

# Silsden Primary School



## Silsden Primary School

Welcome to Reception  
2021

## Welcome

Hi prospective parents, I hope this booklet finds you well! Please enjoy reading 'Welcome to Reception', hopefully the information contained within paints a good picture of life in Reception at Silsden Primary School.

*Miss Whytock*

*Assistant Headteacher - EYFS Leader*



## Reception Ethos

In Reception, children embark on a journey of discovery and exploration. We create a happy and caring atmosphere where all children feel valued and safe and where they will have the opportunity to develop positive relationships with all the adults and children within our setting.

The Early Years Foundation Stage is a unique curriculum where children often initiate their own learning through play as well as engaging in planned topic led learning.

We believe that a natural holistic approach ensures our children have fantastic opportunities to explore the awe and wonder of the world we live in. Alongside this we place a huge emphasis on communication, literacy and language across our environment.



We encourage all of our children to play and explore, learn new things, have fun, persevere, concentrate, have their own ideas, make links to their learning and make their own choices to become a confident, independent individual.



## New School

We are at an exciting time here Silsden Primary School, as we are currently awaiting the finish of our brand new purpose built school! Therefore, the Reception 2021 cohort will be truly magical as these children will be the first to start their educational journey at the new school site.

Here are a few images;



## The Curriculum

Reception is the final year of the Early Years Foundation Stage 0-5 curriculum.

We follow the statutory EYFS Curriculum which is currently broken down into the **Characteristics of Effective Learning** and the **Areas of Learning & Development**;

### Characters of Effective Learning;

#### **Playing and Exploring;**

- children investigate and experience things, and 'have a go'



#### **Active Learning;**

- children concentrate and keep on trying if they encounter difficulties, and enjoy achievements



#### **Creating and Thinking Critically;**

- children have and develop their own ideas, make links between ideas, and develop strategies for doing things



The above characteristics outline children's learning behaviours and their approach to everyday life, as opposed to their academic learning abilities. In Reception adults model the CoEL through play and teach them via stories using animal characters.

### Areas of Learning and Development;

#### **Prime Areas;**

**Communication and Language** – Listening, Attention & Understanding and Speaking

**Personal, Social and Emotional Development** – Self-Regulation, Managing Self and Building Relationships

**Physical Development** – Gross Motor Skills and Fine Motor Skills

#### **Specific Areas;**

**Literacy** – Comprehension, Word Reading and Writing

**Mathematics** – Numbers and Numerical Patterns

**Understanding the World** – Past & Present, People, Culture & Communities and The Natural World

**Expressive Arts & Design** – Creating with Materials and Being Imaginative & Expressive

All 17 areas of the curriculum have an Early Learning Goal (ELG). The ELG is defined by is a list of skills that a child is expected to achieve by the end of their Reception year, in order to be seen as working at age related expectations.

*Please note that the above curriculum is a revised version, new for September 2021.*

## Lunchtime

At lunchtime the children will eat their lunch at tables in the main school hall and experience family dining. The food is served to the children at the kitchen serving hatch and they sit with their cohort encouraging talk and friendships. Adults in the hall provide your child with water, model good table manners and support independence to clear their trays away. Please ensure your child can use a knife and fork and talk to them about eating a range of healthy foods. Staff will help the children with their lunches and make sure they are eating enough.

Children have a choice of meals each day which the admin team will email out the menus for you to view in advance.

School meals are provided **free of charge** to all children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2.



## Milk and Snack

Fruit and vegetables are provided free of charge under the school fruit and vegetable scheme and children will either participate in group snack or can access the snack table independently throughout the day when they choose.

Milk is provided free of charge for all children under the age of 5. Please see the school prospectus for details on how to register via Cool Milk.

**All children will need a named water bottle which remains in school and is sent home on a Friday for washing.**



## Timetable

The school day starts with self-registering followed by a morning activity on the carpet. These activities help to settle the children in and to teach basic key skills. The morning activity will have a communication, literacy or language focus.

Throughout the school day children will take part in whole class, small group and adult directed activities as well as having lots of time to access the provision independently.

The Reception environment is made up of both indoor and outdoor learning spaces. Children will access indoor provision in their individual class's but can freely access the outdoor area as one unit. Within each area of learning children will be exposed to curriculum based skills through play. Each area will have a provocation, adult enhanced provision and materials to extend their learning, all running alongside our continuous provision.

As we teach children independence and structure our timetable will adapt across the year. Carpet inputs will get longer and group sizes will get bigger all to help prepare children for Year 1.

We use the outdoor area all year round and provide mud suits for the children to wear (weather/ activity dependant). **They will need a named pair of welly boots which remain at school all year round. Please bring them with you on your child's first transition day.**



## PE

Reception children will have an indoor PE lesson once a week and will need an indoor PE kit. PE lessons will commence once children have settled into school life in which we in visage to be from October half term or possibly after the Christmas break. **Please provide a white T- shirt, black shorts and black indoor PE pumps, in a named bag, and ensure all items of clothing are named.**

PE kits are sent home every half term for washing and to allow you to check that the items still fit. You can help your child by practising dressing and undressing before they start school and making sure they are wearing clothes they can take on and off easily on their PE day – e.g. no tights, buttoned shirts or lace up shoes.



## Phonics

Phonics is taught throughout EYFS and Key Stage One following the Silsden Primary School bespoke programme of study. Children are taught phonic sounds, letter formation, blending for reading and segmenting for writing as well as reading comprehension skills. There will be more information about phonics teaching at Silsden and an opportunity to attend phonics parent workshops in September/ October.

