



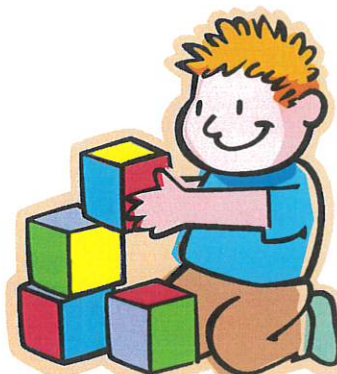
Aiming High, Achieving Together'

Our school values

We believe in:

**Motivation
Excellence
Respect
Teamwork
Opportunities
Never Give Up**

Starting School Welcome Booklet



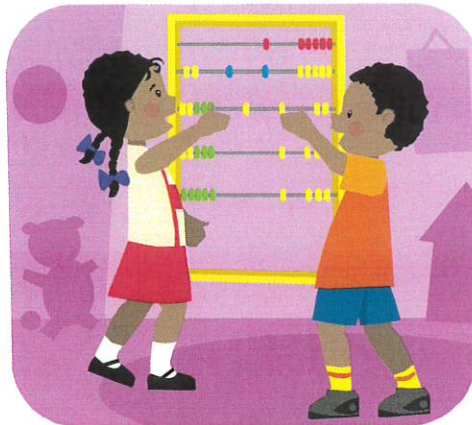
Welcome to our school.

Our aim is to ensure your child is happy, safe and successful. We will endeavour to develop their unique talents and abilities through an exciting curriculum. We want your child to be motivated and enjoy their learning and experience success. Our vision for their education is

Aiming High, Achieving Together

We are automatically committed to their development when your child joins our school. This process is enhanced by the establishment of a solid home/school partnership. We believe the key to a successful and productive relationship is communication, therefore any concerns or questions you have regarding your child's schooling please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher.

We look forward to working with you in partnership to ensure your child reaches their full potential.



The Curriculum

The children follow the current Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) curriculum during their first year at school. This is organised into Prime and Specific areas of learning.

Prime Areas

- Personal, Social, Emotional Development

This area encourages children to become more aware of themselves and others. It is all about feeling good about who they are and respecting those around them.

- Communication, Language and Literacy

This area of learning develops children's speaking, listening skills and understanding skills.

- Physical Development

Children will receive 2 hours of P.E. per week. There will also be brain and 'dough' gym activities everyday which will develop their gross motor skills and improve their co-ordination, control, manipulation and movement.

Specific Areas

- Mathematics

Children will learn to count, order, read and write numbers. They will be taught to identify patterns and making connections. They will know how to recognise and use shapes, measure, quantities and weight.

- Literacy

Children will become confident in writing e.g. letter formation, writing for a purpose (i.e. lists, captions, recipes, stories and leaflets). Children will be encouraged to have a love of books and begin to learn how to read.

- Knowledge and Understanding of the World

This area develops children's scientific, history, geography and Computing skills. This element assists children in finding out about the outside world.

- Expressive Arts and Design

Children will be able to learn specific creative skills e.g. art, D.T., music and drama.

Half-termly topics will drive their learning and objectives set will match the key areas above. We shall focus on active learning opportunities and outdoor learning will be prominent throughout the day, whatever the weather.

The class

There are two YR classes. Each class has a full time teacher and LSA support (Learning Support Assistant).

The class size will not exceed 30 children.

Each class is set out into 'learning areas' representing the EYFS curriculum. It is fully resourced with one interactive whiteboard, various games, puzzles and construction materials. The children will also have access to an enclosed outside area, I pads and laptops including a role-play area.

Admissions

All children joining the school in September will enter on a part time basis in the first week with 'Meet the Teacher' sessions planned for parents in the afternoons. All children will be full time from the second week.

