

Welcome Parents/Carers of

to Reception at



Woodfield Primary School, Gurney
Road, Balby, DN4 8LA

Headteacher: Helen Harrison

Head of Early Years: Sarah Watson

T: 01302 853289

Email: admin@woodfield.doncaster.sch.uk

Website: www.woodfieldprimaryschool.co.uk

We are very happy that you have chosen for your child to come to our school Reception in September. Starting full time school is a very exciting time for you and your child. In this booklet you will find all the information you need to make this a smooth transition and we would like to make it as comfortable as possible



The School Day

Your child will be starting school on Wednesday 6th September and will undertake a staggered start to ensure that they are transitioned effectively. Their sessions will be as follows:

- Weds 6th Sept- Fri 8th Sept children to attend 8.45am-11.45am
- Mon 11th Sept- Fri 15th Sept children to attend 8.45am-12.45pm including school lunch
- Mon 18th Sept onwards children to attend full time.

Full time hours are:

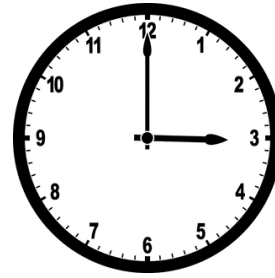


Start time:

8.45am

Pick up time:

3.00pm



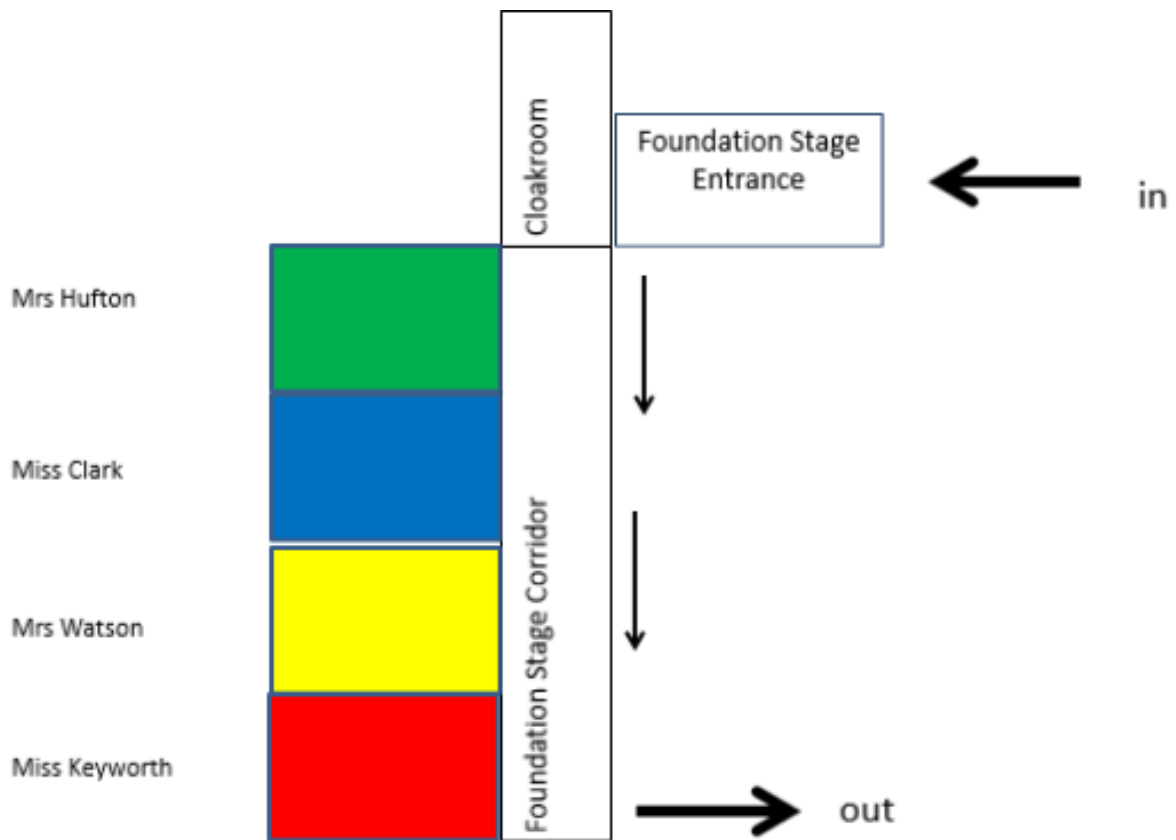
You will drop your child off at the Foundation Stage Entrance and collect them through the same entrance.

We aim to develop independence in our children from the moment they arrive at school, so we ask that you hand your child over to the staff who will greet you at the door. We are all experienced at settling children and more often than not, if they are upset, they are already calm by the time their parent has gone through the school gate. Don't worry if your child is teary- this is perfectly normal and all children are different.

Our best advice is that even if you are anxious about leaving your child, try not to show them. Make the handover a positive one and walk away.

We are always happy to talk through any questions or queries you may have, but, we find that first thing in the morning is not always the best time as it can be very busy. If you can wait until pick up time, we will have more time to talk to you. Obviously there are always going to be times when you need to speak to staff more urgently and this can be accommodated.

At hometime, your child will be in their colour group and the location of their group is indicated on the map below.



