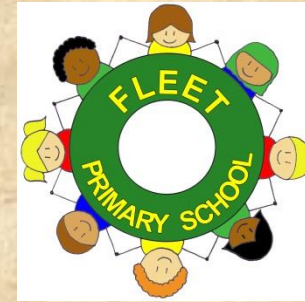


Fleet Primary School



Early Years Foundation Stage Welcome Booklet



Introduction

Welcome to Fleet Primary School Early Years Foundation Stage. Starting school marks a new and exciting stage of life for both child and parents. This booklet is intended to inform you about our Foundation Stage and give you some information to help ensure your child settles happily into their new environment.

In our Foundation Stage, we strive to achieve the following aims:

- Create a safe, secure, stimulating learning environment which meets the individual needs and interests of all our children.
- Provide opportunities through play, which encourage children to develop emotionally, socially, intellectually and physically.
- Promote good standards of behaviour and interaction with other children and adults.
- Develop and maintain good partnerships with parents and carers.
- Continue to build upon what the child has already learned at home, broadening their range of

learning experiences and stimulating their curiosity and imagination.

- Enable each child to develop as a happy, confident and independent learner with a well-developed sense of self-worth, responsibility and community.



The Foundation Stage Curriculum

Throughout your child's time in Nursery and Reception they will be following the curriculum for the Early Years Foundation Stage, working towards the Early Learning Goals by the end of Reception. This curriculum outlines standards for learning and development for all children aged 0-5 and is organised into seven areas of learning:

Personal, Social and Emotional development:

Developing independence, confidence, making friends and getting on with other children and telling others how you feel and what you like.

Physical Development: Encouraging an enjoyment of active play and gaining confidence in movement, energetic activity indoors and outdoors, development of skills such as running, throwing, climbing, learning how to make delicate movements with fingers and hands and finding out about health and fitness.

Communication and Language: The development of listening skills, learning to enjoy stories and rhymes, developing their understanding of language and their speaking skills.



Literacy: Developing skills in reading and writing.

Mathematics: Using number names in play, playing counting games, and experimenting with shapes and measure.



Understanding the World: Encouraging children to use their five senses to notice things in the world around them, finding out about people or places in the local community, designing and making things, learning about animals and plants and how to look after them.

Expressive Arts and Design: Children are given the opportunity to learn to express ideas and feelings through painting, drawing and modelling, acting out different situations, singing and making music and movement and dance.

We teach the Early Years curriculum through a topic centred approach. Each term we have a focus topic that we plan to meet the needs of the children and stimulate their interest for learning. Each topic covers the seven areas of the curriculum and exploits opportunities for exciting learning opportunities both in school and on regular outings.



The Environment

Nursery and Reception have inside and outside areas for all children to explore. Our classrooms are well resourced and offer spacious areas for learning. The inside area is set out each day with a variety of activities such as small construction, writing materials, messy play activities, imaginative play, sand, investigative activities, puzzles, books and role play areas.



Reception Classroom

The outside area is open all year round, in all types of weather with shelters to protect from the elements. The outside areas offer unique opportunities to develop social and linguistic skills for getting on with others, (e.g. learning to share, taking turns etc) and for learning on a larger scale than is possible inside. There are large scale climbing structures that offer challenge for the children's physical development and role play opportunities.



Nursery Outdoor Area



Reception Outdoor Area

The children can choose to go outside at regular times throughout the day. Children have free access to all areas and will be encouraged to be as independent as possible. Adults will be on hand to support children in their play and learning and lead specific activities inside and out.

A Day in Nursery...

8.50-9.00 - Children are dropped at the Nursery by parents and settled for inside play.

9.30 - First carpet session initially with a getting to know each other focus, then leading onto a phonics focus.

9.45- 11.30 - Extended play both inside and outside. A fruit snack, milk and water are served during this time.

11.30 - Story time and lunch preparation

12.00 - Lunchtime. Children eat in the Nursery.

1.30-2.00 - Carpet time with a Mathematics focus.

2.00-3.10 - Extended play both inside and outside.

3.10-3.30 - End of day songs, stories and games.

The Nursery is a fun, happy and loving environment in which every child is supported to feel safe and secure, allowing them to achieve their best. We create a stimulating program of learning and exciting space for each child to develop in. We plan according to children's interests and developmental needs, supporting them to build on and to extend their ideas in a creative way. We aim to develop independence, self-confidence and caring attitudes which will help children to acquire lifelong learning skills.



Nursery Classroom

A Day in Reception

8.30-9am - Children and parents are welcome to arrive during this time, explore carpet activities and settle in for the day at school.

9am - Register and short carpet session usually with a literacy or maths focus, followed by a variety of activities at tables and outside.

10am Assembly - These are in the hall and can have a story focus or it may be a singing or a class assembly

10.30-10.45 - Playtime - We go to the Infant playground and here we can enjoy a fruit or vegetable snack and get a drink (although we have water available throughout the day in class).