Getting ready for school

Prior to your child starting school it would be helpful if your child could do the following:

- Use the toilet and flush it independently
- Wash and dry their hands
- Sit at a table and use a knife and fork properly
- Blow and wipe their nose
- Share and take turns
- Tidy away
- Put on and fasten their coat



It would also be helpful if your child has experience of:

- Dressing and undressing with some independence
- Doing zips, buttons, laces, shoe laces / buckles

Getting Ready for School - Home Activities

Below are a variety of play activities for you and your child to do at home together. It is through play that your child will begin to make sense of the world around them. The activities will also help to develop their fine and gross motor skills.

Alongside the following suggestions are relevant vocabulary and questions, which will promote further learning and understanding.

Activities	Relevant vocabulary / questions
Painting	What colour?
Cutting, gluing, sticking	Straight, curved, round, sticky, flat
Colouring in, writing, drawing,	What shape? What colour? What letter?
Listening to music	Loud, quiet, move, dance, jump, hop, skip
Playing with balls and balloons	Throw, catch, bounce, hit, balance
Getting dressed / dressing up	Woolly, soft, patterns
Playing with sand, buckets and spades	Full, empty, wet, dry, rough, smooth
Playing shops	Money, coins, How much? How many?
Construction	How tall? How short? Which is smallest / tallest? How many bricks?
Cooking	Mix, pour, rub, sift, stir, shake, measure
Reading Stories	Show which way we hold a book. Read top to bottom, left to right Talk about the pictures Show a page, a word, a sentence



Handwriting

Children will learn the cursive style in YR. This style is beneficial in developing children's spelling skills and flow of movement. Lower case letters are taught individually in 'family' groups. Each letter starts on the line and has an exit flick.

Round:

c o a q

Over arch:

r n m

Under arch:

u w v

Ascenders:

l h k b t d

Descenders:

g j y p

Mixed:

e s x i f z

Uniform

We actively encourage children to take pride in their school and wear the school uniform. Please ensure that you **name all their uniform and P.E. kits.**

Girls - winter: blue school cardigan, grey skirt, pinafore or trousers, white logo polo t-shirt, white socks or grey tights, black shoes

Summer: blue school cardigan, light blue checked dress, white socks, black shoes

Boys - winter: blue school jumper, grey trousers, white logo polo t-shirt, grey socks, black shoes

Summer: blue school jumper, grey trousers or shorts, white logo polo t-shirt, grey socks, black shoes

School cardigans, jumpers and logo polo shirts can be purchased at school or the Skoolkit shop in town.

P.E.

Please provide your child with a white t-shirt and navy or black shorts and plimsolls. Children may wear navy or black tracksuit bottoms during the winter months.

Book bags

All children must have a school reading folder which can be purchased at school for £6.50. There will also be a home-school reading diary in which you can write any comments.

Money

Each child will be provided with a named zipped wallet. Any money (e.g. trips, events etc.) must be placed in the zipped wallet with an explanation about the amount of money being paid. It must be given to the class teacher. We also have an online payment system. Login details will be provided when your child starts school.

Lunch

All Infant children are entitled to a free school dinner. There is either a red (meat) option or a green (vegetarian) option. Alternatively you can provide sandwiches for your child. We are a Healthy School and, therefore, discourage cakes, biscuits, chocolates and fizzy drinks. We

also ask that you **DO NOT** give your child any products containing **NUTS** in their lunchboxes (including peanut butter sandwiches).

Fruit / Water

Your child will receive free fruit at break times. They are also entitled to free milk until their 5th birthday. After that they can still receive milk in school but parents need to register and pay online. Please provide your child with a named bottle of water each day.



Breakfast Club

The school runs a Breakfast Club which is open from 8.00am - 8.45am at a cost of £2.70 per child per session. For more information please see the booklet enclosed with this pack.

After School Club

An After School Club is run for Infant School children and any Junior siblings. Regular and Ad-hoc sessions are available from £7.50 per child per session. The Club runs from 3.15pm - 5.45pm. More information can be found in the booklet enclosed with this pack and registration forms can be picked up from the school office.