****Please note that Mrs Watson will be available at the exit door at the end of each day rather than in yellow room should you have any queries.**

Early Years Team

Here at Woodfield, we believe that it is important for children to make relationships with a range of adults. As they are free to explore the unit they will work alongside all members of our team. Each colour group has a key adult who will be responsible for putting together your child's learning journey throughout their time with us,

however, they will not be the only adult who supports your child and as such we do not refer to your child as having a specific teacher. All key adults will handover your child at the end of the day with the exception of yellow group as Mrs Watson will be at the exit door.

Here are all the adults who will work with your child:



Mrs Sarah Watson
Head of Early Years
and Class Teacher

Miss Janine Keyworth
Class Teacher



Miss Natalie Clark
Class Teacher

Mrs Dawn Hufton
Nursery Nurse





Mrs Nikki Massey

LSA

Mrs Diane Silman

LSA



Uniform

We encourage all our children to wear school uniform, some clothes and footwear are just not suitable for school. We need our children to be able to run and climb and get their clothes dirty with paint, glue, mud etc. Getting messy is all part of the learning experience! Please could we ask that you clearly label your child's cardigans, jumpers and coats as this helps us to make sure they bring their own clothing home at the end of the day.

Our school uniform is:

- Grey or black trousers/skirt/pinafore dress
- Navy blue jumper or cardigan
- Blue or white polo shirt or shirt
- Black shoes
- Smart, warm coat



There is no need to buy a book bag, P.E. kit or water bottle whilst your child is in the Early Years.

There are three ways to order uniform.

- You can either log onto the School Trends website www.schooltrends.co.uk and order uniform direct.
- You complete an order form (available from the main office) and return it along with payment in full and we will post off your order.
- You complete an order form (attached below) and post it directly to School Trends along with a cheque for payment in full. School Trend's address is:- School Trends, 10 Carley Drive, Westfield, Sheffield, S20 8NQ

School Dinners

All children in Reception will be provided with a free school meal each day. If your child has any specific dietary requirements please let office staff know.



Our Curriculum

At Woodfield Primary School, we deliver a curriculum based on the framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage. This describes the seven areas of learning and development which “must be implemented through planned, purposeful play”.

The framework also states that “Practitioners must respond to each child’s emerging needs and interests, guiding their development through warm, positive interaction.” We have a fantastic team of adults who put this into practice every day.

In addition the framework describes “Three characteristics of effective teaching and learning ... playing and exploring ... active learning and creating and thinking critically.” These describe exactly the approach we take to learning in the Early Years at Woodfield Primary School.

Throughout the year the Reception children play, make friends, develop and learn. They have great fun, exploring and creating, indoors and outside. They gain independence and confidence and their natural curiosity is encouraged at all times.

At the end of their time in the Early Years staff complete the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile for each child

assessing whether they have reached 17 Early Learning Goals.



Focus Children

We operate a system based on focus children rather than focus activities. The child is not called from their play to come to the adult, instead, the adult goes to the child. We work this way because it has been identified that high level involvement occurs in child initiated activity.

Each week we select 4 Focus Children. Prior to their focus week your child will bring home a form for you to fill in

giving us information about things such as their current interests or things you are concerned about.

During their Focus Week children will be regularly observed in their play giving us a clear picture of their current levels of development. These observations will form part of your child's learning journey.

At the end of your child's focus week you will be invited into school to meet with us to discuss our observations and to spend time playing alongside your child in the unit.

You will receive a copy of your child's Learning Journey sheet after your meeting as a record of their week. Our aim is that children will have 3 focus weeks before the end of the school year. This replaces the more traditional Autumn and Spring Parents' Evening.



Outdoor Play

All children will be given the opportunity to play outside throughout most of the day, whatever the weather.

It is important that you dress your child for school appropriately: warm clothes and a waterproof coat when it's cold and wet; sun hat and sun screen when it's sunny.

Children get wet, muddy and messy when they play outside. We provide protective clothing for them to wear, including wellington boots, although you can provide these things for your child if you wish.

We teach children how to minimise how messy they get and they do get better at this as they get older, but it's part of their learning and development.

We will not compromise on allowing children to play outdoors as we believe it to be an essential component of young children's learning and development.

Children must be allowed to experience the world around them in messy, muddy, and wet environments if they are to make useful meaning of it. Getting wet does not cause us to catch a cold. If the cold virus is around, we will pick it up regardless of whether we are wet or dry.





Useful Tips

Simple things you could do at home with your child:

- Encourage your child to write their name. This is the most valuable word they will learn to write and knowing how to do it supports your child's independence.
- Have conversations with your child. This may sound so obvious, but it is probably the most valuable thing that you can do.
- Read stories together every day. Look at the pictures and talk about the story.
- Sing songs and nursery rhymes, including number rhymes. Make up your own rhymes using your child's name.
- Get out and about and have some fun! (That way, you have something to talk about too!)



Additional Information

Children will be able to access milk and fruit, free of charge throughout their session. There is always fresh water available, so there is no need for your child to bring to school any additional food or drink.

In addition to the milk and fruit that is available to your child, we offer an optional tuckshop at a cost to you of £1.50 per week. If you opt for your child to have tuckshop they will be provided with an extra healthy snack each day.

Keep a look out for our fantastic parent sessions that we run throughout the year. Some of these may include information sessions for just you, others will include opportunities for you to stay and work with your child in a craft/workshop session.



Contact Details

If you have any questions please contact Mrs Sarah Watson on 01302 853289 or email on sarah.watson@woodfield.doncaster.sch.uk

