

Shanklea Primary School

Reception 2020

First days at school

Welcome to the Reception class at Shanklea Primary School. We are pleased that you have chosen to place your child in our care.

This booklet will give you a glimpse of what you and your child will experience in the year ahead and also attempt to answer some of the questions you might want to ask.

Preparing your child for school.

Talk about school

It is an important step, so make it a positive one, as your child will be coming to school for the next eleven years. If you adopt a positive approach to your child starting school, they are much more likely to settle well. School should be a fun, enjoyable place to be and our Early Years staff work hard to make the transition to Reception class easy and enjoyable. Show an interest in your child's day at school, but don't be surprised if they tell you that they have been doing nothing or just playing. Don't press your child for information, they will tell you when they are ready.

Clothes

Your child needs to be able to dress and undress with reasonable independence for P.E. lessons. We won't be getting changed for PE till after October half term at the earliest but if you want to bring their kit into school in a draw string bag labeled please feel free to do so. Few children would be able to manage shoelaces yet, so if you can find shoes with other fastenings, e.g., Velcro, buckles, this is a great help. There are several weeks left for you to help your child to practise the skills needed to dress and undress themselves.

Hand Washing

Please take time to ensure that your child is confident in how to wash their own hands for 20 seconds. We encourage them to do this at regular intervals throughout the school day and first and last thing on arriving and leaving. We will supervise your children while doing this and will encourage them to wash both the fronts and backs of their hands, their fingers and thumbs, then dry them thoroughly using paper towels.

Using the toilet

It is important that your child can manage their own toilet needs for a whole school day.

You can help them to manage their own needs by teaching them to flush the toilet and wash their hands afterwards. We understand that some children may have specific needs around this so if you have any toileting concerns please come and see one of the Reception Team.

Holidays

Holidays taken during school term time cannot be authorised by the Head Teacher. This is a government initiative which the school has no control over.

Attendance

It is important that children learn to be punctual and to attend regularly. Children can arrive in school from 8.45 and doors will close at 9. Please ensure that staff are made aware of the reason for any absence your child may have from school. This should take the form of a telephone call to the office on the first day of absence, otherwise the absence will be marked as unauthorised. Should you need to take your child out of school during school hours you will need to ask our school office for a permission slip.

Children's health

Young children play and work in a way that makes the transmission of infections and viruses very easy. If your child has had a tummy bug or a cold, please make sure they are fully recovered before sending them back to

school. If your child is sick or has diarrhoea they need to stay off school for a period of 48 hours after the sickness and/or diarrhoea has stopped. If your child needs any medication please contact the School Office who will advise you on this. If your child has a particular health problem that cannot be met by following these guidelines then it is important that you discuss the matter with the class teacher.

COVID-19 - If your child displays the symptom associated with COVID-19 they must stay at home for a minimum of 7 days after that as soon as the symptoms are gone they can return to school. If anyone in your household displays COVID-19 symptoms the rest of the household must isolate for 14 days.

We do keep a register of children with asthma who may need to use inhalers from time to time. Inhalers must be clearly labelled with your child's name and written instructions for use and given to the school office. A medication form can be obtained from the school office and this needs completing before staff are allowed to administer any medication including inhalers.

Head Lice

Unfortunately, head lice are a problem in all schools these days, there are no easy answers. These are a few general points that should help. Head lice are spread by head to head contact, this means they tend to be more of a problem for young children. Parents need to check their child's hair at least once a week. A fine toothcomb used with conditioner is a good way of removing the lice and eggs; alternatively chemical treatments are available. Please let us know if your child has head lice so that we can warn other parents and please do not send your child to school until their hair has been treated to help control the spread to other children.

School dinners and packed lunches

School dinners for Reception children are free. If you wish your child to have school dinner you will need to log on and register their choice on the Live kitchen app. The school dinner menu runs in a 3 week cycle and parents are required to choose the menu for their children; this then continues in a loop for the remainder of the year. Children will then be given the correct dinner each day in accordance with the choices that have been made. Children can mix packed lunch and dinners for each week. This works well if there are days when your child does not like the choices on offer. Sit down with your child and go through the 3 week meal choices to select a school dinner option or packed lunch for each day. Please choose meals that you know they like in the beginning as lunch time can be difficult if children are faced with food that they are not used to eating.

Milk Money

If you wish your child to have milk every morning you will need to fill out the form from Cool Milk and send your payment direct to them. The school will then receive a list of who is to receive milk. Please make sure when you register you record your child's start date as September 2020. Children receive free milk until their 5th birthday but you still need to register.

