

Brierley Forest Primary and Nursery School



Welcome to Reception

Information for Parents and Carers

PE day: _____

Reading morning: _____

TRANSFORM TRUST

'Together we Achieve'



AN INTRODUCTION:

Dear Parents/Carers,

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to Brierley Forest Primary and Nursery School. We are really looking forward to getting to know you and your child as we begin on our school journey together. Hopefully this booklet will have lots of helpful information to help get you started. Our school website is also full of useful resources to support you. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact *Miss Hale*, our EYFS Lead.

Our reception children are called the Butterflies.



OUR AIMS

At Brierley Forest, we know the Early Years Foundation Stage is a vital step in every child's educational journey as it gives them the initial building blocks that are so crucial to their learning and development throughout their schooling years. In the foundation years, we place great value on the development of children as individuals and giving them opportunities to embed skills and knowledge to become confident and independent learners.

Our EYFS is an inviting, safe, calm and stimulating learning environment where children have opportunities to learn through play by initiating their own ideas with the continuous and enhanced provision indoors and outdoors and through adult support, scaffolding and modelling.

OUR SCHOOL VISION

LEARN AND GROW TOGETHER

AT BFPNS, WE CREATE A CARING FAMILY OF RESILIENT LEARNERS, ENABLING INDIVIDUALS TO THRIVE IN OUR COMMUNITY.

Belonging

Caring

Resilience

Integrity

STAFF WITHIN OUR RECEPTION CLASS:

Headteacher: Miss Griffith

Deputy Headteacher: Mrs Wallis

Assistant Headteacher/SENDCo: Mrs Smedley

The adults who your child will see every day are:



MISS HALE
(MRS JONES FROM SEPTEMBER)
EYFS LEAD AND CLASS TEACHER



MRS COBLEY
TEACHING ASSISTANT



MRS LLOYD
TEACHING ASSISTANT



MR DAY
TEACHING ASSISTANT

There may also be other adults the children see daily such as the midday supervisors and site manager



THE SCHOOL DAY



Timings are:

8.45am-3.15pm.

The gate will be opened at 8.40am and closed at 8.45am. Please ensure you and your child are punctual, if you are late you will need to take your child to the office to sign in and they will receive a late mark.

We can also offer Breakfast Club to our Reception children.

Please contact the school office for more information.

Children have lunchtime between 12-12.45.

All children get a universal free school meal when they are in Reception. Because of this we encourage children to try school dinners. They are served on a three-week cycle.

In reception we offer children either a main meal, the vegetarian option, pasta or jacket potato. They will then have the choice of either the pudding or fruit. This will need to be booked by their adult each day on Arbor. This needs to be **booked before midday** of the previous day



Can my child just have dinners on the days they like it?

Yes of course, just book the dinners you would like your child to have and have them bring sandwiches on the days you haven't booked.

At Brierley Forest Primary and Nursery School we aim to give the children the best possible start to their education and therefore ask you to be on time every day. It is compulsory for children to attend school from the age of 5. If your child is ill and unable to come to School, please let us know as soon as possible.

Before starting in our reception class, all children will be invited to our transition days. This is a chance for both you and your child to meet the teacher, become familiar with our environment and ask any questions you might have.

Daily routines:

At the start of the session, children will come in through the EYFS main entrance where they will be met by a member of the team. They will then independently make their own way into the classroom to hang up their coat and bag.

We have found when the children come in independently, they settle more quickly. If your child does not settle, their teacher will talk with you to put a plan into place.

At the end of the session, children will then need to be collected from the main entrance of the EYFS building.

Please let us know in advance if it will be someone different collecting your child. Children must be collected by someone over the age of 16 years old and who are known to staff. If it is somebody different collecting your child, we will ask them for the password which you chose when your child started with us.

Snack/milk/bagel:

In Reception children are offered a free piece of fruit each day as part of the national fruit scheme. This consists of a selection of different fruits throughout the year often including apples, bananas, pears, oranges, raisins and tomatoes.

Children are also offered a free bagel every morning for breakfast when they come into school as part of the national breakfast scheme.

Your child will also be entitled to free milk until they are 5 years old. When they turn 5 you will then have the option to pay for milk if you wish for them to continue receiving it – to ensure your child gets this please sign up through the cool milk website.

