

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 learner 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 with others. The children will learn self-regulation skills through co-regulation with adults, labelling their emotions and develop strategies to know what to do with big feelings.



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.

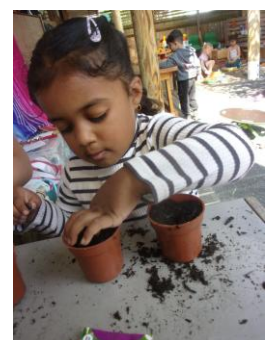
Mathematics

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

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 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 up each day with a variety of exciting activities such as small world play, construction, writing materials, messy play, imaginative play, investigative activities, puzzles, books and role play areas.

The outside area is open all year round, in all weather, with shelters to protect from the elements. The outside areas offer unique opportunities to work on a larger scale, developing social and linguistic skills as the children are



consistently learning to work collaboratively with their peers. 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 both the inside and outside areas for the majority of the day. Adults are on hand to support play and learning by leading activities, supporting language development and facilitating ideas.

A Day in Nursery

Children start their day by spending time settling into the environment and exploring the play opportunities on offer. Once everyone has arrived and said goodbye to their adults, the children have a session in Carpet Kingdom - our carpet area, where we share stories and talk about the different activities the children can choose to do.

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



Fruit and vegetable snacks and water/milk are served midmorning, with an adult supporting the children as they prepare and eat their snack.

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

The children eat in the school hall and are well supported by lots of adults during this time. After lunch, the children return to Nursery.

After lunch and a little play in the garden, there is a third carpet session. 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. Nursery finishes at 3.20pm.



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.

The children eat their lunch in the hall and then have a play in the playground, supported by familiar adults.

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 3.30.

Activities such as PE and singing also have dedicated time slots within the week.

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



Lunches – Nursery

Lunch costs £2.97 per day. However, if you think you may be entitled to Free School Meals, you should apply via:

<https://accountforms.camden.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals/>.



Lunches – Reception

Lunches are free in Reception under the Mayors Universal Meals scheme. Even though your child is receiving their free school meals automatically, it is still vitally important – if you have not done so already – to complete a short

registration form in case your child is eligible for extra funding for their school from the Government, worth over £1,300 per year. That's more money for extracurricular activities, teacher development and support for children who need it most. This will ensure

you'll also receive any other benefits you may be entitled to, like food vouchers during the holidays, discounts on clubs and residential trips. Please apply here:

<https://accountforms.camden.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals/>

FREE FLEET BOOK BAG – if you apply for Free School Meals (even if you are not eligible), we will give you a **FREE** book bag anyway! Just show us you have applied.

Reading



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

In Nursery, the children can choose books to borrow and share with you at home.

In Reception, the children have a reading book they read with an adult three times over a week. The first read focuses on decoding, the second read focuses on reading with expression and the third focuses on comprehension. They then will take their book home to share with you. By this point, they should be reading it confidently and fluently. The books we use are very expensive, around £5 each so please take good care of them and make sure they are returned on their changing day. The children are also welcome to choose picture books from the book corner.

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.



Parental Involvement

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

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

As this can be quite a busy time, please let us 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 school events. Please 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 Executive Head, Head of School, parents, teaching and support staff as well as members of the local community. Information can be found on our website if you would like to know more.

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 throughout the year are; our Eid celebration, music assemblies, curriculum events, the school disco and our lovely winter and summer fairs. We also have whole school tea sales each term.



Parents and carers donate cakes, biscuits and snacks and help sell these after school. They are a great way to get to know other parents and carers. Money raised from school events goes towards funding class trips and other opportunities for the children.



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 do expect children to attend all trips as they are often a stimulus for the learning that follows on in the classroom.

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. Trip dates are shared with you in the school newsletter and through the Parenthub app.

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 a few pounds.



For our outings, children may require a packed lunch. We will let you know well in advance if this is the case.

You can also let the school office know if you would like a packed lunch to be made by the school kitchen for a charge of £2.97 for Nursery children, free for Reception under the universal school meals scheme.

Out of Hours Services

We run a breakfast club available to Reception children on site that runs from 8.00 – 8.45am.

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. It means they have time to settle into the environment before carpet sessions begin.



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, playing with puzzles and games, helping with the shopping, making lists and drawing.

Encouraging your child's independence by teaching them how to put on their own coat, eat by themselves and go to the toilet independently helps them to feel in control during their time at school.

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 each day.
- 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, sunhats and suncream 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