

Nursery and Reception Welcome Booklet



September 2020

Welcome!

The Governors and staff would like to welcome your child and your family to our Nursery and Reception classes at Llanilltud Faerdref Primary School.

I hope you find this information booklet a useful guide to your child's first experience of school.

Mrs R. Price

Head of Foundation Phase



Our shared vision

The Headteacher and staff hold a shared vision for the children in our school, in which all pupils care for and respect each other equally, no matter what their culture, gender, race, ability or disability. We work together to help the children develop educationally as well as socially and emotionally.

We strive to provide a welcoming, happy and safe environment where the children can feel secure and enjoy their learning experiences.

For some children, this is their first independent step beyond the home and we aim to help them gain self confidence and maturity according to their individual needs and interests.

We acknowledge the support that parents give to the school and value the partnership between home and school.

We have something in common: THE WELFARE OF YOUR CHILD.

If there is anything worrying you or your child, please do not hesitate to share the concern with us.

We hope that your child will be happy and will gain many worthwhile and valuable experiences from our Nursery and Reception class and we look forward to working with you for the benefit of your child.

Enjoy your child's first experience of school. It is a most valuable stage in their development and will pass all too quickly!

Contact us



School address:

Llanilltud Faerdref Primary School,
St Illtyd's Road,
Church Village,
Pontypridd
CF38 1DB



School telephone number:

01443 204626



School fax number:

01443 209340



School E-mail address:

admin.LlanilltudFaerdrefPrimary@rctcbc.gov.uk



School website: www.llanilltudprimarieschool.co.uk



School Times

Nursery 9.00am – 3.15pm

Reception 9.00am – 3.25pm

Morning break: 10.30am–10.45am

Lunchtime: 11.30am-1.00pm

Afternoon break: 2.15pm-2.30pm

Nursery Reception

Please bring your child to the Nursery yard gate for 9.00am (**no earlier than 8.50am**) Teaching staff will meet the children at the gate, we recommend parents to leave as soon as possible after bringing their child to school in order to help them settle quickly.

Should you arrive after 9.00am, please report to the school office.

Parking

Unfortunately, there are no facilities within the school grounds for 'parent parking'. We respectfully request that when parking in the carparks and roads around the school, care is taken not to obstruct the school gates. The safety of our children must take precedence over convenience.

Other information:

If you need to bring something in for your child during the school day, please leave it with Mrs Wilton the receptionist in the school's office.

We will not allow any child to go home with anyone whom we do not know, or anyone under 16. Please let us know if you make arrangements for someone else to collect your child.

Please make sure that you are on time to collect your child. He/she will become easily upset if you are late. However, if you are going to be unavoidably late, telephone the school as soon as possible.

Please notify the class teacher, in writing, if you need to collect your child early. If you need to discuss something with the class teacher, please send a note in and the teacher can arrange a time to see you.



People you will meet

Headteacher: Mr T Lewis

Deputy Headteacher: Mrs S Rudall

School Secretary: Mrs A Wilton

Nursery Teacher: Miss E Phillips
Nursery Support Staff: Mrs L Griffiths
Mrs J Baker
Mrs S Hawkins

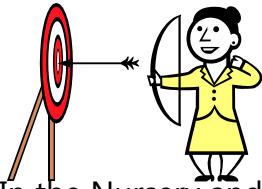
Reception/Year 1 Teacher: Mrs R Price
Reception/Year 1 Support Staff: Mrs V Morris
Miss N Godwin

Year 1 & 2 Teacher: Mrs H Davies
Year 1 & 2 Support Staff: Mrs R Pettigrew

Caretaker: Mr M Coles

During the year, the children will meet other people:

- BTEC (Childcare & Development)/ NNEB students
- Work experience pupils from local secondary schools
- Parents and adult helper



Our aims

- In the Nursery and Reception class we aim to provide a secure, welcoming and happy atmosphere where children experience a variety of activities and the opportunity to participate in purposeful, structured and spontaneous play.
- Young children develop at different rates and in different ways. We know that children learn best from first-hand experiences appropriate to their stage of development.
- We encourage your child to make his/her own decisions and choices to enable him/her to become an independent learner.
- We introduce the children to the 'routine' of school life and to the Foundation Phase curriculum which will encompass seven areas of learning.
- We aim to prepare your child for confident entry to the Upper Foundation Phase classes.
- We are eager to develop a good partnership between home and school to extend and enrich the experiences your child has received at home.

