



Welcome to Reception at Kingshurst Primary School

September 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

The Early Years team are very impressed with the way that the children have settled into school this year despite the difficulties that they have faced over the past 18 months. The children are showing an interest in exploring the environment and are excited to learn.

Reception Baseline Assessment (RBA)

With reference to the letter you received at the meet and greet, the Department of Education (DFE) have introduced a new EYFS framework, commencing September 2021. A new aspect of the EYFS framework is the Reception Baseline Assessment.

The Reception Baseline Assessment, or RBA is a short, interactive and practical assessment of your child's early literacy, communication, language and mathematics skills when they begin in school. It will be undertaken with your child's class teacher and will measure your child's progress from Reception to Year 6. The teacher will be able to spend quality 1-1 time with your child, getting to know them and if they need any further support in certain areas. When your child reaches Year 6, you will be able to see the progress your child has made throughout their school journey. If you wish to read further on the Reception Baseline Assessment, then you can find a useful parent booklet by clicking here [Information for parents reception baseline assessment](#)

If you have any questions about the RBA, then please feel free to speak to your child's class teacher.

Please keep an eye on Class Dojo, as we will keep you updated about what is happening in school. We have sent home some phonics information this week. From Tuesday 14th September the children will begin short phonics lessons and will be learning a phonics sound every day- we will send these sounds home weekly. You could also help by prompting your child to remember what sound they learnt. The children are also practising how to recognise and form their names every morning. Please practise these at home too, name cards written in the school handwriting print (Nelson) were sent home in their new to school packs. If you need another name card for your child, please let your child's class teacher know.

The children will be bringing reading books from our Read Write Inc. scheme home as soon as they can recognise some sounds and are beginning to blend them together- please be aware that we will ask for payment for any books that aren't returned. We are also sending a 'free reader book' home that your child has chosen. Please read this book with them. To support comprehension skills while reading, you can:

- Talk about the title and the pictures on the cover (front and back).
- Ask your child what they think the story might be about.
- After reading, ask your child what they liked about the story.
- Try asking 'how' and 'why' questions about the story and the pictures. For example: 'How did the bear get across the river?' 'Why was the fox cross?'

It would be lovely if your child can talk to us about the book when it is returned. We will be reading lots of stories at school, and trying to encourage a love of reading. **It would support your children immensely if you can read at home every day.**

Every day we have 'Get Learning Time' where the children will have access to the outdoor facilities as well as inside where they will be able to use a wide range of materials such as mud, paint, sand and water. This type of messy play enables the children to engage in a wide range of educational opportunities. We provide aprons but your child may still get a little bit messy. Please can you send a named carrier bag into school containing a change of clothes (this does not need to be school uniform) if you think that your child may need it. This can be kept on their peg and stay at school.

Around every half term we will send out a form called 'Wow Moments' for you to record an event or an achievement that made you proud. Please return these to your child's teacher to contribute to their Learning Journey.

We are going to ask all of the children in Reception to take part in 'Magical Me' throughout the year. We will be sending home a box with one child from each class every week. We would like them to bring it back into school containing an item from home, which they can talk to their friends about. This could be a favourite toy, a photograph, a memento, or anything of their choice. We will obviously do our best to keep it safe and to return it, but please do not send in anything too valuable or sentimental.

We would like to take this opportunity to issue some reminders:

- **Uniform:** As you can appreciate we have lots of children all wearing similar clothes, please name all clothing as this will help us to make sure that they get it back.
- **Water bottles:** Your child should have a **named** bottle filled with **water**. We understand that not all children are used to drinking water but they soon get used to it when others are doing the same.
- **Jewellery:** Stud earrings and a watch are the only jewellery items allowed in school. Hooped earrings, necklaces and bracelets are a health and safety issue, therefore they are **NOT** part of our school uniform.



- **P.E:** Children in Reception get lots of opportunities to develop their physical skills on a daily basis. We will be doing structured P.E. sessions on Friday each week. We are very lucky to have 'Yogabugs' coming into school to teach movements to stories, which is excellent for developing core strength. Please can they come to school wearing their P.E. kit every Friday. This can be navy blue shorts or jogging bottoms, white t-shirt, navy blue sweatshirt or school jumper and trainers or pumps. There is no need to bring in school uniform on these days.
- **Book bags:** All children should have a book bag for their reading book, reading diary, phonics books, and for any letters that we hand out. These can be purchased through parent pay at the school office.
- **Wet weather:** We like to make the most of our wonderful outdoor space and intend to use it come rain or shine. Could you please supply your child with some wellingtons and a waterproof coat so they can appreciate their outdoor environment at all times, particularly in the winter months. We do have some of these in school for the children to use, but not enough for everyone.
- **Clothing:** Please could you encourage your child to develop their independence when removing and putting on jumpers, cardigans and coats and fastening zips.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do send a message through class Dojo to your child's class teacher, and we will contact you to help. We are currently using Class Dojo for messages where possible, both before and after school.

Thank you for your support during your child's first weeks in school.

The Reception Team