

St. Catherine's Reception Induction Meeting 2020 Intake



Live, Love and Learn Together

Welcome to Reception at St. Catherine's

This presentation aims to provide an introduction to our school and includes initial information which we hope you will find useful. Should you have any further questions, staff will be happy to discuss these with you.

Our key aims during the reception year are to help your child become a confident, happy, motivated, independent and thoughtful learner. We want to provide them with stimulating, exciting and challenging topics, that will really tap into the naturally inquisitive nature that every child has. We hope that we can work together to do this, and make this first year fantastic for them. The information in this presentation will also be included on the school website, so please refer back to it at any point and feel free to ask questions.

Staff at St. Catherine's

The reception children are this year going to be split into two groups. They will work alongside children from year one in each class. The class names are: Birch Class and Oak Class. Birch Class will have Mrs Treble (working Mon-Wed) and Mrs Middleton (working Wed – Friday) as their teachers. Oak Class will have Mrs Blake (working Mon – Wed) and Mrs Best (working Wed-Friday).

The classes will have two full time teaching assistants – Mrs Thomas and Mrs Pirus and a part time teaching assistant, Mrs Tyrrell who will work between the two classes.

This is Mrs Terrey.
She is the Head teacher of our school.



Staff at St. Catherine's

Mrs Trebble



Mrs Middleton



Mrs Blake



Mrs Best



Mrs Pirus



Mrs Patterson-Smith



Mrs Tyrell



On Your Child's First Day

On Your Child's First Day at St. Catherine's (this may change in line with Government Covid-19 advice)

Please bring your child in, find their peg and show them how to put their PE bag and coat on it. Each peg has your child's name along with a cartoon animal. This is to help them recognise which peg is theirs if they have a similar name to someone else's or are unsure of what their name looks like. They will need to either bring a packed lunch with them or will need to have been signed up for Local Food Links hot lunches. (See leaflet and your child's own personal code in pack)

Settle them at an activity and play with them for a few minutes. Explain that you will be going but that you will be back very soon. Let us know if you are concerned – we will call you and let you know how they are. Please be reassured, we will let you know either way and will never hide the truth!

We have a progressive entry – children will be full-time by Day 3

A Day in the Life of Reception

Daily Timetable: (This may change in line with Government Covid-19 guidance)

8:30 – doors open and children come in to choose an activity at the tables. These are all fine-motor based, and the intention is to help your child develop dexterity and strength prior to writing.

8:40 – doors close and registration.

8:50 – 9:20 – Phonics. We learn a new sound each day and use the Read, Write Inc phonics scheme.

9:20-10:15 – Independent time (Play-based learning)

10:15-10:30 – Break time

10:30-10:45 – fruit and story /topic time.

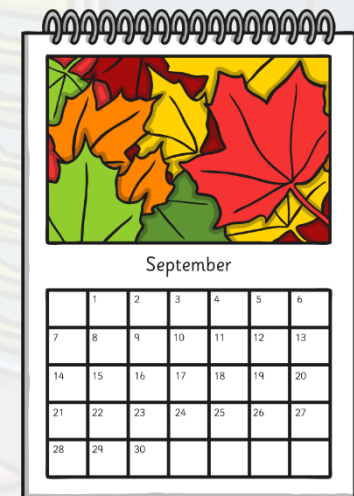
10:45-11:00 – Maths carpet time

11:00 – 11:30 – maths tasks and independent time continued.

11:30 – 11:45 – Dough Disco

11:45 – 12:45 – lunch time

Afternoon – topic based. End of day at 3:00pm



Drop off and Collection Arrangements

This may change in line with Government Covid-19 guidance

Morning Drop Off: Children will need to come at a designated time to the side gate, where they can enter into the Reception outside areas and classrooms. There is no parking on the school site. All access is by foot and we kindly request that you park with consideration to the residents surrounding the school.

Afternoon Collection: The school gates are not open and traffic is not to enter the site. Please park outside the school and collect your child from the classroom. We will call your child's name when we see you. They are not allowed to leave until we say their name, so please be patient! If someone else is going to be collecting your child, please give us as much notice as possible. If someone else will be collecting regularly on a specific day, please sign them up on the whiteboard kept in the classroom.

If we don't know the person who comes to collect your child and we have not been told to expect someone else, we will not let them go. This is to keep your child safe.

