

Chadsmead Primary Academy

Welcome To
Early Years
Foundation Stage
2020



Settling in:

We hope that both you and your child are looking forward to coming to school. If anything is worrying you, please get in touch; we are used to parents being anxious about new beginnings for their children and we recognise that you know your child best. Talking to staff about your concerns will usually reassure you and help you to help your child. It is also helpful for staff to know any concerns you may have so that we can do as much as possible to help you.

We aim to work with you to support you and your child so that the settling in process is as pleasant as possible.

Please send in a couple of spare change of clothes which can be kept in school – sometimes children have accidents such as getting wet in the water or paint as well as on the toilet!

Clothing:

The children are encouraged to wear school uniform, it gives them a sense of identity as part of a community and helps to keep their own clothes clean!

Please try and dress your child in clothes and footwear that can be easily managed – it improves a child's confidence if they can cope with their own clothes. It is recommended that you provide your child with school shoes that do up with Velcro instead of laces until they are able to tie their own!

Please **label all your child's items of clothing**, which will help us to ensure everyone comes home with the right clothes every day!



Please also be aware that the children will be offered opportunities to take part in messy play; whilst they wear aprons there is always the possibility that they may still get messy, however, we do ensure that all paint etc used is safe and easily washed out of clothes.

It would be useful to send your child to school with a spare change of clothes if possible. Children have the opportunities in school to play with paint, water and sand and although aprons are worn accidents happen and they may need to get changed out of wet clothes!

P.E

Early Years will have a weekly P.E session which will take place in either our infant hall or outside on the infant playground. We kindly ask that children have a P.E kit that remains in school on their pegs at all times. Their P.E should consist of shorts and a t-shirt, pumps or trainers for indoor P.E and we advise parents to include jogging bottoms/leggings and jacket should P.E be completed outside.

Foundation Forest

Every week the children will have a forest day. This is a wonderful opportunity to engage in learning outside of the classroom. We kindly ask that you provide a pair of wellington boots for the children to wear on their forest day. These can be left at school on your child's peg or brought into school on a weekly basis. Wellingtons are vital as we will go to the forest in all weathers and in wet conditions the grounds can become very muddy. We also advise parents to send their child into school with an appropriate coat and some old clothes.

Book bags- these are available from the office or any school clothing outlet. Please make sure your child brings a clearly labeled blue book bag to school **every day**. This will be used for letters to go home, sound cards, name cards, art work etc

Daily Routines:

We encourage the children to become as independent as possible; the environment is organised so that the children can access all the resources and equipment for themselves.

We hope you can help us to support your child's independence skills in the following ways:

- Self registering when they arrive – the children find their own name and display it on the register board so we know they are here!
- By hanging up their own coats and bags / lunch bags.
- Finding their own name cards.

Snack

Snack is provided as a free choice snack where children choose when they would like snack. Children are provided with a variety of fruit and a carton of milk. The children's brain juice (water) is made available to them throughout the school day if they do not wish to drink milk.

A brief Foundation Stage Curriculum overview

The Foundation stage curriculum comprises of the Characteristics of Effective Learning and the prime and specific areas. The ways in which a child engages with other people and their environment through playing and exploring, active learning and creating and critical thinking make up the Characteristics of Effective Learning. These aspects of learning underpin a child's development across all areas of our curriculum.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

This relates to how the children make and maintain relationships, their individual self-confidence and self-awareness in different contexts and how they manage their feelings and behaviours in different situations.

Physical Development

Children learn to move confidently and imaginatively, with increased control and coordination and develop fine and gross motor skills. The children have the opportunity to play outside with bikes, scooters, balls and skipping ropes and inside with sand, water, paint and puzzles, etc which all build up fine motor and gross motor skills. Children will take part in PE lessons both outside and in the hall. Lessons will include movement and music as well as using the apparatus.

Communication and Language

This underpins the level of speaking, attention and understanding the children demonstrate during their learning. It also comprises of each child's level of attention and how they apply what they have learned.

Literacy and Maths

These focus on children's reading, writing, number, shape, space and measure skills.

Understanding the World

This part of the curriculum is where children find out why things happen and how things work, learn about their environment and where they live, look at change (ie weather, life cycles, seasons etc) and experience ICT in its many forms. They are encouraged to ask questions about the things they see around them and explore their surroundings. They will also learn about different cultures and beliefs.

Expressive Arts and Design

This involves learning aspects related to Music, Drama, Dance, Art, role play, using materials and being imaginative in different contexts.

Talk Sheets

Every Friday your child will be sent home with a talk sheet. These sheets will provide parents with an overview of the activities that the children have completed during their week at school, dates and important pieces of information linked to school activities.

Learning Journeys

The children will have their own learning journeys which are a record of their learning at school. These learning journeys will consist of observations and photographs of the children's experiences in the classroom. We will endeavour to share learning journeys with you at intervals throughout the year including parents evening.

Workshops

Every half term we hold themed workshops for parents and carers to attend. These workshops are wonderful opportunities to come into school and experience some of the exciting activities that the children complete on a daily basis. Our first workshop will take place during the Autumn term and will be a 'Stay and Play' session.

<p>If you have any questions or concerns about the above information, please feel free to come and chat to a member of the Early Years Team.</p>
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