

Welcome to John Hampden Primary School



Teaching staff in Reception

Teachers

Periwinkle – Mrs Gillies and Mrs Begley



Aqua – Miss Butler and Mrs Cathcart



Early Years Curriculum

Activities in the Foundation Stage are carefully planned and organised in order to provide a range of learning experiences. Individual records are kept by staff to record the activities your child participates in and undertakes, as well as their progress in specific skills.

Planning is carried out using a topic-based approach, following the children's interests and responding to specific events.

There are 7 Areas of Learning in the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS), which activities are planned around:

- **Personal, Social and Emotional Development**
- **Physical Development**
- **Communication and Language**
- **Literacy**
- **Mathematics**
- **Understanding the World**
- **Expressive Arts and Design**

Throughout the EYFS, children will be working towards the Early Learning Goals. These describe the level of attainment expected at the end of your child's Reception year in school.



Class Size & Structure

Class Size: There are 2 Reception Classes in our school. Each class has a teacher and one full time teaching assistant. This year the classes are full with 30 children in each.

Structure: Each class has their own classroom and each one mirrors the other with activities and learning spaces. Children are taught by their class teacher(s) in their classroom space but will mix and see children and staff from the other Early Years classes out in the garden during free-flow play and lunchtimes.

Key Person: In Nursery and Reception, children are provided with a key person. You will find out who your child's key person in Term 1 once the children have settled and we have got to know them properly. It may be their class teacher, or it may be a member of support staff.

A Typical Day ...

- 8.45 – Teacher welcome
- 8.55 – Registration and carpet time
- 9.15 – Free-flow activities
- 10.00 – Snack café opens
- 11.20 – Carpet time
- 11.45 – Lunch time
- 1.00 – Afternoon registration and carpet time
- 1.20 – Free-flow activities
- 2.40 – Carpet time
- 3.00 – Get ready for home
- 3.10 – Home time

Carpet times – adult focussed, whole class/group teaching session. We aim to undertake one Maths and one Phonics/Literacy session each day alongside topic based learning based on the children's interests.

Free flow activities – child initiated play opportunities linked to all EYFS areas. These can be indoors or outdoors. During this time, individual/small groups of children will be working with teachers and support staff on adult focussed tasks.

Food and Drink



Lunch: At lunchtime your child can have a packed lunch prepared at home and brought into school, or a school dinner. Lunchtime in Reception is between 11.45am and 1.00pm and this is when the children can eat lunch and then play with their friends. All early years and Key Stage 1 children are entitled to a free school meal each day. School meals will be able to be ordered online via the Dolce website. Please let us know if your child has any dietary restrictions or requirements.

Snacks: Children will receive a free piece of fruit during the day alongside either water or milk. Our snack café opens at around 10am and remains open for approximately one hour. During that time the children can choose a suitable time in their learning to come and have snack.

Drinks: Water is available throughout the day, including lunchtimes. Children should also bring a drink to school – remembering that no fizzy drinks are allowed. We ask that children have a named water bottle that comes to school daily. We can help children re-fill their bottles if they need to.

Birthdays: We know that some children like to bring treats for their birthdays. This is personal choice and there is no expectation for parents to do this. Any birthday goodies are handed out at home time and children are not allowed to eat them at school. In this way, it is parental /carer choice about when or if the children can eat their treat.

Health

Health: Staff need to be aware of your child's medical background, in particular any allergies (e.g. bee stings, dairy food), any dietary restrictions (e.g. vegetarian or Halal) and any medical conditions that are important for us to know (e.g. asthma or eczema). The best way to communicate this is via the office so that your child's records can be updated. Hopefully information like this has already been shared on the enrolment forms.

Poorly children at school: Children can suddenly become ill and therefore it is important that we know we can contact you or another adult relative/friend at all times. Please ensure that the school is kept up to date with your contact details. We understand that lots of parents work, however it is crucial that you provide a local contact (friend, family member, etc.) in case of an emergency. This is why we have asked for four emergency contacts.

48 hour rule: If your child is sick or has diarrhoea, we ask that you keep them off of school for 48 hours since the last bout. We actively encourage good hygiene in the classroom, but with little ones, germs can be spread very easily.

First Aid: Most members of staff in Reception have Paediatric First Aid Training qualifications. If your child has a minor knock, cut or scrape we will fill out an accident slip to send home. If the child injures themselves and we are concerned, we will always contact you.



