

New Parent/Carer information

Welcome to
Blackmore Primary School



Welcome to Reception Class



Dear Parents & Carers

Welcome to Blackmore Primary School!

Now that you have accepted your child's place at Blackmore Primary, we expect that you are looking forward to finding out more information about school life and what your child's first year at school will look like.

We are sure that you are excited for your child's first year at school and understand that you may be feeling a little apprehensive too.

This presentation will give you an insight into what 'school life' is like for our reception pupils. It will also give you a better understanding of the curriculum.

Starting school is the beginning of a very special journey!

We look forward to meeting your child and working in partnership with you to ensure that your child has a safe, happy and successful first year at school.

EYFS team

What is the Early Years Foundation Stage?



The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) is the stage of education for children from birth to the end of the reception year. It is a very important stage that helps your child get ready for Year 1, as well as preparing them for their future learning and successes.

Daily activities in reception are shaped by the EYFS curriculum and by the **7 'Areas of Learning'** (more detail on the next slide).

The EYFS is based on the recognition that children learn best through **play** and **active learning**. So in reception class your child will experience a **balance of play based** and **child led learning**, as well as **adult led** and **structured learning**.

The EYFS also values the importance of home school communication and building a partnership between home and school.



Play is essential for children's development, building their confidence as they learn to explore, relate to others, set their own goals and solve problems. Children learn by leading their own play, and by taking part in play which is guided by adults.

Seven areas of learning and development



There are **seven areas of learning and development** that shape the Early Years Foundation Stage.

There are three **prime areas**:

- Communication and language
- Physical development
- Personal, social and emotional development

These areas are particularly important for building a foundation for igniting children's curiosity and enthusiasm for learning, forming relationships and thriving.

And four **specific areas**:

- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the world
- Expressive arts and design



***NEW* Early Years
Foundation Stage
Framework for September
2021.**

7 Areas of Learning

Within each of the seven
areas of learning, there are
specific aspects



These areas begin to develop quickly in response to relationships and experiences. They support learning in all other areas:

Communication & Language: 'Speaking', 'Listening, Attention and Understanding'

Personal, Social, Emotional Development: 'Self-regulation', 'Managing self' and 'Building Relationships'

Physical Development: 'Gross Motor Skills' and 'Fine Motor Skills'

These areas include essential skills and knowledge and provide important contexts for learning:

Literacy: 'Word Reading', 'Comprehension' and 'Writing'

Maths: 'Number' and 'Numerical patterns'

Understanding of the World: 'The Natural World', 'People, Culture and Communities' and 'Past and Present'

Expressive Arts & Design: 'Creating with Materials' and 'Being Imaginative and Expressive'



Our reception classroom consists of a variety of learning zones that enable children to enhance their skills and knowledge across the seven areas of learning.

Inside, the children enjoy developing their expressive and creative skills in our role play area and on our creative table. They also enjoy using the construction areas and small world resources to recreate stories together and develop fine motor skills. Our snack bar provides an excellent opportunity for children to practise being independent and to develop their language skills.

The indoor classroom



We are very fortunate to have a large outdoor area, which the children thoroughly enjoy. Our digging pit, gardening area, mud kitchen, physical equipment and junk art area are very popular with the children and provide great learning opportunities.

The outdoor classroom



Indoor and outdoor learning takes place

Snack bar
A selection of healthy snacks, milk and water

A typical day in Reception class



Through out the day there is a balance of adult led and child initiated learning opportunities

School arrival – the children are welcomed into the classroom to self register. They organise their belongings (coat/bookbag) and settle ready for the school day.

Adult input activity – the children will spend a short period of time, as a whole class, learning a new skill.

Learning activities (structured & child led) – the children will have the opportunity to explore the learning environment and take part in a variety of child initiated and adult guided activities.

Break time (15minutes)

Phonics – we spend approximately 20 minutes every day focused on developing our reading and writing skills.

Learning activities continue

Lunchtime (1 hour)

Adult input activity

Afternoon learning activities (including PE and Swimming)

Afternoon Break (10 minutes)

Story and song time

Home time -the children are seen to their adults, one by one, on our front playground.



Learning, development and assessment



Throughout the school year the children in reception will be assessed on the **17 Early Learning Goals**.

Ongoing assessment is an integral part of the learning and development process.

The Early Learning Goals also form the basis of the planning and the activities within the foundation stage.

You will be informed of your child's progress at parent consultations and through a formal report at the end of the school year.

You can also look at your child's learning and development on **Tapestry** – an online learning journal (more information will be provided in September).

