

EYFS Welcome Pack 2024-2025



Meet the Reception Team



Ms Richman

Class Teacher (Mon-Wed)



Miss Meyer

*Class Teacher and Reading
Lead
(Thur – Fri)*



Miss Horsman

*EYFS Class Teacher and
Early Years Lead*

The Early Years Foundation Stage

Here at Fulbourn Primary, we pride ourselves on our outstanding Early Years provision. As the first stage of your child's school learning journey, so we aim to:

- Provide a safe, challenging, stimulating and caring environment which is sensitive to the needs of the child, including children with additional needs.
- Provide a broad, balanced, relevant and creative curriculum that will set in place firm foundations for further learning and development in Key Stage 1 and beyond.
- Use and value what each child can do, assessing their individual needs and helping each child to progress.
- Enable choice and decision making, fostering independence and self-confidence.
- Work in partnership with parents and carers and value their contributions ensuring that all children, irrespective of ethnicity, culture, religion, home language, family background, learning difficulties, disabilities, gender or ability achieve their full potential.
- Provide opportunities whereby children experience a challenging and enjoyable programme of learning and development.
- Provide inclusive experiences for all children, whatever their needs.

We use the Early Years Foundation Stage Statutory Framework (2022) as our base for the opportunities and provision that we provide to children in their first year of school. There is a great emphasis on learning through direct, first-hand experiences in a play-based environment. This allows children to develop the skills needed in preparation for their National Curriculum education that commences in Year 1.

The EYFS framework explains how and what children will be learning to support their healthy development and provide the foundation children need to make the most of their abilities and talents as they grow up.

Our Curriculum is based upon 7 areas of learning and these are divided into two further areas – The Prime and The Specific Areas of learning.

The Prime Areas

- **Personal, Social and Emotional Development** through which children gain confidence and self-awareness, the ability to manage their feelings and behaviour and learn about building effective relationships with others.
- **Communication and Language** through which children learn about listening, attention, understanding and speaking.
- **Physical Development** which emphasises gross and fine motor skills in moving and handling, as well as health and self-care.

The Specific Areas

- **Literacy:** Early reading and writing skills, explicit daily teaching of phonics, recognising common and irregular words, reading and understanding simple sentences and talking about what they have read; children will begin to use their phonic knowledge to build and write words and construct simple sentences.
- **Mathematics:** Based around counting reliably from 1-20, understanding number order and beginning simple addition and subtraction; children will also experience solving mathematical problems by talking about shapes, weight, capacity, time, money, halving and measuring and comparing everyday objects.
- **Understanding the World:** Enables children to base their learning on what they understand of the world around them through talking about past and present events within their own families, being aware of the differences and similarities between others and among families, communities and traditions; children will observe the differences in their environment, learn about plants and animals and talk about changes. They will also use a range of different technologies, selecting and using them for different purposes.

- **Expressive Arts and Design:** Children will sing songs and create their own music and dance. They explore a range of materials, tools and techniques to look at different colours, design and texture in their artwork and are given opportunities to be imaginative through art, music, role play and stories.

Our EYFS Topics

At the start of each half term you will be sent a termly overview which identifies our topic and the objectives that we will be covering.

2024-2025 Topics

Autumn – We're going on an adventure

Spring – The Great Outdoors

Summer - Little People, Big Dreams

Observation, Assessment and Planning

Good planning is the key to making children's learning effective, exciting, varied and progressive. Effective learning builds on and extends what children know and can already do. Our planning shows how the principles of the EYFS are put into practice and is always informed by observations we have made of the children. The planning within the EYFS is based around both children's interests and whole school topics and themes. These plans are used by the EYFS team as a guide for weekly planning.

Ongoing assessment is an integral part of the learning and development process. We make regular informal assessments of children's learning and we use this information to ensure that future planning reflects identified needs. Assessment in the EYFS takes the form of photographs, adult led activities, child selected activities and information obtained from parents. At Fulbourn we record the children's learning in our class floor book and children will work independently in their writing journals. We upload photos regularly to our EYFS page on the school website.

At the end of the academic year each child's level of development is assessed against the early learning goals. Teachers will indicate whether children are meeting expected levels of development:

- Emerging - not yet reaching expected levels of development for their age
- Expected - reached expected levels of development for their age

A Typical Day in Reception

8.40 am - Arrive at school/Finger Gym

Registration

Phonics Session

Busy Learning

Maths Session

Assembly

Snack and Story

Busy Learning

Communication, Language and Literacy Session

12.00 pm - 1.00 pm - Lunch and play

Topic Session

Busy Learning

Mini Maths and Milk

Busy Learning

Story/Songs

3:15 pm - Home Time

The Induction Process

By the time your child starts at Fulbourn Primary School, we hope you will already feel part of our community and have planned an induction process from June onwards which will help you and your child to feel excited and comfortable about starting school with us in September.