Admission and induction to the Reception class



Your child will generally be admitted to the Reception at the beginning of the academic year in which he/she becomes 5.

A date to visit and a date to start in the Reception class will be allocated following a meeting with the Headteacher and the Foundation Phase Staff.

Your child's first day!

This is an important day for you and your child. We try to make this day as happy as possible.

It helps your child if you arrive on time and leave cheerfully! Children can sense a worried or upset parent. It is quite common for children to cry when you leave but please be reassured that the majority of children settle down very quickly. We will contact you if your child does not settle within a reasonable amount of time.

If you are worried about any aspect of your child's education and transition to full time school, please do not hesitate to pick up the phone.

If you have any family problems causing difficulties or upset, please let us know. All conversations will be treated with the strictest confidence.

Initial on-entry assessment

Within 6 weeks of your child first entering the Foundation Phase, he/she will be assessed in 6 developmental areas:

- Personal, Social & Emotional
- Speaking & Listening
- Reading & Writing
- Sort, Order & Number
- Approach to Learning, Thinking & Reasoning
- Physical

This assessment, made through informal observations, will help all practitioners working with your child get to know their individual strengths, interests and developmental needs and will identify the next steps to take their learning forward.



School clothing

All children are expected to wear school uniform:

Girls' Uniform: grey skirt/pinafore/trousers, white polo shirt and purple jumper/cardigan; purple gingham dress in the summer

Boys' Uniform: grey trousers/shorts with white polo shirt and purple school jumper

Many activities in Reception can be messy, but aprons will always be provided.

Please ensure that every item of clothing is labelled clearly with your child's name – shoes as well! Check your child's uniform every night and return any articles not belonging to them.

Try to ensure your child's shoes have Velcro fastenings, rather than laces. This will help them to dress independently.

PE clothes consist of a white T-shirt and black shorts. Your child's teacher will inform you when to send their kit in.

As all children will use the outdoor area, a suitable pair of wellies is recommended!

In the case of absence, please telephone the School Secretary by 9.30am who can then inform the class teacher.

Health & illness



For the health and well-being of children and staff, please keep your child at home if he/she is unwell. Poorly children do not concentrate, are lethargic and easily upset.

Children must not come to school if they are suffering from:

- High temperature
- Sore throat
- Conjunctivitis
- Weeping ear
- Rash (unless doctor diagnosis is non-infectious)
- Impetigo
- Sickness/diarrhoea

Please note: Children with sickness/diarrhoea must be well for 48 hours before they return to school.

A child with chickenpox will be allowed back to school on advice from their GP and after the incubation period has passed. See our Sickness & Illness Policy for more information.

If your child becomes unwell at school, we shall contact you so that he/she may be collected from school. **Completion of the admission form providing emergency contact numbers is imperative.** Please notify us should any contact numbers change – we must have up to date information.

Asthma

Children suffering from asthma can keep pumps in school – ask your GP for a spare pump that can be kept in school. The school's medical form must be completed and signed giving us details on dosage and use of pumps.

Headlice

Please keep a vigilant check for headlice and inform the school if you find any. Please don't be embarrassed or ashamed (headlice prefer clean hair!). We need your co-operation in aiming to keep headlice under control. The school will insist on a child being collected from school should 'walking' headlice be detected.

Accidents at school

Should your child be unfortunate enough to have an accident that we think needs hospital treatment, we will try to contact you. If we are unable to do so we will take your child to hospital and remain with him/her until you arrive. If emergency treatment is needed, we would entrust the medical professionals to make the appropriate decisions.

Child protection

In extreme cases if there are concerns regarding the welfare or wellbeing of a child, we will seek advice from the Education & Children's Services Welfare Department and may refer immediately to the Social Services, Child Protection Department. This strictly follows procedures as laid out in the Child Protection Act 1989. A copy is available in the office.



School meals, breakfast & snacks

School dinners

School meals are cooked on the premises. A drink is provided with each meal. Milk is also given to Nursery and reception children during the afternoon. Please inform us if your child does not drink milk.

Dinner money should be sent to school on Mondays in an envelope marked with your child's name, their class and the amount. Dinners cost £2.55 per day - £12.75 per week, cheques should be made payable to RCTCBC

Parents may pay for a week, a fortnight, a month or a term should you so wish. You can also pay for dinners online, please see Mrs Wilton in the office for information on how to set this up.

If your child is entitled to free school meals, please obtain the necessary form from the Local Education Authority. Please notify the school immediately should your entitlement cease.

