



**Christ Church CE School
London, NW1 4BD**



Early Years Foundation Stage Information Booklet

Reception – September 2024

CHRIST CHURCH CE SCHOOL
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Welcome to Christ Church School

We hope that your children will have a happy and profitable time with us. Here is some information that will explain some of the things you need to know, and help to settle your child into school quickly. Please take the time to read through it and do keep it for future reference.



Times

School begins at 9.00am and we ask that you make every effort to be prompt. Children need to be in the main entrance by 8:55am.

Morning session: 9.00am – 12.00

Lunch: 12.00 – 1.00pm

Afternoon session: 1.00 – 3.30pm



Please be on time to collect your child at the end of the day. Children become easily distressed if they are the only one left on the carpet. Please wait outside the main entrance and the class will be dismissed from the office area.

If someone other than yourself is collecting your child, please let us know beforehand. We will not allow your child to go home with anyone without your authority.

Staff will always be available after school if you have any concerns. Staff are usually busy in the morning settling the children, but will be available for anything urgent, such as informing them your child is unwell.

For children who have been in Holly Class (Nursery):

Children coming into Chestnut class (Reception) will have been in Holly class (Nursery) and will be familiar with the classroom. This enables a smooth settling in.

If your child has been in Holly Class, they will be full time in Chestnut Class straight away. They will return to school on the same day as the rest of the school.

For Children who have not been in Holly Class:

Children who have not been in Holly class are invited to spend one afternoon in Chestnut class for an initial transition, with their parent/carer, so they can get to know the adults, children and their new surroundings.

The class teacher will meet with parents/ carers of children new to the school. You will be given your start date during this meeting.

Children starting school in Chestnut class will begin the day after the school opens. They will arrive at 9.30am and will stay for a morning session for the first day finishing at 1.15pm.

From the second day, all children will be full time in reception class.

If for any individual reasons a child finds the transition very challenging a personal and individual settling plan will be made through discussions between the class teacher and parent / carers.

Lunch

Children may have a packed lunch or school dinner. Children can change from one to the other at the beginning of term/half term only.



Illness

If you suspect that your child is unwell, please keep him or her at home.
We ask that you telephone the school on the FIRST day of your child’s absence.
If your child is unwell or hurt during the day we will contact you so that you can collect them.

Dental and medical appointments

Please try and arrange for these to be outside of school time.

If that is not possible please inform your child’s teacher beforehand.

Behaviour

The school has a behaviour policy and positive strategies to promote good behaviour. We ask for your support in this. We reject any types of anti-social behaviour.

Curriculum

The Early Years Foundation Stage consists of Nursery (Holly Class) and Reception (Chestnut Class)

The curriculum for this stage is divided into seven areas. There are three ‘prime’ areas, which are considered to be fundamental and run through and support all other learning and 4 specific areas. The areas of learning are:

Communication and Language	Listening, Attention and Understanding Speaking
Personal, Social and Emotional Development	Self-Regulation Managing Self Building Relationships
Physical Development	Gross Motor Fine Motor
Literacy	Comprehension Word Reading Writing
Maths	Number Numerical Patterns
Understanding the World	Past and Present People, Cultures and Communities The Natural World
Expressive Arts and Design	Creating with Materials Being Imaginative and Expressive.

The curriculum is delivered outdoors and indoors with a specific theme each half term. We cover all areas of the curriculum in the course of a week. Each day the children are involved in teacher-directed activities and in choosing the activities that they would like to participate in.

Please find attached the Early Learning Goals, which children are expected to meet at the end of Reception.



P.A.C.T. (Parents and Children Reading Together)

Book bags can be purchased via the school office.

The children choose a book to take home each week to share with you.

When children begin reading, we choose another book for each child to take home. This book is pitched at each individual child's level. Please enable your child to talk about/read this book to you every day. We will change this book once a week. They will also read a copy of the same book in school 3 times a week with a school adult. This builds children's fluency in reading.

Children have a reading record book in which parents and carers can comment.

All these items need to be kept in the child's book bag and brought to school every day.

