

Welcome to Reception!

A Guide for Greenbank Parents and Carers



The Reception Curriculum



Children in the EYFS learn by playing and exploring, being active, and through creative and critical thinking which takes place both indoors and outside. This is a statutory curriculum that lays the foundations of learning needed for more the more formal routines of school. By the time children leave the Reception year they will be ready to begin a transition into the 'National Curriculum', the curriculum that begins in Year One and

continues until pupils leave secondary school. There curriculum is split into seven areas of learning which can be found below.

- **Personal, Social and Emotional Development:** This area of learning involves helping children to develop a positive sense of themselves and others; to form positive relationships and develop respect for others; to develop social skills and learn how to manage their feelings; to understand appropriate behaviour in groups and to have confidence in their own abilities.

- **Communication and Language:** This area of learning is about children having opportunities to experience a rich language environment; to develop their confidence and skills in expressing themselves; and to speak and listen in a range of situations.



- **Physical Development:** Physical development in the foundation stage is about improving skills of co-ordination, control, manipulation and movement. Children also learn how to make healthy choices in relation to food and exercise.



- **Literacy** involves encouraging children to link sounds and letters and to begin to read and write. Children must be given access to a wide range of reading materials (books, poems, and other written materials) to ignite their interest.



- **Mathematics** involves providing children with opportunities to develop and improve their skills in counting, understanding and using numbers, calculating simple addition and subtraction problems; and to describe shapes, spaces, and measures.

- **Understanding the World** involves guiding children to make sense of their physical world and their community through opportunities to explore, observe and find out about people, places, technology and the environment.



- **Expressive Arts and Design** involves enabling children to explore and play with a wide range of media and materials, as well as providing opportunities and encouragement for sharing their thoughts, ideas and feelings through a variety of activities in art, music, movement, dance, role-play and design and technology.

At the end of the reception year your child will be assessed against seventeen 'early learning goals' which will be taken from the above areas.

You can find the **Early Years Foundation Stage** which includes the Early learning Goals at www.foundationyears.org.uk

Reception Uniform

We expect that all children adhere to our uniform policy. Items are available to buy from Kitted Out on Allerton Road, 114 Allerton Road, Mossley Hill, L18 2DG.

Telephone: 0151 733 5533.

(<https://www.kittedoutschoolwear.co.uk/>) other items are easily available in local supermarkets and high street stores.

	Winter	Summer
Girls	Greenbank jumper/cardigan White collar shirt School tie Grey skirt or trousers Plain grey tights or socks Plain black school shoes (no logos) Greenbank coat	As winter but with the inclusion of summer dresses in the school colour

NB: Headscarves and hair accessories must be plain and in school colours

Boys	Greenbank jumper White collar shirt School tie Grey trousers Plain grey socks Black Velcro School Shoes Plain black school shoes (no logos) Greenbank coat	As winter but with the inclusion of grey shorts.
PE Kit	Greenbank polo shirt Maroon shorts or jogging bottoms Plain black pumps	

Please make sure all your child's belongings are clearly marked with their name as we have 60 children within the Reception area.

On PE days children attend school in their PE kit.

Other items available:

Greenbank caps

Please note:

- Long hair must be fastened back at all times.
- Acceptable jewellery includes: stud earrings only (any other items will be confiscated until the end of the school day).
- No make up, tattoos, transfers, drawings or nail varnish (religious observances will be respected)



Day to Day Information

There are many new routines for parents and children at the beginning of the school year. The following information may be useful during the first few months of school when everything is new!

What time does school start and finish?

- Doors open at 8.50am every morning and will close at 8.55am. All children must be in school by 8.55am when the register is taken. Please bring your children through the Early Years playground.
- Children need to be collected promptly at 3.15pm. Please wait opposite your child's classroom window so that you can easily be seen.

What do Reception children need?

- Coat
- School bag
- Gloves and scarf during winter

PLEASE ENSURE EVERYTHING IS NAMED!