10.45 - Short carpet session with a maths or literacy focus followed by activities inside and outside.

11.30 - Phonics and Reading - The children have a short teaching session to learn and revise our focus sounds and then opportunities to develop their reading and writing skills in a range of activities.

12pm - We get ready for lunch by washing our hands and collecting any coats, etc and listening to a story.

12.15 - The children are collected for lunch by one of our lovely lunchtime supervisors. In the hall the children are supported when choosing their lunch and carrying it to their table where they can eat with their friends before going into the Infant playground to play and explore the climbing equipment.



The Infant Playground

1.30 - Register and short carpet session followed by a range of different activities inside and outside to explore.

2.50 - Tidying up and then story and singing time on the carpet.

3.30pm - The children can be collected from our outside area. Please encourage your child not to play on the climbing frame at this time and leave alone any activities that are set up for the following day.

Activities such as PE and singing also have dedicated time slots within the week. For PE your child does not need a PE kit.

In Reception we are slowly preparing the children for more formal learning as they progress through key stage 1 and 2. It is still vital for children of this age to explore and learn through play, developing key personal, social and emotional skills. For this reason we ensure a balance of child initiated activities to engage the children with an increase in more adult led, directed tasks as the year progresses.

Book bags

All children need a book bag and these can be purchased from the school office. Once your child has a book bag, they can choose books to borrow from Nursery and Reception. In Reception, the children will also have weekly reading books to share with you and a reading diary for adults to make comments and discuss reading progress.

Early Years Portfolios

Every child in the EYFS has a portfolio of work that builds throughout their time in the Foundation Stage to create a learning journey. This includes photos, pieces of work and observations of your child to demonstrate their learning and development of key skills. All children will have times where they are focus children. This means that their portfolio will be focused on and you will have opportunities to look through and feed into this through our 'At Home' slips. These are intended as a way for you to tell staff more about what your child enjoys out of school, any special events or activities they have taken part in and any particular interests they may have.

Parental Involvement

At Fleet we encourage parents to be active participants in school life and have a number of school events, class teas and workshops throughout the year.



Parent Reading Morning

We also employ an open door policy. Classrooms are open from 8.30am to give you an opportunity to settle your child and spend time in the classroom. It also allows for you to speak to your child's teacher about any concerns or queries you may have.

We invite parents in once a term for parent appointments to discuss how your child is settling and progressing. Please ensure you attend these meetings as they are very valuable.

Throughout the year there are a number of ways to get involved such as reading and phonics mornings, maths sessions and accompanying us on outings. Do please let us know if you have any special skills that you could share with us too!

Fleet Events

Some of the exciting events you are welcome to attend through the year are International Food Evening where everyone brings a dish to share, music assemblies, curriculum evenings, the school disco and our lovely Christmas and summer fairs. Each class also holds a class tea each term. Parents and carers donate delicious cakes, biscuits and snacks and help sell these after school. Class teas take place on Thursdays in the hall and are a great way to get to know the school community. Money raised from the teas goes towards funding class trips. Reception also perform a class assembly in the summer term.



Reception's Noah's Ark Assembly

If you are eager to get involved, the Parent Association is always eager for new members. Also each class has at least two class reps to help organise class teas and stalls at the fairs. Please do let us know if you are interested in volunteering for these roles.

Out of Hours Services

We run a breakfast club on site that runs from 8 - 8.45 am and have an off-site after school club located at Three Acres. Please speak to the office staff or look on our school website for more information on these.

Outings

We pride ourselves on getting out and about regularly at Fleet. We aim to go on a wide range of topic related trips throughout the year as outings are a wonderful way of stimulating interest in learning and developing an awareness of the world. Some outings are based in the local area and others are further afield; both making the most of the wonderful resources and experiences London has to offer. We often ask for parent helpers to accompany us and lend a hand and we aim to use public transport wherever possible. As our school outings are subsidised by our wonderful parent association and class teas, we ask for a contribution of only £1 for most trips, although very occasionally there may be a more expensive trip that we ask for a larger contribution.

For our outings, children may require a packed lunch. These should include no glass bottles, fizzy drinks, sweets, chocolate or nuts. Trips are a very important part of our provision and we encourage all children to attend.



A trip to London Zoo

Helping your Child

There are many ways to support your child settle in at school and develop a love of learning. Ensuring your child is at school and arrives before the bell goes at 9am is a good way for them to start their day. If your child is unwell, please call the school office on 020 7485 2028 to inform us.

There are many ways to help your child continue their learning outside of school such as encouraging your child to look for numbers and letters they recognise in the world around them eg familiar signs, bus and door numbers, reading and enjoying stories, puzzles and games together, helping with the shopping and making shopping lists. Please do ask for more ideas as staff are always willing to offer support and advice.

We are excited to be welcoming you and your child to our Early Years Foundation Stage. We hope you enjoy your time with us.