(<https://www.coolmilk.com/>)

The children can access their fruit and milk (or water) whenever they feel hungry/thirsty at our self-service snack area; we encourage them to help themselves throughout the session.



School uniform:

All children in our school are expected to wear our school uniform.

This consists of:

- Grey/Black skirt, dress, shorts or trousers
- Blue and white checked summer dress
- White/Blue polo shirt
- Royal blue jumper or cardigan
- Black school shoes
- Black/white/grey socks or tight

School uniform with the Brierley Forest logo can be purchased from Sabre Sports, Outram Street, Sutton in Ashfield or via their website:

<https://www.sabresportsproducts.co.uk/product-category/school-wear/our-schools/brierley-forest/>





Does my child's uniform need to have the school logo on?

No, if you would like to buy uniform with the school logo then please do but this is not necessary.

To help the class teachers we do ask that **all** clothing, bags, lunch boxes and water bottles are **clearly labelled with your child's name**.

This will help us to return your child's uniform to them should it get misplaced.

PE Kit:

In Reception children will take part in a PE session on one day a week. On this day the children should come to school in their school PE kit. You will be informed which day this is when your child starts with us in September.

The school PE kit should consist of:

- Black/blue shorts/jogging bottoms – no logos.
- White or blue t-shirt. (Separate to the school shirt)
- Black/blue jacket – no logos. (This could be a different school jumper)
- Slip on/velcro plimsols or trainers.



Clothing for all weathers:

In Reception we spend a lot of time learning outdoors, even when it is cold and a little drizzly. Your child should be equipped with suitable clothing for the changing weather; a hooded coat, scarf, mittens/gloves and hat on cold days and a sun hat and sun cream on hot days (we recommend applying a long-lasting sunscreen before school). We may sometimes request that your child bring wellies to school to avoid getting muddy on wet days! Please ensure that any clothing sent in is labelled with your child's name.

The children in Reception have access to waterproof clothing at all times and are taught from very early on how they should dress for the weather.



What to bring to Reception:

- A labelled water bottle
- Book bag/packet
- Try to avoid bringing in any of the children's own toys



Reading morning:

Once a week in Reception we invite parents to come into the classroom with their children to take part in a reading morning. During this time, you can sign a book out to read with your child which you can then take home. You can swap this each week (or more regularly if you want to, just ask your child's teacher). You may also wish to use this time to read the RWI book which will come home with the children as soon as they are ready. It is a perfect opportunity to talk to the class teacher about how you can help your child with their reading. The day of this will be confirmed in September.



Parents as partners:

We always endeavour to strengthen our communication between school and home. We strive to communicate in a variety of different ways to inform you of what your child is learning in Reception, how you can help support your child's learning at home and inform you of forthcoming events and important notices.

This includes:

- Class Dojo (This is how most of our will go out)
- Learning with Parents
- Letters/Texts/Emails
- School website
- Twitter (Both school and Transform trust)
- Facebook



Throughout your child's time in Reception, we always welcome parents to come and talk to us at any time and you will also receive information about your child's next steps in their learning and how you can help your child to achieve these at home. We hold open days throughout the year for you to get involved with your child's learning and look at their books. If you would like a meeting with the teacher throughout the year, please do request this. This is followed by a report in the summer term which celebrates your child's achievements through the year.



Throughout the school we use Class Dojo both as a behaviour tool in school but also as a way to communicate between home and school. When your child starts with us you will receive an invite to this. On Class dojo you will see:

- A school story where you can see events happening across the whole school.
- A class story where you can see the children's learning and be updated about what is happening in the classroom (this often includes photographs if consent has been given)
- A chat feature where you can directly message your child's teacher.
- The dojo points your child earns whilst they are in school.
- A portfolio section where we would love to see you share some of the amazing things which your children are getting up to at home.

To ensure we can contact you please always ensure school has your most up to date contact information and contact the school office to notify us of any changes.

Behaviour:

- Each morning and afternoon in reception, children get the opportunity to earn a dojo for following our school expectations.
- If children get their 10 dojos by the end of the week, they will then receive a reward time.

Can you administer medication?



