



Learning in Reception



The children are always very busy in Reception. The day is split up into lots of little bits. Parts of the day are called child initiated and other parts are called directed time. The children are very lucky and get to develop their learning further in our outdoor classroom. Come rain or shine we go outside!

There are 7 areas of learning they are listed and explained below. The areas for learning in reception include:

Three Prime Areas

Communication and Language
Physical Development

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Four Specific Area

Literacy
Mathematics
Understanding the world
Expressive Arts and Design

Communication and language

-Listening, Attention and Understanding

-Speaking

The development of children's spoken language underpins all seven areas of learning and development. Children's back-and-forth interactions from an early age form the foundations for language and cognitive development. This will focus on children developing competence in talking and listening. In small groups and in large groups children will be encouraged to listen attentively and talk about their experiences. They will also start to make up their own stories and take part in role-play with confidence.



Physical development

-Gross Motor Skills

-Fine Motor Skills

This will focus on children's development of mobility, awareness of space, and manipulative skills in indoor and outdoor environments. Children will be encouraged to move confidently and imaginatively with increasing control and coordination. By creating games and providing opportunities for play both indoors and outdoors, adults can support children to develop their core strength, stability, balance, spatial awareness, coordination and agility.



Personal, social and emotional development

-Self-Regulation

-Managing Self

-Building Relationships

This will focus on children learning how to work, play and cooperate with others and function in a group beyond the family. Children will be helped to become more self-confident, to express their feelings and to show respect for people of other cultures and beliefs. Children will be supported to manage emotions, develop a positive sense of self, set themselves simple goals, have confidence in their own abilities, to persist and wait for what they want and direct attention as necessary.



Literacy

-Comprehension

-Word Reading

-Writing

It is crucial for children to develop a life-long love of reading. Reading consists of two dimensions: language comprehension and word reading. Children will learn to recognise sounds in words and use this to help develop their skills in blending sounds and segmenting them. They will learn to recognise their own written names and some familiar words and show awareness of some of the different purposes of writing. They will learn to form lower-case and capital letters correctly in their writing and begin to write short sentences using a capital letter and full stop.



Mathematics

-Number

-Numerical Patterns

This will focus on children being provided with practical activities to help them compare, sort, match, sequence and count. Through such first-hand experiences, children will develop an understanding of numbers and will learn to record and use the appropriate mathematical language involved. It is important that children develop positive attitudes and interests in mathematics, look for patterns and relationships, spot connections, 'have a go', talk to adults and peers about what they notice and not be afraid to make mistakes.



Understanding the world

- Past and Present
- People, Culture and Communities
- The Natural World

Understanding the world involves guiding children to make sense of their physical world and their community. This will focus on children's developing knowledge and understanding of their environment including their families and communities and features of the natural and made world. In addition, listening to a broad selection of stories, non-fiction, rhymes and poems will foster their understanding of our culturally, socially, technologically and ecologically diverse world. As well as building important knowledge, this extends their familiarity with words that support understanding across domains. Enriching and widening children's vocabulary will support later reading comprehension.



Expressive Arts and Design

- Creating with Materials
- Being Imaginative and Expressive

This will focus on the development of children's imagination and their ability to communicate and to express ideas and feelings in creative ways. Through art, music, dance, stories and imaginative play, children will develop an increasing ability to use their imagination, to listen and to observe. Children will be encouraged to explore sound, colour, texture, shape, form and space in two and three dimensions.



Our curriculum and provision also encourages, models and observes characteristics of effective learning in our Reception children - these are the skills that enable children to become life-long learners.

Playing and exploring – engagement

- Finding out and exploring
- Playing with what they know
- Being willing to 'have a go'

Active learning – motivation

- Being involved and concentrating
- Keeping trying
- Enjoying achieving what they set out to do

Creating and thinking critically – thinking

- Having their own ideas
- Making links
- Choosing ways to do things

The Reception Day

Timetable of Induction for September

Week 1- School starts full time for Reception children on 04/09/24, however, we do offer a half day for the first week should you think your child will need this time to adjust to the school day.

School Day- Starts at 8.40am and doors close at 8.45am

School Day- Ends-3.15pm

Snack Time

Your child can have a piece of toast and milk each day. Toast can be paid for on 'My Child At School' in September. Milk is supplied by 'Cool Milk'. If you would like your child to receive milk, please register with them via the Cool Milk website [here](#).

Your child will also receive a piece of fruit (free of charge) at snack time, usually in the afternoon.

