



Starting Reception at Woodside School

Parent/Carer information

Welcome to Woodside School! We are very much looking forward to welcoming you and your child to Woodside School in September 2021. This booklet contains the important information you need about your child starting Reception in our school.

The Early Years Foundation Stage

The Reception year is the final stage of your child's learning and development in the Early Years Foundation Stage. They will continue to learn skills, acquire knowledge and demonstrate their understanding through seven areas of learning and development. These areas are:

The Prime Areas

Personal, social and emotional development – Self-Regulation, Managing Self and Building Relationships.

Communication and language – Listening, Attention and Understanding and Speaking.

Physical development – Gross Motor Skills and Fine Motor Skills.

The Specific Areas

Literacy- Comprehension, Word Reading and Writing.

Mathematics – Number and Numerical Patterns.

Understanding the world – Past and Present, People, Culture and Communities and The Natural World.

Expressive arts and design – Creating with Materials, Being imaginative and Expressive.

These seven areas of learning are used to plan your child's learning and activities in Reception. Children in the early years learn by playing and exploring, being active and though creative and critical thinking, both indoors and outdoors, and all activities are planned with this in mind.

Assessment

Assessments are made throughout the year and are based on observations and our knowledge of the whole child. Each child is expected to achieve a 'good level of development' at the end of their Reception year. To achieve this, they must attain the early learning goal in all three prime areas and literacy and mathematics. The early learning goals can be found on our website - <http://woodsideschool.co.uk>

We hold parent/carers consultation meetings in the autumn and spring terms. These meetings provide you with an opportunity to discuss your child's progress with their class teacher.

EExAT

We use a system called EExAT to track the progress your child is making throughout their reception year. It is an electronic tracker and observation tool in which we capture written, photographic and/or video observations of your child's learning. We are able to share some of these observations with you through the system.

You can also upload written, photographic and/or video observations of your child's learning at home to share with us. You will be given a unique code for your child during the Autumn term to enable you to register on the system. If your child attends our Nursery, you will have been using this system already and your username and password will stay the same.

The Reception classes

We have three Reception classes. They are:

RRH – Mrs Ruth Holmes (Reception leader and class teacher), supported by Mrs Hayley Brown and Miss Sam Davidson

RSC – Miss Sarah Cope (class teacher), supported by Mrs Fiona Kennard

RJO/CW – Miss Jennifer Owen (class teacher Weds-Fri) and Ms Ceri Roberts (class teacher Monday and Tuesday) supported by Mrs Kerry Whyte

A typical day in Reception

8:30am School day starts

9:00am Adult led learning time

9:30am Child initiated learning time and snack (indoors and outdoors)

11:30am Adult led learning time

12:00pm Lunch

1:00pm Registration and Adult led learning time

1:30pm Child initiated learning time (indoors and outdoors)

2:30pm Home time

Our adult led learning times are when we learn new things, build on things we already know and practice different skills in a number of the different areas of learning including literacy, mathematics, letters and sounds, handwriting etc. Our school day changes as the year progresses.

Additional opportunities

During the year the children have access to a wide range of additional opportunities to support their learning and development.

Mrs Brown is a Forest School Leader and this enables each class to have Forest School during the year. You will receive a letter before your child starts their Forest School sessions to let you know what they will need to bring in/wear for Forest School.

We also visit our fantastic school library each week where the children listen to stories, learn how to use a library and can borrow a book to bring home to share with you.

We hope we will be able to run an after-school club one afternoon a week each half term. In previous years we have had a Music Club, Christmas craft club, Yoga club and a Board Games club. A gardening club has also run during the Summer term.

Uniform

Our pupil dress code is on our website – <http://woodsideschool.co.uk>

As we spend some of our time learning outdoors it is important that we are able to do so in all weathers. Please ensure that your child has wellies and waterproof trousers or a waterproof all-in-one that can be left in school to enable them to stay clean and dry when learning outdoors.

Please ensure that all items of clothing are clearly labelled with your child's name including shoes, trainers and wellies.

PE Kit

Our PE sessions are taught by specialist coaches and they are always great fun! Your child will need a PE kit:

White t-shirt
Black shorts
Tracksuit bottoms (plain)
Tracksuit jumper/zip up jacket (plain)
Trainers
Socks
PE Bag

Your child will come to school in their PE kit on their PE day and bring their school inform in their bag to change into afterwards. We will let you know in September when your child will have PE.

Please ensure all items of clothing, trainers and PE bag are clearly labelled with your child's name.

Lunchtime

You can decide each day whether you would like your child to have a hot dinner or bring their own packed lunch. We operate a healthy eating policy in school, therefore if they are bringing a packed lunch please ensure it is a healthy lunchbox. Sweets, chocolate bars and fizzy drinks are not allowed.

Currently all children in Reception, Year One and Year Two are entitled to a free hot lunch each day.

Water bottles

Snack is provided in Reception each day. This consists of fruit and milk or water. Your child can bring their own drinks bottle into school if they wish which they can access throughout the school day. However, it must contain water.

Expectations at school

There are a number of things we ask of the children in school to ensure that our classrooms are happy, conducive to learning and encourage a growing independence. While they are at school we expect all children to be able to:

- Do what they are told by an adult
- Co-operate and share with their friends
- Be responsible for looking after our resources
- Understand that there are quieter times during the day to listen and learn and noisier times to play.
- Regularly take books home to share.
- Leave their toys at home
- Concentrate for longer periods of time
- Follow school and class rules for behaviour and learning
- Go to the toilet independently
- Put on their coat independently and have a go at fastening it
- Be able to change for PE.

Getting your child ready for school

There are a number of things you can do to help your child get ready to start school. You can talk to them about school and what to expect. Reassure your child that there are lots of new children starting school and they are not on their own. Share positive books and stories about starting school. Talk to your child about how they will come into school with you on the first day and how you (or another carer) will be waiting for them at home time. Finally, you can talk to them about what is expected of them at school and practice some of the skills and expectations set out in the previous section.

Any Further Questions

If you have any questions you can contact Mrs Ruth Holmes (Reception Leader and teacher) on: 01691652446 or admin@woodside.shropshire.sch.uk