

'Inspiring Minds Together'

Welcome to Reception

Assistant Head Teacher: Miss Tancock

Lower School Phase Lead: Miss Nolan

Oak Class Teacher: Miss Faul

Willow Class Teacher: Miss Perren

The purpose of this booklet is to provide you with information so you feel able to support your child at home. We believe we are in a partnership with you and that your child will learn best when they know that we are working together.

Our School Values and Rules

School Values

Happiness Teamwork
Honesty Respect
Responsibility Excellence

School Rules

Be safe
Be respectful
Be ready

Learning Characteristics

All learning opportunities are planned to promote the development of the characteristics by including opportunities for children to:

Be Brave - Pupils are given opportunities to face challenges, celebrate mistakes and develop resilience and self-confidence.

Be Innovative – Pupils are given opportunities to express individualism.

Be Collaborative - Pupils are given opportunities to work alongside others in a supportive climate.

Take Ownership - Pupils are encouraged to steer their own learning.

This booklet provides some key information about Reception at The Cambridge Primary School. For further information, please look on the [school website](#) under Curriculum\ Year R.

Transition into School

Monday 11^h September

First Day 9.00am-12.00am (staggered start times)

Tuesday 12th September

Morning and Lunch 8.35am-1.30pm

Wednesday 13th September and onwards

Full Day 8.35am-3.15pm

Drop Off and Pick Up

The day begins at 8.35am when the gates open. There are two options for dropping your child off at school:

Option 1-Walk (scoot or cycle) to school

Queue to the right hand side outside the front of the school on Queen's Avenue and then enter through the front gates. Walk around to the right where you will enter the Reception area. The class teachers wait to greet the children outside the classrooms. Exit back the way you came.

Option 2- Kiss and Drop

This option is available once the children are settled in. Drive up Steele's Road and turn left to enter the car park. Turn around safely and join the queue back out on Steele's Road. Drive up to where a member of staff is waiting. The children leave their car and walk down the path into school independently.

Please note, there are no parking facilities on site or along Steele's Road.

At 8.45, the outside doors and gates are locked to ensure the safety of the children. If your child arrives after 8.45am, please enter via the school office and not the classroom door. This is to ensure your child is included in registration and lunch numbers.

In order to help children make the best start to the day they need to be in school by 8.45am. Teaching begins at this time and your child will miss valuable learning if they are late.

Absence

If your child is absent due to illness, please inform the school by telephone (01252 314884) before 9.30am on the first day of the absence. When your child returns, a letter or email (info@cambridgschool.hants.sch.uk) of explanation will be required for our records, in addition to the original phone call.

Please see our [Attendance Policy](#) (on the school website) for more information regarding requests of leave of absence.

End of the School Day

The school day finishes at 3.15pm. The system for leaving school is the same as the morning.

By foot

Parents enter through the front gates and meet their child by the Reception classrooms before leaving back through the front gate. Siblings will be sent to the Reception classrooms to support with pick up.

By car

Parents join the queue on Steele's Road. When they near the gate, a member of staff will accompany the child whilst walking walk up the path to get into the car.

Please contact the office, if your child is changing home time arrangements. If your child is not collected by 3.30pm, they will be taken to the school office to wait.

Communicating with the Teacher

Parents are encouraged to talk to their child's class teacher without delay if they have any concerns or queries. We have an open-door policy where you can talk to the class teacher briefly at the beginning and end of the school day or contact the school using the following email:

lowerschool@cambridgeschool.hants.sch.uk

For general enquiries, please contact the school office.