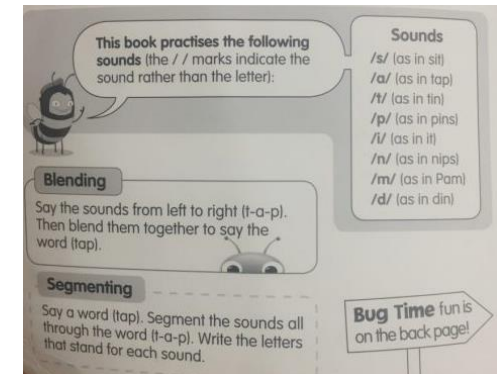




Reading books



- All children in reception will start with a sharing picture book which is important to the development of early reading skills.
- Once your child developed some phonic knowledge and is able to blend and segment, they will be given a phonics book and a colour band book. These must be brought to school every day.
- You will be given a reading record to record comments in when you share/read a book with your child.
- When the children begin their Phase 2 lessons, the children will also bring home phonemes to learn and word cards. Don't worry -there will be a Phonics meeting in the Autumn Term.
- Please do not put water bottles in your child's book bag.



Transition



Meet and greet

Thursday 15th July 2021

As part of our settling in process, we are offering informal meet and greet drop-in sessions for you and your child. This is an opportunity to meet the EYFS teachers and to experience the learning environment; this will also include a tour of the school.

Phone calls

Thursday 2nd September and Friday 3rd September 2021

Just before the children begin school in September, the EYFS teachers will call you to discuss your child in greater detail.

The phone call will last approximately 20 minutes.

Your child's teacher will ask you a series of questions about your family, your child's interests, any relevant background information and about their education so far. It will also give you an opportunity to discuss any medical needs or concerns you may have.



Starting school in September



To aid a smooth and happy transition into school, the children will begin school with half days starting from **Monday 6th September.**

Every child will experience three mornings with lunch and three afternoons, before completing their first full school day, which will be on **Tuesday 14th September 2021.**

A timetable of which mornings and afternoons your child is to attend will be given to you during the meet and greet morning on Thursday 15th July.

	Monday 6 th September	Tuesday 7 th September	Wednesday 8 th September	Thursday 9 th September	Friday 10 th September	Monday 13 th September
Morning	Group A	Group A	Group A	Group B	Group B	Group B
Afternoon	Group B	Group B	Group B	Group A	Group A	Group A

Please drop off / collect your child at the school gates



Lunches



- In September all reception children will be entitled to a free lunch.
- At the start of reception we encourage all children to try school dinners, especially as they are free.
- Teaching staff accompany the children to dinner for the first few weeks and will be able to tell you what your child has eaten.

A Healthy School

- Children need to bring a water bottle to school every day. Water is essential to hydrate your child's brain and to help them to learn. Bottles must only contain water. Juice and flavoured waters are not allowed.
- Children can select fresh fruit and vegetables at the snack bar or they can bring in their own healthy snack.



Uniform



GIRL'S UNIFORM

- Grey skirt or pinafore dress or grey trousers
- White shirt or Polo shirt
- Red School sweatshirt/cardigan
- Plain grey or red tights or plain white socks and sensible plain black shoes – no ballerina style allowed
- Small red or white hair bands/bows are allowed.
- No nail varnish or gel nails are allowed.
- Summer - Red gingham dress or white polo shirt with grey skirt and plain white socks

BOY'S UNIFORM

- Grey trousers
- White shirt or polo shirt
- Red School sweatshirt/jumper
- Plain grey socks and sensible plain black shoes – no trainers or trainer style shoes allowed
- Summer – Grey shorts

Hair below chin length must be tied up, regardless of gender. No extreme/fashion haircuts are allowed (including shaved sides, tramlines or designs).

We do ask that **all clothing is clearly labelled with the children's name.**

Pleased provide your child with named wellington boots and puddle suit (optional) so that the children can explore the mud pit in Reception class.

Please contact **Smarty Pants** for all of your uniform needs.

****Please see the attached school uniform policy ****

Phone: 01277 363275

Email: office@smartyantsschoolwear.com

Uniform Supplier



Our Retail Counter

Unit 1 Chancerygate
33 Tallon Road
Brentwood
CM13 1TE

School readiness



What can you be doing now to help your child?

