

Early Years Foundation Stage

Welcome Booklet



Introduction

Welcome to the Early Years Foundation Stage at Fleet.

Starting school marks a new and exciting stage of life for both children and parents. We are very pleased to have you start that journey with us!

This booklet is intended to inform you about our Foundation Stage and provide you with information to help ensure your child settles happily into their new environment.

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

- 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 your 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 learners with a well-developed sense of self-worth, responsibility and community.

The Foundation Stage National Curriculum

Throughout your child's time in Nursery and Reception they will be following *Development Matters* a curriculum for the Early Years Foundation Stage. They will be working towards 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 and self-awareness. Supporting children to build positive relationships, manage themselves as well as learning to self-regulate.

Physical Development

Encouraging active play and confidence in movement. Energetic activity indoors and outdoors, development of skills such as running, jumping, throwing and climbing as well as learning how to make delicate movements with fingers and hands.





Communication and Language

The development of listening and attention skills, understanding of language and speaking skills.

Literacy

Developing skill in phonics, reading and writing.



Mathematics

Using number names in play, playing maths games, recognising numbers, learning about addition and subtraction and experimenting with patterns, shapes and measure.

Understanding the World

Encouraging children to use their senses to make observations of the world around them and engage in basic scientific enquiry. Finding out about people and places, learning about the past and present as well as plants and animals.



Expressive Arts and Design

Children are given the opportunity to express their ideas creativity through painting, drawing, modelling, drama, singing, music and dance.



Topic Based Curriculum

We teach through a topic-based approach. Each term we have a topic that we know will stimulate interest and excitement in learning.

Each topic covers the seven areas of the curriculum. Along with each topic, we regularly plan and facilitate learning opportunities based on the interests of the children.

The Environments

Nursery and Reception have lovely indoor and outdoor areas for the children to explore. Our classrooms are well resourced, offer spacious areas for learning and celebrate current learning through beautiful displays.

The inside areas are set out each day with a variety of exciting activities such as small world play, construction, writing materials, messy play, imaginative play, sand, investigative activities, puzzles, books and role play areas.



The outside area is open year round, in all weather, with shelters to protect from the elements. As well as being a reflection of the indoor environment, the outside areas offer unique opportunities to work on a larger scale, develop social and linguistic skills as the children are consistently learning to share and take turns.

There are large scale climbing structures that offer challenge for the children's physical development and role play opportunities.

The Nursery Outdoor Area



The Reception Outdoor Area



Children have free access to all areas and are encouraged to be as independent as possible.

Adults will be on hand to support play and learning by leading activities, supporting language development and facilitating ideas.

A Day in Nursery

Children are dropped off at the Nursery and settle to activities on the carpet. The day starts with a carpet session.



After a little time settling to activities inside, the outdoor area is opened for free flow play.



A fruit snack, milk and water are served midmorning.

Before lunch, there is a second carpet session. The children then prepare for lunch by going to the toilet and washing their hands.

Initially at lunchtime, the children eat in the Nursery. In the

summer term, they eat in the hall to help support their transition into Reception.

After lunch and a little play in the garden, there is a third carpet session. At the start of the school year, this is used as a quiet time to give the children an opportunity to have a rest.

For the rest of the afternoon, there is extended play based learning, both inside and outside.

The children come to the carpet at the end of day for songs, stories and games.



The Nursery Classroom



A Day in Reception

Children are dropped off and settle to the activities on the carpet.

The day starts with a carpet session, usually with a Literacy focus, followed by a variety of activities inside and outside.

At midmorning, the children have story and snack time. They can enjoy a fruit or vegetable snack and a drink of water.

This is followed by a phonics session and guided reading. The children then prepare for lunch, listen to a story or sing a few songs.



Depending on Covid restrictions, the children will eat their lunch in the hall then play in the infant playground. If we are required to maintain class bubbles, the children will eat their lunch in the classroom.

The Infant Playground



After lunch there is a Maths carpet session, followed by a range of activities inside and outside.

The day finishes with a celebration of what has been achieved thought-out the day, a story and songs.



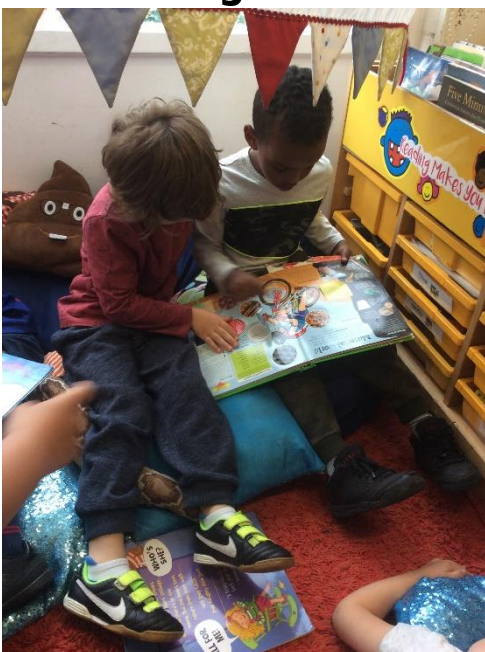
The children are collected from the outdoor area at hometime. Please remind your child not to play on the climbing frame after school and to leave any activities that are set up for the following day.

