



Wylde Green Primary School



Welcome to Reception 2014

Getting Ready for School

We would like to welcome you and your child to Wylde Green Primary School. The well being, education and smooth induction of your child into school is our first priority. For this reason we have compiled this booklet to help you and your child prepare for their Reception year in school.

We wish to work with you in educating your child. You, as a parent or guardian, are the most important person with regard to your child's education, a factor that we hope to continue, value and enhance.

We hope to work as a good team, and look forward to meeting you and your child.

If you are anxious about anything please do not hesitate to contact us.



The Early Years Curriculum

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) sets the standards that all early years providers must meet to ensure that children learn and develop well and are kept healthy and safe. It promotes teaching and learning to ensure children's 'school readiness' and gives children the broad range of knowledge and skills that provide the right foundation for good future progress through school and life.

The areas of learning and development (New 2012)

There are seven areas of learning and development that must shape educational programme in early years settings. All areas of learning and development are important and inter-connected. Three areas are particularly crucial for igniting children's curiosity and enthusiasm for learning, and for building their capacity to learn, form relationships and thrive. These three areas,

the *prime* areas, are:

- communication and language;
- physical development; and
- personal, social and emotional development.

Providers must also support children in four *specific* areas, through which the three prime areas are strengthened and applied.

The specific areas are:

- literacy;
- mathematics;
- understanding the world; and
- expressive arts and design.

• **Communication and language** development involves giving children opportunities to experience a rich language environment; to develop their confidence and skills in expressing themselves; and to speak and listen in a range of situations.

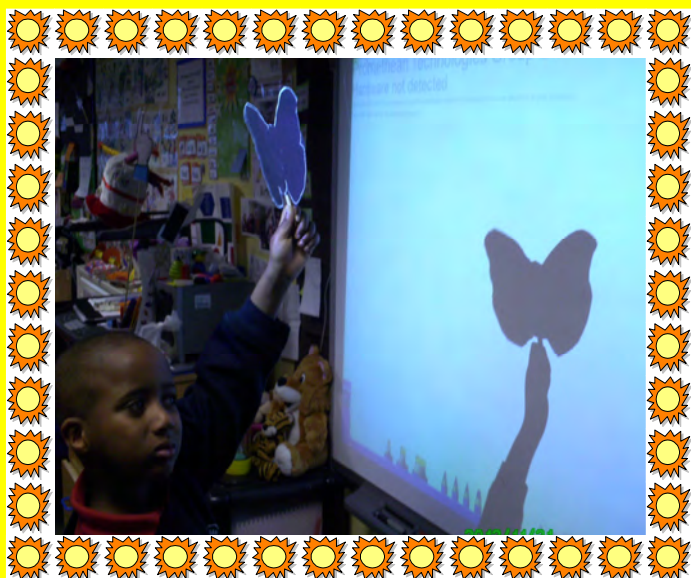
• **Literacy** development involves encouraging children to link sounds and letters and to begin to read and write. Children must be given access to a wide range of reading materials (books, poems, and other written materials) to ignite their interest.

Children learn to read in groups, individually and independently.

There are two laptops in Reception. There are also Interactive Whiteboards and Visualisers.



We develop fine motor skills through practical activities such as using a magic finger, painting, water paint, chalk, threading, jigsaws, cutting out, playdough and construction toys.



Reading

It is important to encourage a love of books from an early age. Reading and sharing stories should be an enjoyable part of everyday life. Each child will learn at their own pace and in their own way, as in learning to walk and talk. Try not to compare your child's progress to that of another child. Listed below are some suggestions on how to encourage reading at home.

- a) Make sure that you both enjoy reading together
- b) Read to your child at bedtime and do not stop doing so even when your child begins to read independently.
- c) Retell favourite stories from memory using pictures and prompts.
- d) Draw attention to print. Point with your finger and show him/her that print runs from left to right.
- e) Talk about the book, the characters, the illustrations, the story ending etc.
- f) Let your child see you read. Children love to imitate adults.
- g) Listen to story tapes.
- h) Use the environment to extend reading knowledge e.g. road signs, shop names, billboards etc.
- i) Give lavish praise—it builds confidence.

Home Reading

Soon after your child starts school he/she will be sent home with books to share with you. Some of the books are for the children to try and read for themselves and some will be for you to read with your child. We will inform you of the timetable for changing books at the beginning of term.

Your child will receive a Reading Book bag on Induction Day and these are available at school at a cost of 50p if you need to replace them.



Suggestions to help prepare your child for school

- Encourage your child to dress and undress independently.
Give your child plenty of practice at doing and undoing coats, shoes, buttons and zips.
- Encourage your child to share toys etc with others
- Teach them to use a knife and fork
- Train them to use the toilet correctly e.g. flushing, and the importance of washing their hands afterwards.
- Make sure your child gets plenty of sleep.
- Encourage your child to play imaginatively.
- Teach your child to play simple games such as I-spy, snap, dominoes. Please show them how to be fair and take turns.
- Train your child to take care of their own possessions and promote personal organisational skills.
- Encourage your child to cut out following a straight line



School Routines

Mornings School starts at 8.55 am, doors open from 8.50 am

At the beginning of the year your child may be anxious about leaving you. This is perfectly normal and we have lots of experience in handling these situations with the minimum of distress. Be assured that no child would be left suffering unnecessarily.