- Dressing themselves – encourage children to practise putting their school uniform on independently
- Drying themselves after the bath; this will help with changing after swimming lessons.
- Washing and drying their hands independently
- Pouring a drink from a jug
- Carrying their own dinner plate to the table as they will be doing this at lunchtime in school
- Sharing and discussing stories together
- Counting objects such as lego, one by one, to 10
- Singing number songs and nursery rhymes
- Playing with playdough, threading and pegging to help develop fine motor skills
- Recognising their name
- Establish a good bedtime/ morning routine

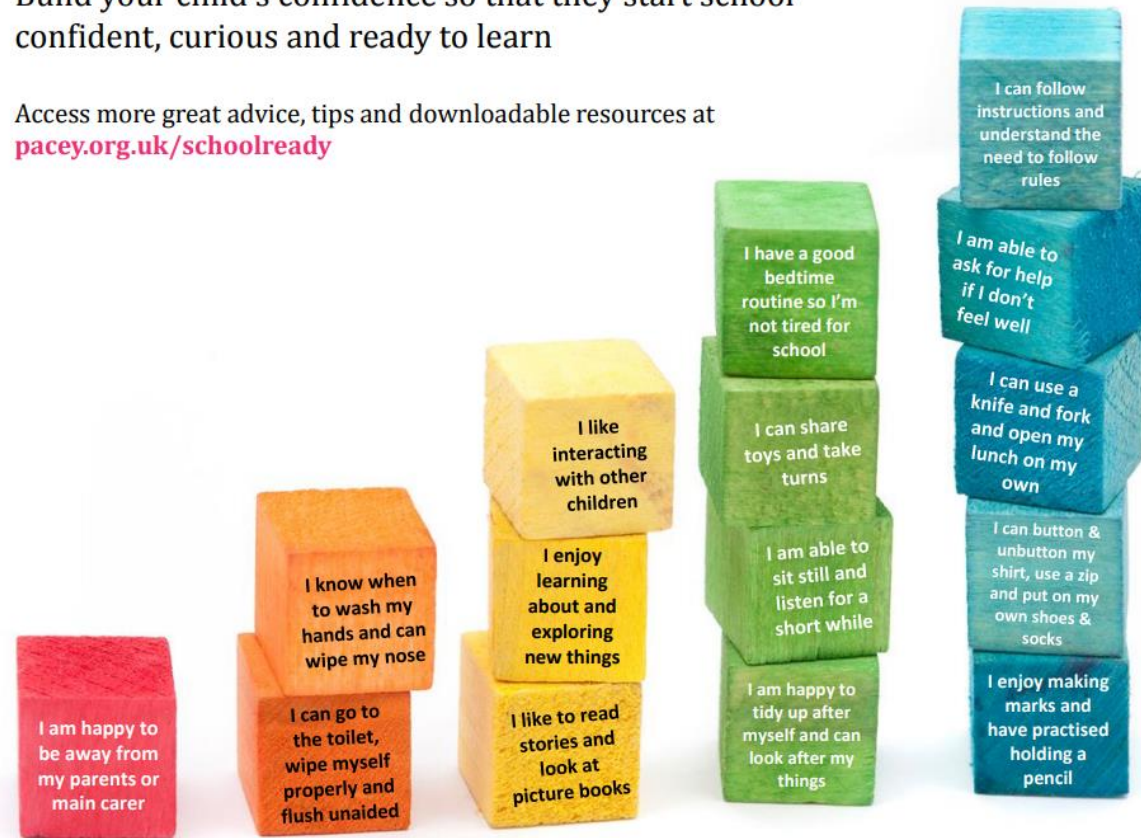
Steps to starting school

Build your child's confidence so that they start school confident, curious and ready to learn

Access more great advice, tips and downloadable resources at pacey.org.uk/schoolready



Steps to starting school



More top tips:

- ★ Get your child ready for their new routine by switching their meal times to match those of the school day
- ★ Encourage your child to explore new environments and interact with new people
- ★ Talk to your child about what they are most looking forward to at school
- ★ Let your child practise putting their new school uniform on and taking it off
- ★ **And remember**, every child is different and starts school with different abilities

What else can I do?



You as a parent/carer, are your child's first and most important educator. In school we value your expertise and experience and aim to establish a partnership with you.

Many of the attitudes and skills which contribute to a child's success at school are learned at home.

As parents/carers you can help when you:-

- **Encourage** a happy attitude towards school.
- **Take an interest** in the pictures, writing and learning brought home.
- **Celebrate** all your child's successes. This will do wonders for your child's self esteem.
- **Read**, tell and talk about many stories to your child. It will help to develop your child's language skills, understanding and develop a love of reading.



Be the best you can be

@ admin@blackmore.essex.sch.uk  www.blackmore.essex.sch.uk



We look forward to meeting you!