Email: info@cambridgeschool.hants.sch.uk Telephone: 01252 314884

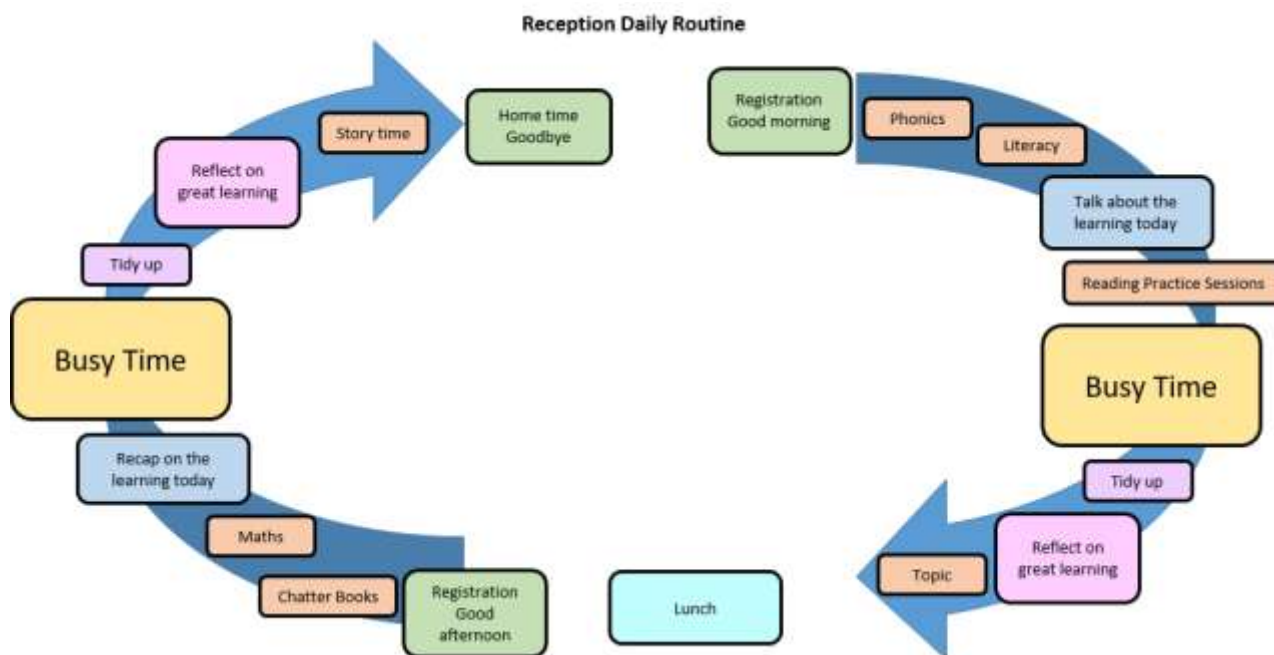
Teaching and Learning

Our aim is to provide an engaging environment, filled with everyday items that encourage children's natural curiosity. Children can play, explore, create and think; supporting them in their journey to become effective, motivated learners.

Learning is organised across six question based topics with experiences planned to support the children's development.

| Reception Topics | | | | | |
|------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| Autumn 1 | Autumn 2 | Spring 1 | Spring 2 | Summer 1 | Summer 2 |
| How do you do? | What happens when I fall asleep? | What's in the ocean? | Can you tell me a story? | Are we there yet? | Do cows drink milk? |

Our school day has a flexible structure, allowing opportunity for teacher led and child led learning and play.



EYFS Curriculum

In Reception, we follow the Early Years Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage. This Framework is separated into Prime and Specific areas for development. The prime areas begin to develop quickly in response to relationships and experiences, and run through and support learning in all other areas. The prime areas continue to be fundamental throughout the EYFS. These are:

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

The specific areas include essential skills and knowledge. They grow out of the prime areas, and provide important contexts for learning. These are:

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

You will receive a weekly letter, identifying the learning that has taken place which is also available on the school [website](#). This is in addition to [topic overviews](#) that outline the learning within each topic so you can support at home.

Home Learning Expectations



Research has repeatedly shown that parental involvement in their child's schooling is a more powerful force than other family background variables. Parental involvement has a significant effect on pupil achievement throughout the years of schooling.

The purpose of home learning is to enhance a child's learning and provide a partnership between home and school that is clearly identifiable to the child. The tasks set should not intrude unreasonably into the interests of the children beyond the school day. Setting aside a specific time for your child to complete their home learning helps to embed routines that will develop their study skills.

The weekly letter details the phonics and maths focus in addition to any other topic based Home Learning. If there is a specific objective that your child needs to practice, teachers will communicate this with you.

In Reception, the expectations are:

- **Reading: daily 10 minutes**

Your child should read their phonics reader book, which is changed weekly. It is available as an eBook and your child will also bring the book home for the weekend. They can also share their family reader which they can change daily. You will receive further details about reading during the autumn term. Please record any reading in the reading record. E.g. We read 4 pages of the book and 'name' was able to decode some of the words, and ensure all books are kept in your child's plastic reading wallet. This helps to protect them.