Afternoons School finishes at 3.30 pm, can be collected from classroom from 3.25 pm

The children will be told that they cannot leave the Reception unit until an appropriate adult has been identified. If for some reason your child needs to be collected by a different carer, please notify us in advance.

Lunchtime 12.05 pm—1.15 pm

Each class has a lunchtime supervisor that takes care of them during the lunch period. There is a copy of the week's menu posted on one of the notice boards in the entrance way. Please let staff know if your child has any food allergies.

Playtimes

The children in reception have a separate playtime from the rest of the school. Sometimes in the summer term the children will have a playtime with other Infant children so that they get used to interacting with their older peers.

Play is used in reception as an integral part of learning. The reception class has its own dedicated outside play area and this is used to develop a variety of skills using a wide range of outdoor play equipment.



Teaching Maths in lots of different ways



Maths involves providing children with opportunities to develop and improve their skills in counting, understanding and using numbers, calculating simple addition and subtraction problems; and to describe shapes, spaces, and measures.



Useful Information

Your child will need to bring a drink of water every day. Please make sure your child can undo the lid of their flasks/bottles independently and make sure all containers are labelled.

As part of our Healthy Eating the school operates a fruit only policy for all children. The school provides a fruit snack every day.



Dinner Money

Dinner money should be sent into school every Monday. Please put in a clearly labelled envelope with your child's name and class and the amount of money you are enclosing. If you would like to pay half termly, please make payment on the first day of each half term. Any cheques written for school meals payments must have a cheque guarantee number written on the back.

Wetting/soiling

If children soil themselves in school we will automatically contact the parents who will be asked to either come to school and change their child or to take them home. If they have wet themselves we will change your child into clean clothes and you will be notified at the end of the day. If your child has difficulties with toileting please let the staff know. Children are always allowed to go to the toilet as and when needed.

If your child has a stomach upset or diarrhoea please don't send them into school for 24 hours afterwards.

Physical Activities

The children will be experiencing a range of outdoor activities involving large and small apparatus as well as our recently installed Adventure Trail playground. Our aim is to develop fine and gross motor skills. We teach the children how to play collaboratively.

As well as going outside we also have P.E. in the hall and dance in the canteen.



Your child will need a P.E. kit (a red t-shirt, a pair of black shorts and pumps) in a clearly labelled bag that can be left in school during term time. The P.T.F.A. give all new children a P.E. bag on Induction Day. The children will need their kits right from the start of school. In the past we have had problems with children struggling to get changed into their P.E. kits. We would appreciate any support you can give your child. Encourage them to dress themselves on a daily basis as this will help them organise themselves in school. Tights are great but quite difficult for the girls to manage. We suggest that girls wear socks on P.E. days.

Some items of clothing may get muddled with another child's. If your child does go home with another child's clothes please send them back into school the next day.

Lost Property

Hopefully your child will not lose any of his/her possessions during the year. Please make sure that everything is clearly labelled. Do not allow your child to bring toys into school unless asked for by the teaching staff.

Parent Volunteers

If you feel that you may want to help out in school please let your class teacher know. As a general rule we don't place parent helpers in the same class as their children but it may be that you will be able to help in the same year band. If you want to help out but don't have regular time you may want to join the Parent, Teacher and Friends Association (P.T.F.A.). They are a wonderful body of hard working parents who raise a great deal of money for the school and are always looking for volunteers.

Before and After School Club

Wylde Green has an excellent before and after school club known as 'Wylde Cats'. If you would like more information please contact the staff of the club who are available from 7.30 am—9 am and 3.30 pm—6 pm on 0121 386 2366.

Baseline Assessment

All children will be formally assessed during their reception year. Your child's language and mathematical ability will be first assessed in September. Ongoing assessments take place throughout the reception year on all areas of the curriculum and these culminate in an e-profile of your child's progress. All assessments are informal and your child will not be aware that they are being assessed. There is no need to prepare your child in any way. The results of these assessments are used to help plot your child's progress through to Year 2 when they will be formally assessed again.

Parents' Evening

There are three parents' evenings during the year, one each term. The first parents' evening, in October, is an opportunity to get to know the teacher and to check on how well your child has settled in. The second parents' evening, in February, tends to focus on the children's work progress and ways in which your child can be helped to improve their skills.

Appointments are usually 10 minutes. If possible, please attend parents' evening without the children.

The final parents' evening, in July, is an opportunity to raise questions from the written end of year report.

Homelinks

The children will bring home activities to do with you on a regular basis. These activities should not be seen as homework as such. There is no requirement for you to send them back to school and your child will not be checked up on.



The children's homelinks are talked about in class and are often used to make books or displays. They are a good way of linking home and school and it gives your child an opportunity to show their abilities and for you to reinforce recent learning experiences.

School Uniform

We actively encourage the children to wear school uniform. It sets good standards of dress and presentation. The basic colours are navy blue and red.

Your child will need:

Grey trousers

Grey shorts

Red polo shirt

Navy cardigan or sweatshirt

Navy skirt or pinafore

Blue/red gingham dress

Grey/white socks

Red/navy tights

Shoes should be black, preferably with Velcro fastenings. Girls shoes should be flat or low heeled. Trainers are not acceptable. In the summer children may wear sandals as long as they are not open toed or 'jellies'.

Girls may wear navy jogging pants or trousers but jeans are not allowed.

Clive Mark School wear in Wylde Green stock our personalised uniform.