



Welcome to Reception at

# James Knott C of E Primary School

Part of Northumberland Church of England Academy Trust

Parent/Carer Guide 2022/23



## A message from Mrs Mullen - Headteacher

We are looking forward to welcoming your child to our Reception class at James Knott C of E Primary School! Starting Reception is a big step in their learning journey and one that we hope your child will find exciting!

We are here to support you as parents/carers through this step too, so please don't hesitate to contact us with any questions or queries you may have.

In this booklet you will find some information and some reminders for the new school year. If you need any further information, please check our school website at [www.jamesknott.ncea.org.uk](http://www.jamesknott.ncea.org.uk) or alternatively you can contact us by phone or email using the details below:

**Email:** [adminjk@jamesknott.ncea.org.uk](mailto:adminjk@jamesknott.ncea.org.uk)

**Telephone:** 01670 813219

## Meet the staff



**Mrs Stewart (Teacher)**



**Mrs White (HLTA)**



**Mrs Herron (TA)**



**Mrs Byrom (TA)**

# The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)

We are part of the *Early Years Foundation Stage*, which the children begin in Nursery and finish at the end of Reception.

Our learning is made up of seven areas of learning within the Development Matters curriculum:

- Personal, social and emotional development
- Communication and language
- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the world
- Physical development
- Expressive arts and design



## Outdoors

- We spend a lot of our time in the outdoors, which is a great place to learn and explore!
- Children need to bring a coat to school every day, even if the sun is shining.
- School shoes need to be appropriate for all weathers.
- We have some spare wellies in school but if a pair of your child's wellies could stay in school, this would help (please put their name inside).
- In hotter months, please apply sun-cream to your child before school and send them in with a sun hat.
- Please name all jumpers and cardigans as they all look the same.



# Supporting your child's transition

Prior to your child starting Reception, it would be a big help to your child if you could support them in the following:



- Putting on their coat

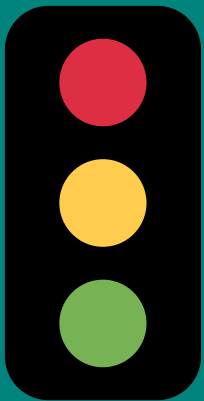


- Putting on socks and shoes



- Support your child to use the toilet on their own and to wipe their own bottom and wash their hands afterwards.

## Behaviour



Coming to school is part of learning how to get on with others. Reception staff appreciate that new children will need time to adjust to new rules and expectations and will always use positive encouragement and praise to support children with their behaviour.

We use 'Good to be Green' and teach the children 'Good sitting', 'Good Listening' etc. We talk to them about making the right choice.

There are times when your child may be given time out to think about their behaviour.

A 'Learner of the Week' is selected each week to celebrate achievements.

# School Meals

If you are in receipt of benefits or are working and on a low income, your child(ren) may be entitled to receive Free School Meals and other benefits. More information about Free School Meals, including how to apply can be found on our website at [www.jamesknott.ncea.org.uk/parent-hub/school-meals](http://www.jamesknott.ncea.org.uk/parent-hub/school-meals).

Alternatively, you can apply direct at [www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/sims](http://www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/sims)

Children receiving school meals will have a choice each day from two options. The menu choices can be found on the Parent/Carer Hub area of our website.

Children are supported in the hall to collect their lunch and sit at the table.

We encourage children to cut up their own food and use their knife and fork - please practice this at home.

Children can bring a healthy packed lunch from home. Please limit to one biscuit or packet of crisps. No sweets or chocolate.

## Water, Milk and Snacks

- Children will be offered a healthy snack at school. There is also the option for your child to have milk. Milk is free until the term of their 5th birthday.
- Children should bring a named bottle of fresh water with them to school every day, especially when the weather is warm (no juice or pop).
- Please let Reception or office staff know if your child has any allergies or special dietary requirements.
- Please remember - water not juice and do not put them into book bags.