- **Phonics: Daily 5 minutes**

Your child should practise the focus sounds and words daily. You may wish to record this in the reading record. E.g. We practised the following sounds and tricky words...

- **Maths: Daily 5 minutes**

Your child should practise the mental maths focus daily. You may wish to record this in the reading record. E.g. We practised number bonds to 5.

- **Home Learning Project: Every half term**

This is an optional activity relating the topic of the half term. The activity is aimed at consolidating the learning that takes place over the topic.

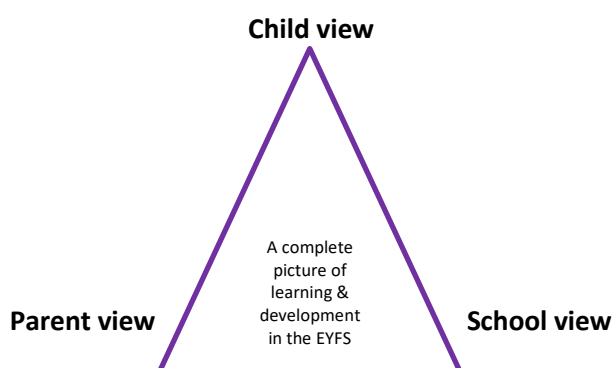
Assessment

The children's learning is constantly assessed which affects our planning for their next steps to ensure they progress. You will have the opportunity to discuss progress at Parent Evenings in the autumn and spring terms. In the summer term, you will receive a written report, which you can discuss with your child's teacher if you feel it necessary. We will contact you if we feel there is any cause for concern at any time throughout the year. If you are worried about your child's progress, please make an appointment with your child's class teacher to discuss it as soon as possible.



Your child's learning at school is documented using Tapestry. This is a secure online Learning Journal to record photos, observations and comments, in line with the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum. It builds up a record of your child's experiences during their time in Reception.

Capturing a complete picture of your child's learning and development is important. Accurate assessment depends on contributions from a range of perspectives including the children, who are encouraged to communicate about and review their own learning. In addition to this, assessment builds on the insights of **all adults** who have significant interactions with the child, so contributions from home are valuable and essential. It is also a good way to create a dialogue between home and school. Tapestry is the ideal means for sharing out of school learning experiences. These do not have to be reading, writing or maths based activities but could include a family walk, playing with a favourite toy or helping out at home. To capture what your child thinks about what they are doing or what they notice, you can upload videos to Tapestry too. The children particularly like sharing these with their class when the teachers review Tapestry during the school day.



Clubs

From the beginning of the Spring Term, the children in Reception will be able to join one of our Career Clubs. These are run across the school so the children have the chance to mix with different year groups and include Budding Gardeners, Junior Scientists, Sporting Personalities and Little Chefs. Children can sign up for one club that they continue for a term. Clubs finish at 4.15pm when all children are collected from the front of the school. Look out for further information on how to sign up your child, near the end of the Autumn Term.

Snack Time

Snack time is a social activity in which we will sit down as a class, talk and learn about the food we eat, share and take responsibility for handing out the food.



Thanks to the School Fruit and Veg Scheme, supported by the NHS, all children in Early Years and Key Stage 1 will be able to choose from a variety of Fruit and Vegetables every day.



Children under 5 (or children eligible for Pupil Premium funding) receive free milk every day. Once your child turns 5, you must pay a monthly subscription, to continue their daily milk snack. We will register your child for you, providing Cool Milk with their name and date of birth. If you would NOT like your child to receive free milk, please let us know. Otherwise, your child will receive free milk until the Friday before their 5th birthday.

Lunch

Chartwells provide our catering. A copy of the menu will be available on our website. There are a variety of meal options including meat, vegetarian, jacket potato and pasta. You can preselect your child's lunch via your Scopay account but your child will also be able to tell their teacher which meal they would like during registration. If your child has a Medical Special Diet that the school are unaware of, please speak to the school office.



