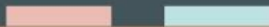




New Parents Information

Reception 2026





Introduction.

This leaflet has been put together to help you ensure your child settles into their new class and can be successful.

You can use it as a checklist to see what your child can do and see if there are things you need to work on with them so please keep this leaflet safe.

If you have any questions about your child starting Reception please speak with a member of staff or contact the school office.



Class Teachers



Mrs Morris

EYFS Lead
Giraffe Class Teacher



Mrs Appleby

Tigers Class Teacher

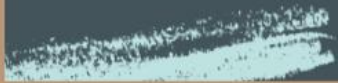
Things to remember

- Your point of contact in the first instance is your child's teacher. If you have any concerns you need to talk to them.
- Please let us know immediately if there are any changes to your contact details – the school must have at least two contacts.
- Please phone the school or notify us via the Compass app to let us know if your child is unwell on the first day of absence.
- It is important that your child arrives on time every day: The gates to our playground open at 8.30am. Our Teachers will come onto the playground at 8.35am. Registers are taken during between 8.40am-8.50am.
- We kindly request that all parents and guardians ensure they are off the school premises by 8:55am. This will allow us to close the gates promptly and begin the school day smoothly.
- Late Arrivals: Any pupils arriving after 8:55am. will need to report directly to the school office. We will record their late arrival and ensure they are guided to their classrooms promptly.
- The day ends at 3.15pm for Reception children. Parents and carers are invited to wait to meet their children from 3.10pm.



Things to remember

- *If you need to see your child's teacher about anything please feel free to ask to speak with them – the end of the day is usually best.*
- *Please label all of your child's clothing and belongings.*
- *Children should bring their book bags to school each day.*



Independence - School ready

In order to feel happy at school children need to know they can do things for themselves. They have to get used to being one of many and staff are not always able to be with your child all the time.

In Reception children are expected to;

- Be able to go to the toilet by themselves, flush the toilet and wash their hands each time.*
- Be able to dress themselves. It is a good idea to only dress them in clothing they can deal with by themselves; Velcro shoes, elasticated trousers and skirts, pull on jumpers and sweatshirts are best at this stage. As your child gets older they will be able to cope with different kinds of fastenings and you will be able to teach your child how to do them.*
- Be able sit at a table and eat with a knife and fork.*
- Ask an adult if they need any kind of help.*
- Stop, look and listen when an adult says their name.*
- Be able to take turns when talking and speak kindly to each other.*
- Be able to recognise their own name.*
- Co-operate with school staff and keep the school rules.*



Things you can do at home to help your child make a good start in Reception

- *Encourage them to drink water- drinking water has been proven to make the brain more active and able to learn. Small sips throughout the day are best.*
- *Talking - Having lots of conversations extend children's language and thinking skills.*
- *There is nothing better than reading with and to children. It helps them begin to see what reading is about; you can talk about the story, ask questions and spend quality time with your child.*
- *It is important that children are able to listen so they understand what is going on. They should be able to listen to a story for around ten minutes.*
- *Singing nursery rhymes! This is vital for early literacy, language and mathematics.*
- *Playing games that encourage turn taking and waiting are good for helping your child cope with being part of a bigger group.*
- *Jigsaws and similar puzzles help children to develop concentration skills.*



Things you can do at home to help your child make a good start in Reception

- *At school we need rules so that everybody is treated fairly. This means children must get used to doing as they are asked straight away and it is helpful if this is what they are used to at home.*
- *Routines and bedtime – children can get tired at school and getting your child into a good routine at bedtime will help them learn at school.*
- *Memorising things like nursery rhymes will help develop your child's capacity to learn.*
- *Encourage your child to draw, write, count and do cutting and sticking as often as you can.*
- *Encourage your child to be independent. Let them do things for themselves- even if it does take longer.*



Settling in- the first few weeks.

