

# Reception Fact Sheet

## Tudalen Gwybodaeth Derbyn

### Welcome – Croeso to Foundation Phase Reception.

The Reception Team staff particularly enjoy teaching and nurturing children of this age. We aim to provide your child with a solid foundation to their learning journey and for them to foster a love of learning.

The three members of staff in our Reception class are Mrs Carr who is the class teacher and Mrs Bolton and Mrs Williams who support the learning. Every member of staff throughout the building is valued as, and referred to by the children as a teacher.

We start the learning day with morning phonics, then have a whole class literacy session before the children choose activities around the classroom while the teachers work with groups, readers or individuals.

Break is at 10:30 – after which the children have a whole class maths session before again choosing from the continuous provision or working with a teacher on a focussed activity.

The structured and continuous activities for the day are explained to the children at the start of the day along with the skills that they will be learning when they take part. Occasionally, children begin to choose the same sort of activities each day. We then monitor their activities and draw them in to the ones that will benefit them the most.

Lunch is at 12.00. At registration, the children will have identified whether they will be eating a school lunch or a packed lunch from home. If they eat a school lunch, we keep an eye out and

try to let you know if there is a particular meal that they don't enjoy. All school meals are paid online and cost £2.25 per day.

You will be given a code so that you can access [www.parentpay.com](http://www.parentpay.com) in order to pay for meals: if you have any problems, please speak to Mrs Cross in the office. Free school meals can be claimed too – please come and see us for the appropriate form.

After lunch we have 'show and tell' then the children have carousel activities in their groups – they have a timetable to make sure each group changes their activity each day. The activities include handwriting, phonics games, digital games, library and guided reading.

Over the week during the afternoon sessions the children will also learn about humanities, science and technology, expressive arts and health and wellbeing relating to our topic (which changes half termly). Welsh and digital technology are embedded into our learning.

There will be lots of opportunities for you to help your child throughout the year in Reception. If you are able to help on school visits, please let us know. Until then, the greatest thing you can do for your child is to be positive about school and learning.

## Snack Times

The children have two snack times. Morning snack takes place at 10.30 and the children are invited to bring a healthy snack and a drink to school. Afternoon snack time is usually around 2.00 and this is when the children are offered a bottle of milk to drink with their snack. Many parents choose to send in a lunch box with a few extra snacks, (in addition to their lunch if they bring a packed lunch) together with a bottle

containing enough drink for the day. Naturally, if they are feeling particularly thirsty and finish their bottle of drink, we will replenish it with water.

## Reading Books

We aim to foster a love of reading. Children learn to read and progress at very different paces. In Reception, they begin by learning the phonics (letter sounds and blends,) and progress to learning words and reading books. Children learn to read at very different paces so please resist the temptation to compare your child with siblings or friends! Each parent is asked to purchase a book bag, (available from the office) and return the books on a specific day. This helps to ensure that each child is allotted a good amount of time when reading. If your child is ill or the school is not open for any reason, please send the book bag in on the following day and we will do our best to add them to the readers for that day.

## P.E. & Spare Clothes

Our day for indoor P.E. is Thursday. We ask that you provide your child with a pair of shorts and a t-shirt to be kept in school in a named P.E. bag. There is no need for trainers at this stage. The children take part in outdoor physical activity all year round wearing their school shoes so as long as these are comfortable and a good fit, this should be adequate when playing outdoor games. Please ensure all clothing is named throughout the year as at this age in particular clothes can be left lying around!

By this stage, the children use the toilet independently and it gives them self confidence to know they are able to take care of their own personal hygiene. If your child is not currently able to use the toilet completely independently, flush and wash their hands, please help your child to achieve this milestone and teach them this valuable skill as soon as possible. However, accidents do happen and we would ask that you keep a set of spare clothes in school, including pants and socks, just in case.

## Worried?

Everyone worries about their child no matter what their age! However, when they first start school full-time, we are very aware that there could be anxieties or concerns. If you are worried at all, no matter how trivial it might sound, please come and talk to us. Often we are able to put your mind at rest straight away and will sort out any issues that might arise throughout the year. Remember, if you don't share your concerns with us, we won't know and can't do anything about it! It is also worth taking into account that if they are YOUR concerns and not those of your child, that you might like to discuss these with us and not in front of your child. This will help stop transferring your worries on to them!