A member of the Reception team will be at their classroom door to welcome the children every morning and will dismiss the children at the end of the school day from the same place you dropped them off in the morning.

Mr Bruce's registration class will enter and exit from the front of the school and next to the roundabout. There is a side fenced area which leads straight into the children's cloakroom. Please wait by the roundabout and Mr Bruce will open the gate to greet you.

Mrs Kirby's registration class will enter the school gates and follow the path around the school. Walk under the wooden arch way and it is the first gate on the right before the Nursery school yard. Mrs Kirby will open the gate to greet you.

Children will only be allowed to leave when we can clearly see their grown-ups waiting for them. Please stand back from the doors so the staff and children can see you clearly and the entrance is not blocked. No adults are allowed into the cloakroom areas for safeguarding reasons and also to encourage the children's independence.

What your child will need on their first day at school:

1. A pair of named wellies
2. A water bottle- Please could you provide your child with a **named** filled water bottle each day. We ask that you only put water into the bottle for your child to drink at school.
3. Please could you provide your child with a spare set of **named**, clean clothes to leave on their peg in case of any accidents! Please could they be brought in a small backpack or canvas bag as sold in Tots to Teams website.

How to help your child:

- Please ensure your child comes to school on their PE day wearing-(you will be notified of the day your child has PE in September)
PE consists of White T-Shirt
Black shorts/ joggers
Plain Trainers
- In the warmer weather please could you provide your child with a sun hat and apply sun cream prior to arriving at school. In colder weather please provide hats and gloves etc.
- Encourage your child to dress themselves; including buttons and zips as they will need to do this at school.
- Let your child do their own coat, they will be putting splash suits etc on themselves.
- Tell your child who will be picking them up each day as this will avoid any worries they may have. It is also important to let your child's teacher know on the day of any pickup changes, as we will **not** be allowed to let your child go home unless you have notified us of those changes. In case changes need to be made, please could you **provide a password** on the online Google Doc which needs to be shared with the person picking up your child. Safeguarding is paramount at all times.

*Please can **ALL** items of clothing and footwear be named!

PLEASE NOTE - no plastic carrier bags or bags with string/cord handles are allowed as we encourage the children to use the cloakroom independently and these types of bags are not safe. You can purchase a small school canvas bag from the **Tots to Teams** website which is preferred.

Please encourage your child to be as independent as they can be with their coats, shoes, zips and fastenings, carrying their own bags etc.

Items from Home

We encourage the children to bring books in from home if they are related to our learning journey topic. Please can you ensure your child leaves other items or toys at home unless requested. Anything brought in must be named.

Outdoor Learning

Your child will attend forest school/outdoor learning sessions. Activities take place within the school grounds and we have full access to the surrounding acres of natural woodland. Through play, your child will have the opportunity to learn about the natural environment, make wider curricular links, learn how to handle risks and most importantly to use their own initiative to solve problems and cooperate with others.

Reception Fund

Although we are well resourced in Reception, we would like to ask for a voluntary contribution of £2.00 per half term. This is requested to help cover the costs of items used in cooking, playdoh, tasting sessions etc. You can give this voluntary contribution to your child's class teacher at the start of each half term. Thank you.

Snack Time: Your child can have a piece of toast and milk each day, but this will need to be paid for on 'My Child At School' in September. Your child will receive a piece of fruit (free of charge) at snack time, usually in the afternoon.

Lunch Time: Your child can have school lunch or a packed lunch from home. You will receive the menu in a weekly newsletter. Information on how to pay for lunch through the 'My Child At School' is available on the website. Your child can just tell the teacher on the day whether they would like a school dinner or if they are having packed lunch.

Safeguarding: You will be asked to give staff a password which will be required when anyone new is picking up your child for the first time. If there is a change to your normal arrangements we would appreciate being notified - it means we can remind and reassure the children and of course safeguarding is paramount at all times.

Uniform: Uniform is not compulsory, however, wearing it makes the children feel part of our big Abbeyfields family and it is currently worn by all children in Reception and the rest of the school. Information about ordering a uniform can be found on the website.

Toileting: Your child can start Reception at any stage of their toileting journey. However it is obviously best for us and your child if they are fully toilet trained. This means they know themselves when they need to go and can get on and off themselves managing their own clothes. We do have small toilets and sinks. We can of course assist in the bathroom if you have signed our intimate care permission agreement. We are sympathetic and understand accidents happen, especially when children are engrossed in play and experiencing changes in their environment. However, your child will feel better if they can access the toilet independently and if staff are needed in the bathrooms it does take time away from teaching and learning.