We can only administer medication that is prescribed by a doctor and needs to be taken during school hours. If this is the case, this will need to be taken to the school office to be signed in who will then bring it to our class. If this is a reoccurring medication such as an inhaler, then we will complete an individual health care plan. *Please let us know if your child takes any medication/has any allergies when they first start with us.*

OUR CURRICULUM

The time when a child starts Nursery until the end of their Reception Year is called the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). At Brierley Forest, the curriculum in the EYFS has been carefully designed with a knowledge of the children's backgrounds, needs, interests and our community. It has been built to think about what comes before and after the learning that takes place in each year group and using the whole school progression maps, knowledge of child development and the Development Matters document, staff have put together a broad and balanced curriculum, based around the seven areas of learning. These seven areas of learning provide children with the skills, knowledge and understanding they need to develop to ensure maximum achievement in the future.

Prime areas of learning	The prime areas are strengthened and applied through 4 specific areas:
• Communication and language • Physical development • Personal, social and emotional development	• Literacy • Mathematics • Understanding the world • Expressive arts and design

The curriculum at Brierley Forest uses a variety of themes alongside high quality texts as well as using opportunities to learn through the children's interests. We find this approach encourages a real thirst for learning and provides strong cross curricular links including introducing a wide range of vocabulary.

In the EYFS children best learn through play and our practitioners fully support this. Our classroom environments are set up with carefully planned continuous provision where children can access their own learning and become confident and independent learners, building on what they already know and can do. Learning opportunities are then planned through a combination of teacher input (whole class, small group and 1:1) and provision, both indoors and outdoors, where adults interact with children to support and challenge their learning.

Children will learn effectively if we embed the right habits using the Characteristics of Effective Teaching and Learning. These are: Play and Exploration, Active Learning and Creative and Critical Thinking. They are at the heart of our Early Years Curriculum and by teaching the children to have these characteristics, we know they will make amazing progress.

Phonics

From the very beginning of their reception year children will take part in daily phonics sessions. As a school we follow the scheme Read Write Inc. (RWI) phonics, you can find more about this on our school website. Children will initially bring home the sounds that we have been learning in school, together with a reading book of their choice to share with an adult at home. As the children progress, they will bring home the book we have been reading in phonics sessions together with a 'book bag book' and a book of their choice.

Look out for the dates for phonics workshops where parents will be invited to learn about RWI and how you can support your child.

Maths

All children at Brierley Forest follow the Power Maths scheme in maths. All children in Reception also do a 'Counting Collections' session each week. Look out for the dates for maths workshops where parents will be invited to learn about how your child is learning maths and how you can support them.

Early Learning Goals

Within Reception children are working towards the 17 Early Learning Goals. These are available on the school website for you to see. At the end of the year all children will be assessed against these as Emerging (Working towards) or Expected (On track). This profile will then be shared with you at the end of the year in your child's school report.

For a closer look at our curriculum and what we teach, please see the school website.



WHAT CAN I DO TO HELP MY CHILD AT HOME?

Steps to starting school

Build your child's confidence so that they start school confident, curious and ready to learn

Access more great advice, tips and downloadable resources at pacey.org.uk/schoolready



I am happy to be away from my parents or main carer

I can go to the toilet, wipe myself properly and flush unaided

I know when to wash my hands and can wipe my nose

I like to read stories and look at picture books

I enjoy learning about and exploring new things

I like interacting with other children

I have a good bedtime routine so I'm not tired for school

I can share toys and take turns

I am able to sit still and listen for a short while

I am happy to tidy up after myself and can look after my things

I can follow instructions and understand the need to follow rules

I am able to ask for help if I don't feel well

I can use a knife and fork and open my lunch on my own

I can button & unbutton my shirt, use a zip and put on my own shoes & socks

I enjoy making marks and have practised holding a pencil

More top tips:

- ★ Get your child ready for their new routine by switching their meal times to match those of the school day
- ★ Encourage your child to explore new environments and interact with new people
- ★ Talk to your child about what they are most looking forward to at school
- ★ Let your child practise putting their new school uniform on and taking it off
- ★ **And remember,** every child is different and starts school with different abilities

CONTACT US:

If you have any questions, or would like to look around our school, please do not hesitate to contact us.



Brierley Forest Primary and Nursery School, Westbourne View, Sutton-in-Ashfield, NG17 2HT



01623 553189



office@bforest.notts.sch.uk or eyfs@bforest.notts.sch.uk



www.brierleyforestprimary.co.uk



@Brierley_Forest

