



# CHRIST CHURCH CE PRIMARY SCHOOL (NW1)

The Christian faith is at the heart of our school community.  
At Christ Church we all care, learn and work together for God  
and others.

'For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do  
good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do'.  
Ephesians 2:10



## EYFS Information Booklet September 2025

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**Executive Headteacher: Lee Duffy  
Head of School / SENDCO: Amy Stroud  
EYFS Leader / Teacher: Michael Ritson  
Nursery Manager: Bernie O'Connell**

# Welcome to Christ Church School

We hope that your children will have a happy and enjoyable time with us. Here is some information that will explain 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.



## The School Day

School begins at 9.00am.  
Children need to be in the classroom by 8:55am.

### Nursery Day

Morning session: 9.00am – 12.00pm  
Lunchtime: 12.00 – 1.00pm  
Afternoon Session: 12:30pm - 3:30pm

### Reception Day

Morning session: 9.00am – 12.00pm  
Lunchtime: 12.00 – 1.00pm  
Afternoon Session: 12:30pm - 3:30pm

Please be on time to collect your child at the end of the day. Children can become easily distressed if they are the only one left on the carpet.

Drop off and dismissal for children in Early Years will be at their classroom doors.

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.

### **Settling-in Procedures for Nursery**

In Nursery we have a staggered entry programme to ensure that all children are happy and settled.

You will be informed of your child's start date during your home visit/ school meeting. We have a small nursery of 13 children so we aim to transition and settle the children as quickly as possible.

#### **The first day**

Children come to school at 9:00 am and leave at 11:45 am.

#### **The rest of the first week**

Children come into school at 9:00am and are collected at 1.00 pm. They will have lunch at school on this day.

#### **The second week onwards**

If your child has settled quickly and is full-time, they will attend from 9.00am to 3.30pm.

We are encouraging children to be as independent from the beginning of school. Therefore, where possible we are hoping children say good bye to their grown ups at the main door.

This will be dependent on specific circumstances on each day.

If need, an individual settling plan will be made through discussions between the class teacher and parent / carers.



### **Settling-in Procedures for Reception**

#### **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**

Lunches are free for all children from Reception and we would strongly encourage all children to have a school lunch. School meals are healthy and nutritious and will help widen your child's palate.

### **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 before 8:45am. 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 understand children that are new to settling and forming relationships is a key part of the EYFS curriculum. We will work together with parents to resolve any issues.

### **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:

Areas of Learning and Development			
Prime Areas			
Personal, Social and Emotional Development	Physical Development	Communication and Language	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Self- Regulation</li><li>• Managing Self</li><li>• Building Relationships</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Gross Motor Skills</li><li>• Fine Motor Skills</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Listening, Attention and Understanding</li><li>• Speaking</li></ul>	
Specific Areas			
Literacy	Mathematics	Understanding the World	Expressive Arts and Design
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Comprehension</li><li>• Word Reading</li><li>• Writing</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Number</li><li>• Numerical Patterns</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Past and Present</li><li>• People, Culture and Communities</li><li>• The Natural World</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Creating with Materials</li><li>• Being Imaginative and Expressive</li></ul>



The curriculum is delivered outdoors and indoors daily 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 child-initiated 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.

More information about school uniform can be found on our school website:  
<https://www.cchurchnw1.camden.sch.uk/page/?title=School+Uniform&pid=36>



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.

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?

Prior to starting school please 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
- Talk, read, sing songs and rhymes with your child as much as possible.
- Encourage your child to paint, draw and use scissors.
- Ensure your child gets plenty of sleep, particularly at the beginning.

Please make sure that you arrive at school early each day and that you are on time in the afternoon. If you have any worries regarding your child, do talk to one of us.

More information about starting school can be found here: <https://startingreception.co.uk/>



### 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 EYFS will be involved in the care and education of your child. In Reception, your child's key person will be the class teacher. In Nursery it will be the Nursery Manager.

### **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!