Learning Journeys, Reports and Parents Evenings

Learning Journeys: Throughout the year, staff will record your child's learning in their Learning Journey. This will form a unique record of your child's learning and development. It will contain samples of work, photographs and staff observations. These books enable staff to track your child's progress and attainment, and also to plan for future activities. We currently collect hard copies of work as well as recording digital observations on an app called Evidence Me. The app can be downloaded at home too so you can add exciting moments that you'd like to share with us.

Reports : Parents will receive a formal written report in July.

Parents Evenings: These happen twice a year, usually in October /November and February /March. If you have concerns about your child at any time, we would encourage you to speak with the class teacher.



Home Learning

We understand and value the support you provide for your child at home. Early years staff would love to hear about what you and your child have been doing at home. We encourage you to share your child's learning, achievements and experiences with staff, as this helps us to build a more complete picture of your child.

Things you can do:

- Write stickers
- Send in photos (hard copies or via Evidence Me)
- When the time comes – write in their reading record

Sometimes, we might send home activities for you to complete with your child at home.



What should the children wear?



- Bottle green sweatshirt, sweater or cardigan
- White shirt or blouse
- Grey or black trousers, shorts, skirts or dresses
- Green stripe or checked dresses for girls in summer
- Plain black school shoes (not trainers or boots)
- Warm, waterproof coat
- Socks, tights (black, grey or white)

PE Kit

Your child WILL NOT need a PE kit just yet. The EYFS encourages physical development through all learning and we are lucky to have an extensive outdoor environment, with a variety of gross motor opportunities which the children can access daily. We will write to inform you when PE kits are needed and what you will need to bring.

What should you bring?



With ONE
key
ring / ribbon

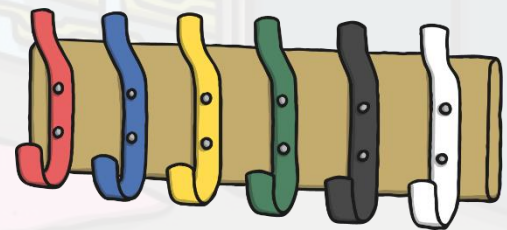


Name everything!

Pegs & Objects from Home

Pegs: Every child in Reception has their own peg for their coats, spare clothes and bag. Book bags are stored on shelves. The children will have a picture on their peg, so will quickly come to recognise it.

Objects from home: We ask that children keep toys and special things at home as they are easily lost in the classroom and garden. We sometimes have days where children can bring things in for show and tell and we will inform you by letter /sticker on your child's jumper of when these will be. On any occasion where anything is brought in from home, we suggest to the children that they are kept safely in bags and are not played with in the classroom.

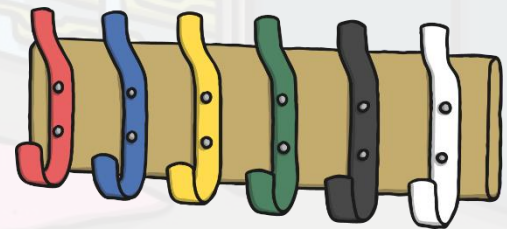


Breakfast and After School Cub



**Junior
Adventures
Group**

<https://www.junioradventuresgroup.co.uk/>





July 2023

In order to aid transition to school we have come up with the following plan:

Transition visits for children who are currently at John Hampden Nursery

Visits from our nursery classes are already taking place and will run until the end of term. Teachers will be visiting the children in nursery and the children will have the opportunity to eat their packed lunch in the hall before the end of term.

Transition visits to some feeder settings and phone calls to others

Transition visits and phone calls have been arranged with pre-schools and nurseries and will take place in June and July.

Drop in session

You are invited to come to school with your children on **Wednesday 19th July** between **3:30 and 4:30** to have a look at the environment and meet some members of our Early Years team.

All about Reception booklet

We will be sending home an electronic booklet with photos of the Reception team and the classrooms. Please share it with your children over the summer and talk about us at home.

September 2023



In order to aid transition to school we have come up with the following plan:

4th and 5th September

Home visits for non JHS Nursery families (we will be in touch to arrange these)

6th September

A stay and play session for you and your child to familiarise yourselves with the classrooms and staff. You will receive a separate communication with a slot for your family.

7th and 8th September (8.45am-1.30pm)

Your child will be invited on **one** of these days to stay for the morning session (including lunch).

Week beginning 11th September – School will start full time for Reception children from this week. Timings are 8.45am-3.10pm.



Any questions?

Thank you!