Please encourage children to take care of their books. A charge will be made if a book is lost or damaged.

Homework

Children in Reception do receive homework, which is usually practising phonics and number work learnt in class.

Homework is given out on a Wednesday and must be returned to school on Tuesday.

Clothing

The children wear a school uniform. This consists of navy blue V-neck school sweatshirt and yellow polo-shirt. These can all be purchased online, please ask at the office for details of the website. Skirts, trousers, shorts, socks and tights should be plain navy blue. Girls may only wear yellow and white check dresses in summer.

Children in Reception will continue getting changed for P.E. Children will need a P.E. t-shirt, which can be purchased online, and navy blue shorts or jogging bottoms. P.E. bags are also available to purchase from the school office. Please also put appropriate footwear (e.g. black plimsolls) into your child's P.E. bag, and socks for girls who often wear tights.

Shoes or trainers should be plain black and suitable for outdoor play and appropriate for the weather. Please do not send your child to school in shoes or trainers with laces unless they can do these up by themselves.



Please label your child's uniform with a permanent pen.

Please avoid tight or complicated fastenings so as to prevent any potential toileting accidents.

If a toilet accident occurs, we will send your child home in spare clothing. Please wash it and return it the next day.

In winter all children will need a warm coat, hat and gloves. Children in the EYFS all go outside whatever the weather.

In summer we advise that the children wear a protective hat and that you apply sunscreen in the morning. This will be reapplied throughout the day, provided you have given permission to do so.

The school provides wetsuits for the children to enable them to play outdoors in wet weather. All children will need to bring in a pair of named Wellington boots.

For health and safety reasons, we ask that the children do not wear any jewellery and that only stud earrings are worn.

Long hair needs to be tied back as this will help to discourage head lice.

How can you help at home?

Encourage your child to be independent wherever possible by:

- going to the toilet by him/herself
- washing and drying their own hands
- putting on own shoes/socks and coat
- dressing and undressing themselves
- feeding themselves with a knife and fork
- playing with other children
- helping you do things at home
- allowing them to carry their own book bags and any money to school

Ensure your child gets plenty of sleep, particularly at the beginning.

Ensure that you arrive at school early each day and that you are on time in the afternoon.

Talk, read, sing songs and rhymes with your child as much as possible.

Encourage your child to paint, draw and use scissors.

If you have any worries regarding your child, do talk to one of us.



Key Person

We run a Key Person system in the EYFS (Early Years Foundation Stage). This is a system where each child has a named Key Person who is responsible for the child's daily life in Nursery/Reception.

This involves the Key Person building a trusting relationship with the child and parent. They are responsible for the child's transition process, providing continuity for the child and parent, liaising with the parent about the child's daily life and education. They also observe, assess and record the child's individual development.

The Key Person is your point of contact if you wish to discuss anything about your child. All information is shared and passed on.

All the staff in Reception will be involved in the care and education of your child. In Reception, your child's key person will be the class teacher.

Evidence Me

At in EYFS at Christ Church, we use Evidence Me, which means that we use an online learning journal which parents can access online. We upload the journal with fun activities children have enjoyed as well as key learning moments that we wish to record and share.

Evidence Me is a fantastic tool to support the links between the school and home. It provides great discussions between home and the child about what learning they have been completing.

It is also used for families to share wow moments at home with school staff and allow us to achieve a more holistic view of your child.

Evidence Me is a secure online platform and all parents / carers must sign the relevant rules and agreements at the start of the year to ensure all images are used appropriately.



EYFS Unit

Our Early Years classes (Nursery and Reception) work together as a unit and share resources and planning. There will also be parts of the day where the children will have free access to the activities in either area of Reception or Nursery. This supports the children's transition processes from one class to another and children build strong relationships with all staff within the Early Years. Children can also make friends across year groups which supports bonds throughout their school lives. We work as a cohesive unit and all members of staff may make observations and highlight moments of progress about your child.

We are really looking forward to work with you and your child.

Welcome to Christ Church School!