Activities such as PE and singing also have dedicated time slots within the week. You will be informed of what days these activities are happening when school starts in September. Your child does not need a PE kit but it's a good idea to get into the habit of wearing comfortable clothes and shoes.

The Reception Classroom



Book Bags



All children need a book bag and these can be purchased from the school office at the cost of £3.50.

Once your child has a book bag, they can choose books to borrow from the class book corners.

In Nursery, the children are free to self-select books as and when they like. In Reception, the children have an

allocated reading day where they are given 2 guided reading books to read at home for the week. These are recorded in a reading diary and your comments are greatly appreciated in these too. The children are welcome to choose picture books from the book corner as they please.

Early Years Portfolios

Every child in the EYFS has a portfolio of work that celebrates their time in the Early Years. These beautiful books include photos, pieces of work and observations of your child to demonstrate their learning and development of key skills. Portfolios will be available for parents to look through during parent meetings. We also encourage parents to contribute to portfolios with 'At Home' slips. These are 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 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, open mornings, class teas and workshops throughout the year.

We are hoping that we will be able to return to these next year if Covid restrictions are eased.

Class teachers will greet you every morning and will have a little time for you to ask any questions and to share any concerns.

As this can be quite a busy time, please let us know or the office know if you would like more time to talk after school or over

the phone.

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

If you are eager to get involved more in the school community, the Parent Association is always looking for new members. Each class has at least two class reps that help organise class teas and stalls at the fairs. Please do let us know if you are interested in volunteering.

Our School Governors also have an active role in our school community and have a wide range of responsibilities. The governing body is made up of our head, parents, teaching and support staff as well as members of the local community. Information can be found on our website if you would like know more or contact the Governors.

Communication

We communicate with parents and families about upcoming events and information via the *Parent Hub* app. You will need to download this from your App or Google Play store. Weekly newsletters are sent out via the app and are also available on the school website.

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 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 other parents and carers. Money raised from the teas goes towards funding class trips.

Outings

We pride ourselves at Fleet on getting out and about regularly on fun and exciting trips.

We go on a wide range of topic related trips throughout the year, as outings are a wonderful way of stimulating interest around our learning.

Some outings are based in the local area and could simply be visiting local shops or the Heath. Others are further afield; making the most of the wonderful resources London and our local area has to offer!

We have missed our outings this past year due to Covid and hope to be able to offer these rich experiences again in the new academic year.



We do expect children to attend all trips as they are often a stimulus for the learning that follows on the classroom and these. As well as trips, we frequently have visitors to school to supplement our curriculum.



We ask for parent helpers to accompany us and lend a hand and we aim to use public transport wherever possible.

Our school outings are funded from the school budget with subsidies from parent association fund raising through class teas and other events. To make up the shortfall and allow these trips to happen, we also ask for a voluntary contribution for trips, usually of no more than £2.

For our outings, children may require a packed lunch. We will let you know well in advance if this is the case. Packed lunches should not include glass bottles, fizzy drinks, sweets, chocolate or nuts.

You can also let the school office know if you would prefer a packed lunch to be made by the school kitchen for a charge of

£2.24 for Nursery children, free for Reception under the universal schools meals scheme.

Out of Hours Services

We run a breakfast club available to Reception children on site that runs from 8.00 – 8.45 at the cost of £1.00 per session.

There is a local after school club, *Three Acres* that collects children from school for those who need wrap around care. The office staff will be able to provide you with more information regarding this.

Helping your Child

Ensuring your child is at school on time is a great way for them to start their day.

There are many ways to help your child continue their learning outside of school. Reading to them is vital! Other worthwhile activities include; encouraging them to look for numbers and letters in the world around them, puzzles and games, helping with the shopping, making lists and drawing.

Please do ask for more ideas as staff are always willing to offer support and advice.

General Housekeeping

- If your child is unwell, please call the school office on 020 7485 2028 to inform us.
- Please let us know if someone different will be collecting your child.

- Please keep a change of clothes at school in case your child has an accident or gets mucky for whatever reason.
- Please dress your child for the weather. Warm coats in the winter and sunhats in the summer.
- We are a nut free school and have a healthy eating policy for packed lunches. Please ask if you are unsure about any food items for packed lunches.

We are excited to be welcoming you and your child to our Early Years Foundation Stage.



Fleet Primary School

would like you to join their channel on Parent Hub.

Just tap “Add a School ” in the app and enter the handle below...

@FleetPrimary

The Parent Hub app is FREE to download and use.



What is Parent Hub?



Parent Hub is a FREE app that helps keep you up to date with what's going on at school. You'll receive messages, pictures, documents and newsletters, all in one handy place.

Instructions for Parents



1. Download the Parent Hub app from your app store (iPhone or Android).
2. Create yourself an account.
3. Choose “Add a School” and enter the school handle (above).

Visit www.parenthub.co.uk to find out more