



# **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
- Holidays
- Expectations
- Phonics
- Homework
- Book Bags
- Assessment
- School Uniform and PE kit
- School meals
- Parents Evening



## RECEPTION STAFF



### Staff

- Mr Szajko                      Class teacher of Red Base
- Mrs Whawell                  Teaching Assistant

### Other members of staff

- Ms Mozley
- Mrs Hewett
- Ms Akbar



### 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.



### **Attendance and Punctuality:**

Attendance and punctuality are very important for your child to achieve at the right level. We can only do this if parents support us fully and if we all understand the importance of NOT taking term time holidays or absences from school.

**Please ensure that you are following our school drop off and collection plan.**

**Please inform the office if your child will be collected by another adult.**



### **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 allocated an online reading book to read each week. Books will be changed on a weekly basis. 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.

The children will be given homework sheets 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 finished and uploaded into Tapestry 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. Please keep their labelled water bottle inside.



## 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.

We use Tapestry, an online learning journal, to record each child's learning.

Each family will receive a personal login to their child's page. If your child attended the nursery at Holywell their learning journals will continue into Reception.

You can then see what your children have been learning and add information about their learning at home to their profile



## 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, black, plain tracksuit-bottoms and hoodie, sport trainers and plimsolls. Children must wear their P.E. kit on P.E. day (Autumn Term 2). **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.

### **Stay and Play**

In Reception, we hold half termly Stay and Play sessions where we invite you to come into school and participate in activities with your child. These will have a different focus each half term and are a good opportunity to learn more about what your child does in school.

### **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 via online.



### **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, Mr Whawell.**