Clothing

Clothing: Please see the list of school uniform requirements. We have a winter and a summer uniform at St. Catherine's. Wellies and waterproofs are also very useful to keep in school, particularly for forest school sessions or free-play in the mud kitchen!

Jewellery of any kind is not permitted, and we kindly request that any hair ties or slides are discrete and minimal. Nail varnish and make up are also not permitted.

P.E. Kits: Children will require a PE kit consisting of shorts, T-shirt, trainers or plimsolls and a tracksuit for cooler days. We would also suggest putting any spare underwear in the kit, just in case. **Please can this be in school every day.**

Please name everything!

Food and Drink

Lunch: We are very lucky to have our hot meals provided for us by Local Food Links. Each child receives a free school meal everyday, which consists of a main course and a pudding.

In your pack to take home today you will find your child's individual login code. You can use this to select regular or vegetarian meals, or to choose a jacket potato.

Snacks: Children will receive a free piece of fruit after playtime each day, and can be signed up to the Cool Milk scheme. This is free until a child turns 5, at which point if you would like them to continue with daily milk, you will need to pay for it.

Drinks: Water is available throughout the day, including lunchtimes. However, most children prefer to bring their own bottle of water. Please make sure it is named, as we often have multiples of the same style! No fizzy drinks or fruit juices are allowed, as we aim to be a healthy school.



Health

Health: If your child has any medical issues, please ensure that you let us know using the form provided in your packs. If a child has sickness or diarrhoea, they must not come back into school until 48hrs from the last episode. This is in line with government guidelines in order to stop the spread of highly infectious illnesses.

Children can suddenly become ill and therefore it is important that we know we can contact you or another adult relative / friend at all times. Please ensure that the school is kept up to date with your contact details. If your child is unable to attend school due to illness, please telephone the school office to let us know. If we do not hear from you, we will call to speak to you.



Early Years Curriculum

Activities in our class are carefully planned and organised in order to provide a range of learning experiences. Individual records (Learning Journals) are kept to record the activities your child participates in and undertakes, as well as their progress in specific skills. We are very excited to say that this year we have a new platform called Tapestry, where we can securely upload photos and comments on your children. The best bit is that you will each have a password to log in and see what your child has been learning.

Planning for each term is carried out using a topic-based approach, following the children's interests and responding to specific events.

There are 7 Areas of Learning in the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS), which activities are planned around:

- **Personal, Social and Emotional Development**
- **Physical Development**
- **Communication and Language**
- **Literacy**
- **Mathematics**
- **Understanding the World**
- **Expressive Arts and Design**

Throughout the EYFS, children will be working towards the Early Learning Goals. These describe the level of attainment expected at the end of your child's Reception year in school.

We will have a separate meeting in September to introduce these further.

School Readiness

There is so much that you can do (and that you already are doing) to help your child become as ready as they can be for September. We have put some leaflets in your pack, but some of the key things:

Get out and about – physical strength (especially upper body) is vital for your child to be ready to learn how to hold a pencil correctly and begin to form letters and numbers. Go to the park and help them pull themselves up on the ropes, climb a tall slide, dig in the sandpit.

Practice getting dressed – Get dressed into anything, not just school uniform and PE kit. It does not matter if it is upside down, back to front, inside out. If they have done it themselves they should be applauded! Socks are a biggie. Think about this when choosing school shoes too – Velcro is easier for self-dressing.

Mark make – in the sand or mud with a stick, with the tracks of a car on the ground, with a paintbrush and water.

Become familiar with numbers and letters – Look at the difference between the two on car number plates, signs. Begin trying to recognise numbers to 5 out of order, look at their shape and try to link them to the child personally (how old are you?)

School Readiness

Drive past the school! – Simple but it will really alleviate their fear of the unknown. Drive past on the way somewhere, give the school a big wave and shout “hello school!”

Look through the booklet– Talk through the photos, who you can see, what the classroom looks like, what the field is like. The more familiar they are, the easier they will find the transition.

Support learning through adventure– Help them to take risks and to step outside of their comfort zone. This can be from as little as trying a new vegetable to climbing to the top of the pyramid ropes at West Bay. This will encourage them to be active learners.

Be excited for them– Talk about going to school as an adventure, an exciting thing. Your own time at school may have an effect on how you are with your child. Just be aware of this, and look for the positives. We want you all to love it!

We hope that this presentation is useful. Should you have any questions, please feel free to speak to us