Date	Activity
Tuesday 1st, Thursday 3rd and Friday 4th September	Home visits approx. 10 mins Your class teacher and teaching assistant will visit your home to find out more about your child in their own environment. This is an informal visit.
Week beginning 7th September	Staggered start Monday and Tuesday 9am-11.35pm (Go home before lunch), Weds, Thursday and Friday 8.40-1.30pm Stay for lunch either home packed lunch or lunch ordered at school
Week beginning 14th September	8.40-3.15pm Children in school full days (If we feel your child needs longer settling we will let you know)

Things you can do at home to help your child make a good start in Reception

Your child has to cope with a lot of changes in their first term in Reception. We look at the first few weeks as a settling in period. Your child will pick up on how you feel, your feelings and what you do in the first few weeks will affect how they feel.

Give your child lots of praise and encouragement. Please do not compare how well your child is doing with another child. All children learn things at their own pace. In school they will be treated as an individual and will be praised when they achieve the best they can.

It is very important that your child comes to school on time and regularly so that they have the best chance to do well.

Every term you will be invited in so that your child can share their learning journey with you. This is a collection of all of their learning and wow moments that have been documented. We also ask that you let us know the amazing things your child has done at home so that they can be added to their learning journey. Learning takes place everywhere not just at school.



Milk and Fruit

Milk and fruit are free for Reception children. Please let us know if your child has any allergies.

What does my child need to bring?

Book Bag – Everyday with books and materials from school kept inside

Appropriate clothing for weather that day – e.g. Coat – a coat in all weathers-weather is changeable and we try to learn outside as much as possible, sun hat etc. We also recommend an all in one wetsuit for outdoor play.

PLEASE BE SURE ALL BELONGINGS, BOOK BAGS, P.E. KITS, CLOTHING ETC. THAT COME TO SCHOOL ARE CLEARLY LABELED WITH YOU CHILDS NAME



Our Curriculum

Our curriculum ensures that all areas of learning are covered in order to provide a good balance of activities. We aim to build on all our children's prior experiences to ensure we are on track for reaching specific early learning goals at the end of Reception.

Our EYFS is well resourced to support Early mathematics, allowing children to explore shape, space and measure. We use stories and games to make maths more accessible and enjoyable, ensuring that all the children's learning needs are met.

We are passionate about promoting a love of reading and writing and pride ourselves on providing an environment where creativity can flourish. We introduce phonic sounds as soon as the children are ready.

We encourage children to represent their own thoughts, feelings and ideas through art, music, imaginative play and storytelling.

We strive to encourage children to play cooperatively, take turns, to show sensitivity to others' needs and feelings and to form positive relationships with adults and other children.



*8.40-9.00am Register, songs and counting
9-9.15 Little Wandle (Phonics)*

9.30-10 Rolling snack

*9.30 -11 Choosing learning (Child initiated play)
11-11.15 Fine motor/handwriting
11.15-11.30 Toilet and wash hands for lunch*

11.30-? Lunch TBC

*12.30-12.50 Story/Maths/Reading groups
12.50- 2.45 (with a physical play break)
2.45 tidy up time
2.55 Story and collecting home time things
3.15 Home time*



Our uniform

Our school uniform is supplied by Stevensons School Uniform Outfitters. Please follow this link to their website <http://www.stevensons.co.uk/>

The uniform comprises a blue polo shirt, blue jumper and grey/black trousers, skirt or shorts. In the summer girls can wear blue gingham school dresses with black footwear. We insist that the footwear is black; if not, teachers have to spend a great deal of time deciding what is allowed and what is not. Keeping uniform simple is clear for everyone and ensures that staff can concentrate on teaching and not talking about what is allowed or not. For PE, the children can wear a school PE shirt or a plain white/blue t-shirt, blue/black shorts and plimsolls or trainers. A track-suit, or similar, and trainers are useful in colder weather.



Our Setting Rules

We are kind, friendly and helpful.
We use our quiet voices indoors.
We look after everybody and everything.
We are gentle and do not hurt others.
We follow instructions
We listen to others.
We are honest.



Contact details

Hethersett VC Primary School
22 Queen's Rd
Hethersett
Norwich
NR9 3DB

Tel no. 01603 810498

Email: office@hethersettprimary.co.uk

Matthew Parslow-Williams – Headteacher
head@hethersettprimary.co.uk

Victoria Burgess – SEND Coordinator (SENDCo)
vburgess@hethersettprimary.co.uk



Thank you!

If you have any questions, please feel to contact us.

