet or muddy.

When buying shoes for Reception children, please consider whether your child will be able to get them on and off by themselves. Many shoes now have velcro fastenings. Shoes that are flat and rubber soled, make it safer for your child to climb.

SUPPLIERS Sweatshirts, cardigans, polo shirts, PE tops and book bags with the school logo can be purchased from 'Tots to Teams'. All other items of uniform (e.g skirts, trousers, plain white polo shirts) can be bought from supermarkets.

Tots to Teams

**Unit 10b, Airport industrial Estate,
Kingston Park, Newcastle Upon Tyne.
Tel : 0191 2715454.**

Important days for this academic year

Wednesday

- Homework to be returned.

Friday

- Homework given out.

PE day will be confirmed in Autumn term.

Class Dojo and school website

We will be signing all parents up to class dojo in the coming days. Please make sure we have your current email address in school. Teachers use class dojo every day in the classroom to reward the children with dojo points. Dojo winners will be announced each Friday. We will also share on class story what the children have been up to each week and often share lots of photos of the children. We will also post important messages and updates on class dojo so please watch out for these. You can also message the teachers between 8am and 4.30pm weekdays if you have a query regarding school and haven't been able to talk to us at the start or end of the school day. Please do not send messages outside of these hours. Thank you.

Please see the school website for all dates for school events, holidays and training days.

Smooth Transitions.....

What will school staff do?

In July, as part of our transition arrangements, the Reception teacher will be arranging to visit your child at their current Nursery setting. There will also be an opportunity for your child to visit the Reception class on **EITHER Tuesday 9th July from 9.30am till 11am OR Wednesday 10th July from 1.15pm until 2.45pm** where they can meet their teachers, make new friends and explore their new classrooms. If your child currently attends our school Nursery on a Tuesday morning, then please bring them to Nursery at their usual start time and Reception staff will collect them at 9.30am. If your child currently attends our Nursery on a Wednesday afternoon, then again, please bring them at normal time to Nursery and Reception staff will collect them at 1.30pm. Thank you.

What can parents do?

Helping your child to become 'school ready' - Please see the information leaflet in your pack which explains how you can help your child over the summer to be ready for school. The more support you can give at home, the more successful your child's transition to school will be. Please speak to the teacher if you have any concerns regarding your child's readiness for school.