

Starting School



Bordesley Green Primary School

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Head Teacher: Mr K. Holmes
School Website: www.bordsgrn.bham.sch.uk

Welcome to Reception

Starting school is a major event for a four-year-old. There will be lots of new things to learn and, of course, you will want to ensure that your child is well prepared. We aim to make your child's time in school a happy and memorable one and so it is important that the home and school work together to develop a partnership.

We hope this booklet will provide some useful information that will help your child settle quickly into school. There is also a list of the key things we would like your child to be able to do when they start school and some advice on how to help your child achieve these things.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.
We look forward to working with you to support your child in school.

Kind Regards

Mrs Denton

Assistant Head Teacher for phase 1

Important information

School times:

School starts at
8.30 a.m.

Finishes at
3.20 p.m.

Please note: school will close at 12.30pm every Friday

Attendance:

Every child will be provided with a free school meal when they start to attend full- time

- Children get very upset if they arrive late, and our dinners have to be ordered by 9:00am. If children are unavoidably late, parents must inform the secretary so that a dinner may be ordered
- If your child is absent from school, please telephone the school office (0121 772 1601) before 9:00am We are required legally to keep details of absence. If we are not notified, then it becomes an unauthorised absence.

Term Time Extended Leave

Parents have a legal responsibility to ensure that all children attend school.

Requests for term time holiday will not be authorised. There is strong evidence that such absences are disruptive to the child's education and have a negative impact on attainment.

Safety:

- Children must be collected at 3:20 p.m. promptly by a responsible adult. No child can be collected from Reception classes by anyone under 16 years of age. If you have other children to pick up from school, please ensure you pick up **Reception children first.**
- It is important you inform us if another adult is collecting your child. We want to be sure that no-one takes your child without your authority
- In the event that there is a problem with your child being collected we will make every attempt to contact you or other named adults. **It is vitally important that you let us know of any changes in contact numbers.**

Health:

- **It is essential that the school is kept informed of any changes to contact numbers. We may need to contact you urgently if your child is ill.**
- Please let the school know of any allergies your child may suffer from.
- Please let us know if your child needs medication prescribed by your doctor for any condition such as asthma. You will need to complete a form.
- Your child will have a mid morning snack of either milk or water and a piece of fruit.
- Your child will be provided with water throughout the day
- Should your child have an accident in school, basic first aid is applied. Should your child bump their head or fall and require first aid, this is recorded in a book and you will receive a note.
- Please check your child's hair regularly for head lice and inform us of any cases immediately.
- We are an inclusive school with a dedicated inclusion team should your child require support during their time in our school

The Reception Curriculum

The Foundation Stage: Equipped for life, ready for school

There are 3 prime areas of learning:

Personal, social & emotional development

Communication & language

Physical development

and 4 specific areas of learning:

Literacy- reading and writing

Mathematics

Expressive arts & design

Understanding of the world

During the day the children will take part in activities covering all aspects of the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum, sometimes individually, in small groups or as a whole class.

How your child will learn?

Your child will be encouraged to play and explore the setting both indoors and outside. They will have the opportunity to create and to think things through, adapting their ideas and working alongside others. We want your child to be involved in every part of the Reception curriculum with the staff using your child's interests to plan a relevant, exciting curriculum.

You can keep up-to-date with what your child is learning through the school website.

Should you require any more information, do not hesitate to contact the class teacher or Mrs Denton (Assistant Head phase 1)

Assessment:

The Foundation Stage Profile & age related development bands

During the year, Reception staff will make observations to check your child's progress through the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum. We hold parent's evenings regularly throughout the year where you will have the opportunity to meet with your child's class teacher to discuss their progress. However, you are always welcome to discuss any needs or concerns with your child's teacher at the end of the day.

At the end of the year an assessment will be made to show the achievement of your child. You will be given a report explaining this.

Helping your child in school

You can help prepare your child for school by ensuring they are able to:

- Use the toilet and wash their hands afterwards by themselves, remember to teach your child to wash their hands for 20 seconds with soap
- Put on/take off clothes in the correct order
- Fasten their coats (zips and buttons)
- Put on and fasten their shoes
- Play games and begin to share with others
- Tidy up after they have played with their toys
- Use a knife and fork to eat their food
- Be used to using a pencil and can use scissors correctly
- Kick a football
- Recognise and write their name
- Recognise signs and some letters in the environment

Parental support

- We are very keen to work in partnership with parents. Throughout the year we would like you to come and work alongside your child in the classroom supporting their learning. This time is very valuable and it will enable you to see what activities your child enjoys and possibly give you ideas for activities you may be able to do at home.
- We would like to hear about what your child can do at home and, there will be occasions when we will ask you to share this information so that we may add it to your child's profile.
- We have set up a dedicated email account for your child's class so that you can email any photos or notes to the class teacher directly (details of email addresses will be given when your child starts school).
- Please ensure you read and sign our Home School Agreement
- Please attend Parents Evenings and any other meetings regarding your child's education and welfare.
- We have Parent Ambassadors in school, we will introduce these to you by letter as when your child starts school

Things you can do to help your child when they start school:

- **Talking** is very important. Please make time to talk to your child at home, encouraging them to tell you what they have been doing in school.
- **Read** to your child and share their school reading book and any other books daily. Share a bedtime story with your child.
- Show how much you value reading by letting your child see you reading at home (this could be reading anything from books to the newspaper/magazines/leaflets)
- Join the local library
- Encourage your child to draw, paint and use glue and scissors.
- Help your child to learn their colours, shapes and count accurately to 10.
- Help your child to recognise and write their name using the correct letter formation as below:

a b c d e

f g h i j k

l m n o p

q r s t u

v w x y z

What should my child wear to school?

We believe that a school uniform gives children a sense of identity and belonging with the school and their friends.

Our uniform requirements are:

Girls

Emerald green sweatshirt /cardigan with school logo (see separate sheet)

Yellow polo shirt

Black trousers or black skirt or black pinafore

Black velcro fastening shoes

Summer uniform (optional) – green check dresses

Boys

Emerald green sweatshirt with school logo (see separate sheet)

Yellow polo shirt

Black trousers or jogging bottoms

Black velcro fastening shoes

We strongly urge parents to support the school's uniform policy. The children undertake lots of 'messy' activities while they are learning and school uniform is very practical. It also makes dressing and undressing for P.E easier.

As every child wears the same school uniform, it is **extremely important** that all items of school uniform have your **child's name** on them.