Educational visits and Forest School

From time to time, educational visits are organised for which you are asked to give a voluntary donation.

Reading

There will be a meeting for Reception parents early in the Autumn Term to talk about reading. In the meantime if you want to help your child here are a few suggestions: Read to them regularly, point out letters and words so that they come to recognise some, the first letter in their name is a good place to start, go to the library and encourage your child to choose books. It would be helpful if you could encourage your child to practise recognising and writing their name before they start the Reception class they can find their pegs, drawer and so they can label their work.

Writing

If you want to help at home with writing please use the same script as we do. The script is available from the class teacher. There will be a further meeting about writing later on in the school year.

Uniform

All the children in the school wear the uniform and we ask you to encourage your child to wear school uniform. Wearing the uniform gives the children a greater sense of belonging to the community of the school. You will find a leaflet for our uniform supplier on the website (We use Cloud 9). As part of outdoor learning your child may occasionally get messy, we do try to use waterproofs and aprons where possible however due to the way young children play, they may get dirty!!!

P.E. Kit

The P.E. kit that the children wear is navy blue shorts and a burgundy or white T-shirt. These items are available from our supplier.

PLEASE CAN WE ASK THAT YOU LABEL ALL CLOTHES CLEARLY WITH YOUR CHILD'S NAME. It is very difficult to locate un-named lost jumpers or reunite 30 un-named tops with 30 age 4-5 year children at P.E. times! Attaching a small keyring to both your child's P.E. bag and reading folder does help them to identify their own from amongst 30 more easily. Please can we politely request that this is **just one small keyring** as any more than this and the book bags do not fit into the book box or on their pegs.

Jewellery

Please could you remember that children are not allowed to wear jewellery for school. This Health and Safety guideline is issued for the safety of all pupils, and it includes all jewellery, (i.e. earrings, studs, necklaces and bracelets) other than watches. Children wearing jewellery are not permitted to join in P.E and other movement activities. There is a strict **NO EARRINGS POLICY IN SCHOOL.**

Children's Behaviour

At Shanklea Primary School, we aim to support our children to achieve good standards of behaviour as well as learning. We positively encourage and reward children sharing and taking turns with each other. We aim to develop each child's ability to consider others, and, through discussion help make them aware of the consequences of their actions. Our policy is to encourage self-discipline by establishing clear rules. We find that our children are usually very happy to abide by the rules, but we will always let you know about any problem that arises and we hope that you will do the same. Children are helped to assert themselves in a range of appropriate ways. Children who are finding it difficult to cope with the routines and expectations will continue to attend reception on a part time basis until they are able to cope with a full Reception week. It is essential that you support us in helping your child learn appropriate behaviour in school. Please whenever possible do your best to support any decision made by the teacher. If you think that we have made a mistake please tell us and not your child. In this way your child learns that parents and teachers work together. If any parent would like to read our Behaviour Policy, please ask at the School Office.

Tapestry Learning Journeys

Throughout the year children will create their own Learning Journey file. This will contain a mixture of their work, pictures and photos. Please be aware that as children will play and work together your child's picture may be featured in other children's learning journeys. In Reception we use a system called Tapestry which is a secure online Learning Journey. You have a form in your welcome pack for you to fill in your email address. We will then send you an email which will allow you to gain access to your child's Learning Journey online. This will also enable you to make your own contributions to the Learning Journey. If your child has been in our Nursery you do not need to do anything else it will automatically carry on.

Home School Partnership

As part of the Early Years curriculum it is important for teachers, support staff and parents to work together in order to establish a complete picture of your child. This may be social, academic or physical development. If your child is doing something at home that you would like to share with his/her teachers please feel free to add this to tapestry for us to see. As the year progresses we will also be sending out homework. It would be helpful if a parent comment was added to the homework to tell us how they found it.

Home - School Agreement

All schools are required to produce the home - school agreement and to ask parents to sign it. You will be given a copy of this agreement when your child starts we would ask you to read this, sign it and return it to school. If you require any further information about this please ask the Head Teacher.

Contact Information

We need up to date information to make sure that we can contact a responsible adult in case of a child's illness or other emergency. Our school office should be notified of any changes as soon as possible.

Please complete the contact forms, Tapestry form, home school agreement, lunch selection and Pupil Premium forms provided and return them to the School Office.

Please remember.....

If you need any more information, or want to talk to us about any aspect of your child starting school, please feel free to ring the school to ask for us to contact you or to make an appointment