Breakfast club

We operate the Welsh Assembly's Free Breakfast to Primary School Children Initiative, every morning from 8.10am until 8.30am. A registration form must be completed in order for your child to attend. We advise parents of Nursery pupils to wait until at least October half term before sending their children to breakfast club

Healthy eating

Please give your child a piece of fruit for breaktimes, clearly labelled with his/her name – confusion can lead to tears! No sweets, chocolate, biscuits, crisps or nut products are allowed.





Learning in Nursery and Reception

Our Nursery and Reception classes are divided into distinct areas of learning where specific activities take place. Each area has its own importance and educational value. All these areas are visited by the children at some point during the week.

Role play area

Children are provided with various clothes and props to simulate role-play, eg. police hat, doctor's coat. These activities encourage free expression, imagination and language skills.

Construction corner

Children are given opportunities to use construction kits and building equipment to make and build models. Such activities help develop language, mathematical and scientific concepts.

Outdoor play

The children use outdoor apparatus and climbing equipment daily to develop fine and gross motor control as well as encouraging skills such as sharing and taking turns. A warm coat is essential in the winter months. A waterproof jacket is provided if the weather is damp/showery as the children have opportunities to work outside every day.

Mathematical tasks

Focus tasks that develop mathematical concepts in counting, sorting, matching, sequencing, measuring and shape.

Art and craft

The children enjoy many and varied drawing, painting, tracing and construction activities.

Story time

The children will have opportunities to listen to many stories, songs and poems. They will be encouraged to enjoy looking at and become familiar with books and acquire pre-reading and writing skills.

Music, singing and movement activities

The children are encouraged to experiment with sound and to develop confidence through creative and movement activities. Shoes with Velcro fastenings encourage the children to become independent in getting ready for movement activities.

Computer skills

The children use the class computer, iPads and the interactive whiteboard to develop early ICT skills.

Out and about

The children will explore the world around them, e.g the weather and the seasons, and be encouraged to care for plants and animals in the environment. They find out about different occupations and the way in which we live.

Cookery

The children will frequently take part in cookery activities thus developing creativity and language/maths skills.

'Biscuit Money' Due to the increasing amount of time and money we devote towards cookery, we will be asking for a nominal termly contribution (£5.00) from parents to help cover our costs.

Outdoor activities

The school grounds offer exciting and stimulating opportunities for learning. We have a wooden activity trail that challenges our children to develop their balance and co-ordination and a fantastic woodland area which is to be developed shortly.

Curriculum

Through careful planning, all children will have access to experiences and activities based on the 7 areas of child development, as outlined in the Welsh Assembly Government document – The Foundation Phase.

- Language, Literacy & Communication
- Personal & Social Development, Well-being & Cultural Diversity
- Mathematical Development
- Knowledge & Understanding of the World
- Physical Development
- Creative Development
- Welsh Language Development

Pupils will also develop their understanding of Religious Education – celebrating the diversity of other cultures and religious groups.



Themes and home tasks

Our work in Nursery and Reception is related to a cross-curricular topic. A new theme is covered each half term/ term.

A newsletter will be sent out to parents each half-term with information relating to the topic and how you can help at home. Parents will be asked to help their child with home-school tasks. Children will be encouraged to talk about the task they completed at home.

School visits

During the school year, the children will have the opportunity to visit places of interest in the locality. These visits support ongoing work in the classroom.

We will ask parents for a contribution towards the cost of trips.

How can you help your child?

- *Talk to your child positively about school and how much they will enjoy being here.*
- *Make sure that your child is **fully** toilet trained and can clearly ask to go there.*
- *Teach your child to flush the toilet and wash their hands.*
- *Label all coats, clothing and shoes with your child's name. The school cannot accept responsibility for lost items of clothing.*
- *Help your child to recognise his/her name on their coat peg.*
- *Encourage your child to dress and undress with the minimum of help*
- *Give your child the opportunity to use crayons, pencils, glue, scissors, etc at home*
- *Ensure that your child does not bring sweets, crisps, toys or other personal belongings to school (unless requested by the class teacher)*
- *Outdoor play is an important part of your child's development. Please ensure your child has warm clothes in the colder months and is well protected from the sun in the Summer.*
- *Ensure your child arrives on time every day. A child will miss valuable instructions if he/she is late. It is also unsettling for the rest of the class.*
- *Wherever possible, please support our PTA. We are always looking for new members.*