# Uniform



**All children are expected to wear school uniform. Children should wear:**

- White polo shirt, black trousers or skirt, jade green sweatshirt or cardigan and black shoes (not trainers) that they can manage themselves - laces can be tricky at this age!
- A plain black tracksuit or a school branded track suit can also be worn on PE days.
- In the summer, green/jade checked dresses are available.
- Your child will also need a book bag.

Reception can be a creative and therefore a very messy place! We do insist that the children wear aprons whilst painting but they may get glue or pen on themselves. We will do our best to teach your child to be careful, but accidents will happen.

Children are not allowed to wear any jewellery in Reception as our play is quite physical.

Uniform can be ordered online via the Michael Sehgal & Sons website at [www.michaelsehgal.co.uk](http://www.michaelsehgal.co.uk). There is also a link on our school website at [www.jamesknott.ncea.org.uk](http://www.jamesknott.ncea.org.uk).

## PE

The children will take part in regular PE sessions where we will be exploring movement, dance and games skills.

Children can come in to school wearing their school PE kit on PE days (only school kit can be worn all day) otherwise they can change into black jogging bottoms and white t-shirt at school.

If PE lessons include climbing and jumping, it is safer to remove shoes and socks. Please make sure your child can take off and put on their own shoes and socks independently (shoelaces are difficult!)

Please write names in any clothing that comes to school as well as shoes.



## Reading

Reading is so important for children to access all areas of the curriculum. In the autumn term, we will have a phonics meeting to show you we teach reading in school.

Please purchase a reading folder for your child and make sure they bring it into school with them every day. Personalise it - this can be done by adding a small keyring to the handle.

Children will continue to be able to borrow books from school.



**Please read to your child as often as you can and share books together, it makes a huge difference to their learning.**



# Parent/Carer Hub

To help make sure that you can get quick and easy access to all of the information you need about your child's school, as and when you need it, we've created the Parent/Carer Hub - a dedicated area on our school website where you can find:

- Term dates
- Menus and information about Free School Meals
- Uniform supplier details
- Copies of letters and newsletters
- Useful links and app login details
- Homework timetables
- e-Safety information

The Parent/Carer Hub is updated regularly and will become a valuable tool for you to find all of the most up to date information as your child progresses through our school. Find the hub at [www.jamesknott.ncea.org.uk](http://www.jamesknott.ncea.org.uk).

## Social Media

James Knott C of E Primary School is on Twitter.

You can find and follow us at:



@JamesKnott\_NCEA



# Tapestry

- We use 'Tapestry' to share your child's Learning Journey online.
- It is important that you are able to access Tapestry as we will be sending out most of our information via Tapestry. If you are having difficulties, please let us know.
- It is a great way for you to see what your child has been learning in school.
- The children really like it when you upload photos/videos from home as we share these in school. It also helps us to know what your child has been doing and to share in their interests.



# Arbor Parent Portal

In addition to Tapestry, at James Knott C of E Primary School, we use an application called 'Arbor' to manage all of our pupil data.

The Arbor Parent Portal allows parents and carers to register their child for a club or trip, book parents evening slots, and manage payments all from their phone or computer. We often use Arbor to send out key information and updates from the school.

To find out more and sign up for a free account, visit the Parent/Carer Portal on our school website: [www.jamesknott.ncea.org.uk](http://www.jamesknott.ncea.org.uk).



# Checklist

- Familiarise yourself with the Parent/Carer Hub area of our website.
- Please put your child's name in everything!
- Children will need a PE kit, reading folder and water bottle.
- Read with your child as often as possible - we need to work together.
- Arrive at 8.45am promptly every day.
- Regular attendance is really important. If your child is poorly or will not be attending school for any reason, please telephone the school office to let us know.
- Please help them learn to be independent, washing hands, dressing for school, fastening zips and shoes.
- Sign up for free school meals if your child is entitled.

**Any questions, please send your child's class teacher a message on Tapestry or call the school office on 01670 813219.**

James Knott C of E Primary School  
Norham Road  
Ashington  
Northumberland  
NE63 0LF

W: [www.jamesknott.ncea.org.uk](http://www.jamesknott.ncea.org.uk)

