

Information for Parents and Carers

At your Meet the Teacher meeting this week, you will find out about the specifics of your child's new year group and the curriculum, but here is some general information that you might find helpful.

Soft Start

- School gate on Monkfrith Way and Brookside South is opened at 8.30 a.m. and a senior member of staff is always on duty. Children from Y1-6 walk around to their classrooms by the newly designated routes, where they are supervised by a Teaching Assistant until the start of the school day at 8.55 a.m.
- Please ensure that you park safely and considerately around school if you are not able to walk. Our neighbours are understandably frustrated by the number of cars parked or idling outside their houses and the impact that this has on their lives.

Punctuality

- Children arriving after that time are deemed to be late. They will need to be signed in by an adult at the Office.

Attendance

- Children should only be absent from school if they are unwell. Please inform the Office if your child will not be attending school with a reason to ensure that this is able to be authorised.
- If your child has had sickness or diarrhea, they need to stay off school for 48 hours after their last episode.
- Holidays during term time are not permitted. If you take a holiday during school time, then you should be prepared to receive a fine of up to £120 per parent per child.

Uniform

- Children should be in full school uniform every day including appropriate black school shoes-not trainers.
- Please make sure children are not wearing jewellery, nail varnish or tattoos.
- Hair must be tied back, this applies to girls and boys.
- Discrete hair adornments please!
- PE kits need to be in school at all times. The kit consists of a white round neck t-shirt, blue shorts and plimsolls or trainers. All kit should be clearly named.
- Children need a navy sweatshirt and joggers for outdoor PE as well. These should be as plain as possible without logos.

Book Bags

- If your child is bringing in a rucksack or bag, it must be able to fit on their peg.
- We understand that children like having keyrings added on, but these can be a distraction and cause confusion (particularly if a number of children all have the same ones).

Communication

- All newsletters are available on the website and are emailed. If you don't receive one, let the Office know.
- There is also a calendar of dates on the website which will be more frequently updated this year and sets out the dates in advance as much as possible.
- Please try and let us know in advance if your child is being picked up by someone else as early in the day as possible to ensure that the message gets to the classroom before the children go home.

Behaviour

- Children are expected to take responsibility for their behaviour and good behaviour is the expected norm. All staff use the behaviour policy consistently and work through the sanctions:
 - Refocus. Dependent on child they may be refocused more than once.
 - Warning.
 - Talk with the teacher after a session to discuss alternative behaviour.
 - Exit (an immediate exit for violent behaviour/abusive language)
 - 2 warnings is equivalent to a red card.
 - Parents will be informed of all exits. KS1 teachers hand the forms over in a sealed envelope or put in the children's book bags.

Homework

- Homework is given on a Friday and expected back in school the following Wednesday.
- Children are expected to take responsibility for ensuring their homework is completed and returned on the correct day but may need support from you.
- Encourage your child to ask for clarification if they are not sure about something.
- Please cover the homework books, so they look better for longer.

Mobile Phones

- Some parents choose to send their child with their phone, particularly if they are walking to and from school. If this is the case, your child will need to bring their phone to the Office first thing in the morning where we will store it until the end of the day at your risk.

Independent Travellers

- If you have made the choice to let your child walk to or from school, please let us know. You can drop an email to the office.

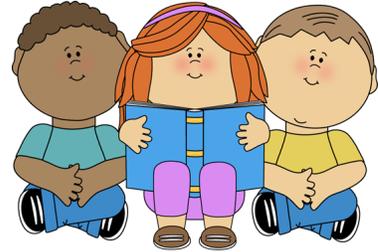
Reading with your child at home

The DfE has produced 10 top tips for parents to support children to read.

How to read a story to your child:

On the first reading:

- Make reading aloud feel like a treat. Make it a special quiet time and cuddle up so you can both see the book.
- Show curiosity about what you're going to read: 'This book looks interesting. It's about an angry child. I wonder how angry he gets...'
- Read through the whole story the first time without stopping too much. Let the story weave its own magic.
- Read with enjoyment. If you're not enjoying it, your child won't.



Read favourite stories over and over again. On later readings:

- Let your child pause, think about and comment on the pictures.
- If you think your child did not understand something, try to explain: 'Oh! I think what's happening here is that...'
- Chat about the story and pictures: 'I wonder why she did that?'; 'Oh no, I hope she's not going to...'; 'I wouldn't have done that, would you?'
- Link the stories to your own family experiences: 'This reminds me of when ...'
- Link stories to others that your child knows: 'Ah! Do you remember the dragon in? Do you remember what happened to him?'
- Encourage your child to join in with the bits they know.
- Avoid asking questions to test what your child remembers.
- Avoid telling children that reading stories is good for them.