- Parents and carers are invited to an induction meeting at the school where they are able to meet the Foundation Stage staff, look at the environment and experience and understand the Foundation Stage curriculum.
- Foundation staff, the school SENCO or a member of the pastoral team will speak to the pre-school settings prior to your child joining. Foundation stage staff work closely with pre-school settings to support a smooth transition. Assessments of the children are shared and agreed with both settings to ensure that children's learning can continue quickly and effectively.
- Each child is invited to spend three settling in sessions in school, in order to familiarise themselves with both the staff and the foundation stage environment.
 - First Explore with your parents/carers: Thursday 27th June 1:15pm – 2:00pm/2:15pm – 3:00pm
 - Stay and Play: Friday 5th July 10:00am – 10:45am /11:00am – 11:45am
 - Teddy Bears Picnic: Wednesday 10th July 12:00pm – 1:00pm
- We offer all new children a home visit, which will take place on Wednesday 4th, Thursday 5th or Friday 6th September, before your child starts school on Monday 9th September for half day sessions.

Learning Environment

At Fulbourn Primary we deliver a well-balanced learning experience, which consists of a mixture of adult-led, child-initiated and adult-enhanced provision. We balance adult-led phonics, maths, literacy and topic sessions each day with free-flow opportunities, where children can explore activities both inside and outside of the classroom. Our learning environment facilitates child-initiated play and provides children with carefully planned opportunities which allow children to explore, create and learn through exciting, stimulating, interactive and accessible resources.

Reception Uniform



Purple Sweatshirt, Jumper
or Cardigan



Jade Green or White
Polo Shirt



Flat Black Shoes
or plain black
trainers



Grey or Black Trousers
or Skirt

PE Kit



Plain White or
Jade Green
T-Shirt

Black Shorts,
Jogging Bottoms
or Skort



Plain Black
Trainers

What do I need?



Book Bag



Backpack



Water Bottle



Waterproof Coat



Wellington Boots

Top Tips for Starting School

Starting school is one of life's major milestones and for many parents it can be an emotional time. It's natural to feel both nervous and excited, but with a little advance preparation both you and your little one will be able to cope with the transition more smoothly.

Here are our Top 10 tips to help you and your child start school with a smile.

1. Talk about school

Start talking about school and ask your child how they are feeling. What are they most looking forward to? Are they worried about anything? Read books about starting school together, look at the school website together, and talk about the pictures. If your child seems anxious about school, try focusing on the things they'll like best – maybe the upper garden, playground or new friends.

2. Stay positive - keep calm and smile

It's natural to feel nervous about your child starting school, but remember that your child can easily pick up on your emotions. Ensure that you are always positive when talking about school. If you are enthusiastic and confident that all will be well, then your child will feel the same way too. Avoid using any negative language such as "you'll get in trouble if you behave like that at school."

3. Help them develop their independence

A child who can do things for themselves will feel happier and settle at school more quickly. There are many useful skills you can practise to help your child become independent and confident at school including sitting up at a table, eating with a knife and fork, using a tissue to blow their nose, washing their own hands, tidying up after themselves and being fully toilet trained during the day. Don't worry if your child can't do all these things before they start school. Teachers and support staff will help them learn these skills, so let them know what your child finds tricky

4. Let them try on their uniform

Your child will enjoy trying on their smart new uniform. Let them practise getting undressed and dressed in preparation for starting school. When shopping for new uniform, look for items with larger buttons that are easier for little fingers and when it comes to shoes, Velcro is preferable to laces. Teach them tricks for getting dressed like having the labels at the back, rolling up tights and holding cuffs to avoid sleeves riding up. Why not take a photograph of them in their new uniform and stick it to the fridge, to help them picture themselves at school?

5. Help them to recognise their name

Your child won't be expected to write their own name independently at the start of school, but it's often helpful if they can recognise their own name on a coat peg or name label. Put their name on their bedroom door (and anywhere else you're willing), and put name labels on absolutely everything, then show them to your child so they know where the labels are.

6. Play listening games

Games such as 'Simple Simon' and 'Can you find?' are great for helping little ones practice their listening skills, which will be an important skill at school where they will need to follow their teacher's instructions. Once they've mastered simple instructions, try adding two or three together: "Take off your coat then wash your hands and sit down at the table please."

7. Make a date

If you already know some other children who will be in your child's class, why not organise a play date or outing together before school starts? As well as helping the youngsters to develop their social skills, it's helpful for you to be able to chat about your own feelings and anxieties with their parents, who may be feeling the same.

8. Start a routine

We all know getting out of the house in the morning with a small child in tow can be a challenge, especially if you need to be somewhere for a specific time! As the start of term approaches, try to get into the school routine, so your child gets used to getting up, going to bed, and having meals and snacks at the times they will on school days. Practise the morning routine, including getting dressed and eating breakfast in time to leave. It's also a good idea to practise the school run so that you're both prepared for the journey. Bath time and stories will help children to wind down before bedtime, and nutritious meals and plenty of sleep will help them to concentrate and learn more easily during their time at school.

9. Read, Read, Read

At Fulbourn Primary we want every child to enjoy reading. Let's begin this journey together by establishing good reading habits now. Create a reading routine at home and read a story to your child every day, whether that's before bedtime or after lunch. Allow your child to see you read different texts at home or why not try reading in different places, such as the park, a quiet space at home or even on the bus!

10. Get to know your child's teachers

Your child's teacher will be an expert in helping children to settle in, learn and thrive at school. However, you know your child best, so if there is anything you think might help your child feel more settled, suggest it to the class teacher during the first few weeks.

Hopefully this has provided some helpful tips to help both you and your child prepare for starting school.