



WELCOME TO RECEPTION

Dear parents or guardians,

We would like to welcome you and your child to Reception. We are taking this opportunity at the beginning of the new school year to inform you about all aspects of school life in Reception. We feel that if we all work together, your child will achieve the appropriate levels for their age and have a positive and fulfilling experience in Reception.

This pack includes information on:

- Reception staff
- Curriculum
- Themes for the Year
- Attendance and Punctuality
- Clubs
- Holidays
- Expectations
- Handwriting
- Homework
- Book Bags
- Assessment
- School Uniform and PE kit
- Trips
- Parents Evening
- Festival of learning
- Assemblies



RECEPTION STAFF



Staff

- Ms Lazar Class teacher of Red Base
- Mr Szajko Class teacher of Blue Base
- Mrs Baxter Teaching Assistant
- Mrs Cokl Teaching Assistant

Other members of staff

- -Melissa McDonald



Curriculum

As is required by law, we follow the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum, which provides the children with the opportunity to fulfil their individual potentials. The children will participate in 3 prime areas of learning and 4 specific areas of learning:

Prime Areas

- .Personal, Social and Emotional Development
- .Physical Development
- .Communication and Language

Specific Areas

- .Literacy
- .Mathematics
- .Understanding the World
- .Expressive Arts and Design

The children will be given the opportunity of learning in a variety of ways through play, interacting with their peers and adults and within different settings, e.g. indoors and outdoors. The children will often be grouped according to ability for the Phonics, Literacy and Numeracy session to help them achieve their Early Learning Goals. This is to ensure that each child's needs are met.

Children will be learning about range of topics based on their interests. We will also be learning about different festivals that take place throughout the year such as: Eid, Diwali, Christmas and Chinese New Year.

Each term the children will go on a local trip related to the topics and their interests.



Attendance and Punctuality:

Please ensure that your child is lined up by 8.55 am in the reception playground. The children are expected to come into class independently. It is important that your child arrives on time, since our first lesson of the day will begin promptly at 9.00 a.m. If your child is absent from school, they must bring a note or parents must inform the teacher either in person or by telephone. Regular absences from school can affect your child's learning, since they will miss some vital work that has been planned. This will then mean that they will be working to 'catch up' when they return.

The children are to be collected from their classroom doors in the same area and will remain in class until their name is called by the class teacher. Children who are not collected will be taken to the school office. **Please inform the office if your child will be collected by another adult.**

Clubs

The school run a range of before and after school clubs. Letters for clubs go out at the start of a half term and places are allocated on a first come first serve basis.



Holidays

Extended holidays are no longer permitted by law. Please make every effort to go away during the school holidays so that your child's schooling is not disrupted.



Expectations

In Reception, we expect every child to work towards achieving their full potential. Work set will be matched to suit the varying abilities within the year group. Children are expected to try their best and behave appropriately in the classroom, the outdoor area and around the school, respecting both adults and other children.



Phonics

We follow the DFES letters and sounds scheme at Holywell. The children learn the sounds of the letters in a set order. The children will be placed in phonics groups to enable them to develop their understanding of the letter sounds and how to use them in their reading and writing.

Please use this website to help your child at home: <http://www.letters-and-sounds.com/>



Home Reading/Homework

The children will be given a reading book to read each week. Books will be changed on a weekly basis. Please comment about your child's reading in their reading record daily. In addition to their reading we would be grateful if you could help your child to learn high frequency words, letter names and sounds and numbers on a daily basis.

The children will be given a Home Learning book each week. This will tell you what we have been learning in school that week and give you some ideas of things to do at home to support your child. This will be given out on a Friday and must be returned by the following Wednesday.

If you have any questions regarding the above, please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher.

Book bags

The children will need a Holywell book bag, which can be purchased from the office. The children must bring them in to school daily.



Assessment

In Reception the children are continually assessed throughout the year in accordance with the Early Years Foundation Curriculum. This will be carried out through observation, taking and annotating samples of children's work and talking to children as they carry out a variety of activities both indoors and outdoors. We will share your child's progress with you on a termly basis.



Uniform and P.E. Kit

It is school policy that all children wear uniform. This consists of white top, grey trousers or skirt/pinafore and the school jumper. We would encourage that your child wears school shoes without laces. **Please ensure all items of clothing including shoes are labelled.** Children must not wear jewellery, however, studs are acceptable. We would advise that children bring a pair of wellington boots that can be left on their pegs for rainy days as they will be playing outside in the wet weather and there are no spare clothes to change them.

Physical Education (P.E.) is a compulsory part of the curriculum and important for the child's physical and social development. It is school policy that all children wear the correct P.E. kit in order to participate in P.E. activities safely. The kit consists of a white t-shirt,

maroon shorts and plimsolls. Children must bring their PE kits in at the beginning of each half-term and they will take them home for the holidays to be washed. **Please ensure that all P.E. kit is permanently marked with your child's name and class on it.**

We ask parents/carers to provide a bag of spare clothes as children may have accidents. These can be put in a bag and kept on their peg.



School Meals

All children in Reception are entitled to free school meals. All parents are asked to register for USFM regardless of if they wish to take up this offer or not, as the school is entitled to additional funding for parents. Please approach the office if you need support in doing this.



Trips

The children will go on a school trip each term. This will relate to what the children are learning about. Letters will be sent out in advance to inform parents about trip details.

Parents Evening

Parent evenings take place three times a year. Teachers will be available throughout the year to discuss your child's progress on an individual basis.

Festival of Learning

Each half term children showcase their work where parents are invited to come to school. This also takes the form of Christmas Fete and Community Evenings, for which you will receive more information about at a later date. Parents/Carers will also have an opportunity to view and contribute to their child's learning journey books.

Assemblies

From the spring term onwards Reception will attend whole school assemblies on a Friday. Each class assembly is linked to the school theme/focus or major event. Parents are invited to their child's class assembly and to join us for a coffee afterwards.



Thank you

We thank you for your continued support in working together to help your child achieve their full potential. We look forward to a successful working partnership.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Szajko, M^s Lazar, Mr^s Baxter, Mr^s Cohl.