Uniform

Pupils are expected to wear a school uniform selected from the following:

White Polo Shirt (optional branded polo shirt)

Purple Branded V Neck Jumper/Cardigan

Grey Trousers/Shorts/Skirt

Purple Summer Dress (from May to July)

Grey/White/Purple Socks/Tights

Black Shoes or Closed Toe Sandals - Trainers and boots are not considered appropriate footwear



PE Kit

Purple Branded Polo Shirt

Black Shorts

Black Hoodie -plain (optional branded hoodie)

Trainers or plimsolls for outdoor activities. Boot trainers are not considered suitable. Children do educational gymnastics in bare feet

All branded uniform is available from [Link Up](#)

You will be informed which day your child has PE. We would ask that your child's PE kit is in school every day and returned home for washing after each half term.

Sleepers and stud earrings are allowed to be worn to school, but they must be non-jewelled and the child must be able to remove them for P.E. lessons. Single earrings are not permitted.

Please label everything clearly with your child's name.

Your child will also need:

Water Bottle (that can be refilled at school)

Coat (we use the Outdoor Area in all weather)

Sun Hat

Spare Uniform/Underwear (if necessary)

Sun Cream (if necessary)

Wellies (if possible to leave at school)

'Inspiring Minds Together'



You have already signed and returned the agreements below. These are for your reference.

Reception Home/School Partnership Agreement

Children learn best when the significant adults in their lives work together to encourage and support them. Schools alone cannot address all of a child's developmental needs: The meaningful involvement of parents and support from the community are essential.

We, at The Cambridge, share the same goal as you: we want your child to be safe, happy and thriving.

Comprehensive research has shown that parent involvement in education had a larger effect on children's academic engagement and achievement than most other interventions.

It is undeniable that those first years in their school career influence the mind-set and pathway for the rest of their school journey. So let's work together and get it right!

This home-school agreement:

- Acts as a reminder of commitments
- Underpins the school's ethos and stated beliefs
- Acts as a clear starting point for the start of every year for children, parents and school staff
- It provides a starting point for conversations.

The School

We will endeavour to:

- Nurture your child in the values of the school, daily in everything we do.
- Foster an environment in which your child can be nurtured and achieve his/her full potential.
- Provide a balanced curriculum and meet the individual needs of your child.
- Enable high standards of work and behaviour to be achieved through building good relationships and developing a sense of responsibility.
- Model the school values, learning characteristics and be a positive role model to the children.
- Inform you about school matters through regular newsletters and notices about special events.
- Provide information about your child's progress through; end of year reports; parents' evening and open days.
- Offer opportunities for you to become involved in the daily life of The Cambridge Primary School
- Ensure your child is kept safe through rigorous Child Protection and Safeguarding procedures. These policies are available on the website.

Signed: *The Cambridge Primary School*

The Parents

I/We will endeavour to:

- Ensure that my child goes to school regularly, on time, properly equipped and in correct uniform.
- Model the school values.
- Inform staff of any concerns or problems that might affect my child's work or behaviour.
- Contact the school or provide a note of explanation if my child is absent on the first day of absence.
- Ensure the school has an up-to-date contact number in case of emergency.
- Support the school's guidelines for behaviour.
- Take an interest in my child's learning/education by supporting home learning. This includes reading regularly and writing in their reading record; supporting my child to learn spellings, number facts and undertaking other opportunities for supporting my child.
- Ensure that my child gets enough sleep and is well fed so that he/she can get the most out of his/her school experience.
- Attend parents' evenings, discussions about my child's progress and other meetings that provide important school information.
- Support the school in fulfilling its aims.
- Discuss any concerns, regarding behaviour, with the class teacher or headteacher.
- Be considerate to the local residents when parking and driving around the area.

Signed..... Date.....

Printed.....

The Children

I will endeavour to:

- Come to school every day and on time.
- Be prepared for the school day.
- Wear school uniform (and correct PE Kit) and take pride in my appearance.
- Complete my home learning to the best of my ability.
- Be a role model and display the school values.
- Respect myself, other pupils, and the staff.
- Be polite and helpful to others.
- Share and talk about my thoughts and feelings.
- Approach all learning with a positive outlook and believe that perseverance will help me to succeed.
- Take care of school equipment.
- Tell my parents and family members about what happens in school.

I will be responsible for my safety, my learning and my actions to ensure I can be best I can be at all times!

Signed by the child..... Date.....