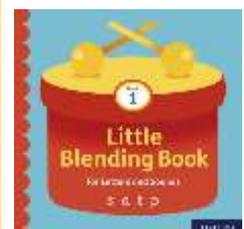
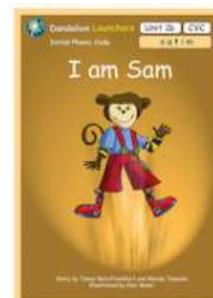
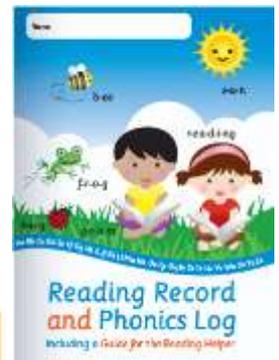
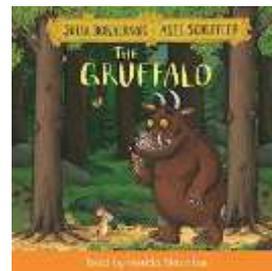


On Friday's an activity linked to children's phonic learning that week is sent home.

## Home learning

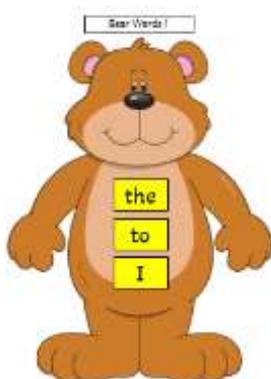
**Home learning** tasks are linked to each curriculum topic. These will be sent home at the start of each half term and are to be completed as and when you can fit it around your home schedule. Please encourage your child to complete these tasks and talk to them about what they are doing. Children can bring their home learning book in at any point across the school year to 'show' their class teacher. Home learning books are to be returned at the start of the following half term for the new home learning to be stuck in. A parent ping will be sent out to remind you of this nearer the time.

**Reading books** will be sent home 3 times per week on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Children will receive a series of books across the week; 1 reading scheme book, 1 free read library book (to be read to the children) and 1 phonic book. Each book has a different purpose and enables a different reading skills to be practised. It is really important that you support your child with their reading at home. Reading books will be recorded in a reading record. Please sign the reading record when you have read with your child so we can change their book.



In addition, children will also bring home 'Bear Words'. Bear Words are lists of key sight words (also known as common exception words) to learn to read and write

independently. Bear Words will be checked in school each week with an adult. If a child successfully reads their words by sight they will get a certificate and the next set of words. We would encourage you to look at these as part of the reading routine.



*Throughout the autumn term, the above will be gradually introduced with further information on how to support your child at home.*

## Communication with Parents

In order to communicate any messages between home and school we strongly suggest that during Reception, you pass any messages or queries onto the Reception staff at the door before and after school. This will be the Reception Teacher's main point of parent communication.

In addition to the information in the school prospectus (Class Dojo and School PING) you will receive a half termly year group newsletter to inform you of the teaching and learning happening across Reception per topic.

We are a school that likes to tweet so please check out and follow our whole school twitter account **@SilsdenPrimary**, to see all the exciting things we get up to.

Across the academic year there will be opportunities to attend stay and play sessions. These sessions are designed to help you gain further understanding into school life and the Early Years Curriculum.

Finally, you will be invited to two parental consultation evenings in the autumn and spring terms where you will have the opportunity to discuss your child's progress in detail. You will also receive written reports informing you of both your child's progress and achievement, as well as general comments on their behaviour and attitude to learning at the end of the school year.



## Behaviour and Expectations

We work very hard in Reception to ensure that the environment is supportive, caring and built on mutual respect between staff and children. We follow the whole school behaviour policy (available on the school website) and use both intrinsic and extrinsic methods of behaviour management. We celebrate and praise positive behaviour choices in a range of ways and encourage all children to be responsible, respectful and to try their best. Each term we look at 2-3 animal characters from our Characteristics of Effective Learning and explore what these mean through circle times, assemblies and discussions. If we have any concerns about a child's behaviour this will be discussed with parents and vice versa.



## Top tips to be School ready...

Starting school is a big step for your child (and for their parents!) and lots of parents want to know what their child should be able to do before they start with us in September. The following list is a guide and each child will develop and learn at their own rate and in their own way;

- Encourage your child to use the toilet independently, flush and wash their hands
- Support your child to recognise their feelings and manage their emotions
- Establish routines and boundaries prior to starting school, to equip them with the skills to manage school life
- Develop their speaking and listening skills by talking and engaging in conversation
- Share books and stories with them and talk about what you have read
- Play games to encourage concentration and turn taking
- Provide opportunities for your child to play with their peers
- Try on the school uniform and PE kit and allow your child to practice removing and putting on their own jumpers/cardigans, coats and shoes
- Begin to develop their recognition of numbers and letters – play I spy, count objects in the home, look for letter, shapes and numbers in the environment and in books
- Help your child to recognise and write their name

*More information & advice will be given out in our welcome packs around June/July.*

## Reception Check List

- ✓ Uniform
- ✓ Book Bag
- ✓ Water bottle
- ✓ Welly boots for outdoor play
- ✓ PE kit
- ✓ Return all forms to school *(when you receive a welcome pack)*
  - School Admission Form
  - Eligibility for Pupil Premium Online Data Form
  - Silsden Sprouts Booking Form
  - Medical & dietary pack
  - Parent Pay
  - Privacy Notice
  - Home School Agreement