Daily Routine

Each day children will take part in a Sounds Write (phonics), literacy and maths sessions. The rest of the day is devoted to the other areas of the early years curriculum. Early years follow a play based curriculum so children will have time throughout the day to choose their activities and to access the outdoor area.

School Dinners and Packed Lunches

Children will eat their lunch in our main hall supervised by members of staff. All infant children are entitled to a free school meal. Please encourage your child to take up this offer and to have one of our healthy school meals each day. All food is cooked from fresh and on site. Please sample menus on our school website.

Packed lunches may be brought to school in a suitable, named packed lunch box. Lunch boxes are stored in the children's classroom. Please ensure that an **appropriate** amount of food is provided in the lunch box. As part of our Healthy Schools Status we do encourage healthy eating, an example packed lunch would be a sandwich/rice/pasta, a piece of fruit, yoghurt and a drink.

Children have access to fresh water, milk and fruit every day. Please make sure that staff are aware of any dietary requirements your child may have e.g. vegetarian, allergies.

Attendance

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS REGARDING ATTENDANCE

We are a successful and happy school and your child will play their part in making it so. However, for our children to gain the greatest benefit from their education it is important that they attend regularly and on time every day. Our expected attendance is 97% for each child and we will monitor attendance closely. Parents have a legal responsibility to ensure their child has regular attendance at school.

Did you know that whilst children are in school they:

- Make new friends
- Learn and enjoy new experiences
- Feel safe and listened to
- Grow in confidence
- Take part in school trips, events, teams and clubs
- Can achieve their full potential
- Have better career prospects
- Learn how to look after themselves and be healthy
- Are made to feel special when they do well
- Are rewarded for good or improved attendance.

Remember: Unauthorised absence can lead to a penalty notice and fine

What happens if my child is ill?

If your child is seriously ill and unable to attend school you must:

- ✓ call the school office before 9.00
- ✓ give your child's name, class and reason for absence
- ✓ give the expected return to school date

If your child is ill for more than three days we advise you to take them to a Doctor.

A letter must be written upon your child's return to school giving the reason for the absence in order for the period to be authorised

If your child has a slight cough or cold they can come to school and we will monitor them. If your child is ill we will call you to let you know.

Holidays

Holidays /leave in term time are not permitted, except in exceptional circumstances. An application for holiday or leave must be made in writing for consideration from the head teacher.

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS REGARDING PUNCTUALITY

Why is punctuality such a good thing?

Being on time:

- Gets your child's day off to a good start and puts your child in a positive frame of mind, so that he/she can make the most of his/her learning;
- Sets positive patterns for the future;
- Leads to good attendance;
- Leads to better achievement;

- Leads to understanding that school is important and education is valuable;
- Helps your child develop a sense of responsibility for him/herself and towards others;
- Helps your child make friends and keep friends;
- Reaps rewards; it leads to success and self-confidence.

Why is lateness such a bad thing?

Being late:

- Gets your child's day off to a bad start;
- Is embarrassing for your child walking into a classroom when lessons have begun;
- Will be noticed by other children who might make negative comments;
- May lead to your child losing confidence;
- May lead to your child feeling confused all day! He/she may have missed out on vital instructions, information and news at the start of the day;
- Disrupts the lesson for everyone;
- Can cause your child to fall behind with his or her work – just arriving 15 minutes late a day equals 2 weeks' worth of lost learning a year!
- Creates a bad habit that can be hard to break at school
- Can lead to poor attendance – if your child thinks it is okay to be late for school they can soon start to think it is okay not to go to school at all.

Types of lateness:

- Late before register closes – when your child is a few minutes late;
- Late after register closes – this counts as an unauthorised absence.

Remember:

Late arrival that creates unauthorised absence can result in you receiving a Penalty Notice or action being taken in the Magistrates Court.

What happens if my child has an accident?

The school has several qualified first aiders on the staff that will deal with your child. If your child requires emergency treatment an ambulance will be called. A member of staff will accompany your child to the hospital, remaining with them until you arrive.

Medical needs

If your child has any medical needs please contact the welfare officer, Mrs Garnett.