

Walford Primary School

*Learning and Enjoyment...
Every Child, Every Opportunity, Every Day!*

EYFS Information Booklet



Welcome to Class R

Your child's first experience in school is very important. Here at Walford, we recognise that settling into school is a big step for your child and we endeavour to make it a happy and enjoyable transition. Our aim is to make school a happy, stimulating and rewarding environment for your child to discover, learn and play in a wide range of experiences.

It is very important that home and school work together in developing an effective partnership. This booklet is designed to be the first step towards building a successful relationship. It contains information about some of the learning opportunities and experiences that your child will have during their first year at school.

The Reception Year at Walford Primary School

Between the ages of 3-6 your child learns faster and develops more rapidly than at any other time during his/her life. We believe that this learning should be a pleasurable and rewarding experience, in which he/she explores, investigates, creates, practices, rehearses, repeats, revises and consolidates his/her developing knowledge, skills, understanding and attitudes.

The skills and ideas acquired during your child's time in Class R provide them with a firm foundation for their future development.

Class R is an exciting place where children learn through:

- ✚ Structured play
- ✚ Talking to others
- ✚ Investigating and discovering
- ✚ Making choices
- ✚ Thinking and reflecting
- ✚ Working in groups and independently

All of these opportunities are designed to develop confident, kind, well-behaved children, who make the most of their school experience and enjoy high levels of success.

The Foundation Stage Curriculum

During the reception year, your child will follow the national Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum, working towards the Early Learning Goals. Throughout the year, your child will be involved in a wide range of activities every day, developing his/her skills in many different areas.

Sometimes, your child will be involved in a task that focuses upon developing a skill in one specific area, such as, practising handwriting. At other times, he/she will be involved in tasks that encompass a wide range of skills, such as, building with large bricks or playing with puppets. The class teacher, or learning support assistant, will support your child through every step of their learning development. He/she will be encouraged to practise his/her skills to a high standard and to celebrate all achievements.



The Four Principles of the EYFS

These principles are designed to celebrate the importance of play and learning, by putting the child back at the heart of early years practice.

A Unique Child

From birth, every child is a competent learner who can be resilient, capable and self assured.

Positive Relationships

Children learn to be strong and independent from a base of loving and secure relationships with parents and/or a key person.

Enabling Environments

The environment plays a key role in supporting and extending children's development and learning.

Learning and Development

Children develop and learn in different ways and at different rates. All areas of Learning and Development are equally important and are inter-connected.

The Seven Areas of Learning

The 3 Prime Areas

Communication, Language (CL)

Listening, Attention and Understanding, Speaking.

In reception, we give children opportunities to experience a rich language environment, to develop their confidence and skills in expressing themselves, and to speak and listen in different situations.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development (PSED)

Self- Regulation, Managing Self, Building Relationships

In reception, children learn to become more independent, managing their own basic hygiene and personal needs. They are taught to be aware and take into account the feelings of others, as well as their own. We also encourage and teach children to be more confident, to take turns and to share as part of a group, building positive attachments and relationships with others.

Physical Development (PD)

Gross Motor Skills, Fine Motor Skills

In reception, we teach children to move in a controlled and co-ordinated way, on both large and small scales. We also encourage, with activities, the development of their fine motor skills, such as, using a range of tools safely and holding a pencil effectively in preparation for fluent writing.

The 4 Specific Areas

Literacy (L)

Comprehension, Word Reading, Writing.

In reception, children are taught to read and spell by learning phonemes (sounds) through the Read Write Inclusive (RWInc) program. They learn to demonstrate an understanding of what has been read to them by retelling stories and narratives using their own words and recently introduced vocabulary. We also teach the importance of the different elements that make up a story such as, the main character and the sequence of events. We teach children how to hold a pencil correctly and how to turn their mark making into recognisable letters.

Mathematics (M)

Numbers, Numerical Patterns.

In reception, children learn to recognise and have a deeper understanding of numbers up to ten and to verbally count to twenty (and beyond). They learn to subitise up to 5 and have a greater understanding of number sense. We teach them to recall number bonds up to 5 and 10 as well as simple addition and subtraction through songs and games. Children learn how we measure height, weight and capacity and explore shape through different arrangements.

Understanding the World (UW)

People and Present, People, Culture and Communities, The Natural World.

In reception, we learn to explore our surroundings, look at different cultures, places, and we find out about different times and events.



Creative Development (CD)

Creating with Materials, Being Imaginative and Expressive.

In reception, we explore different creative materials, paint, play-dough, clay and papier-mache. We learn to sing, play and perform a variety of nursery rhymes and well-known songs, including musical instruments. We also develop children's imagination through various role play areas which change frequently throughout the year according to the children's interests.



Helping your child in school

- ✚ Listen and talk about school with your child. Every day in school is an extremely busy one and your child will be full of new ideas and experiences they will want to share with you. This is really important.
- ✚ Read as many stories to your child as you can. Talk about the stories. Explain the meaning of new words. Most importantly though, demonstrate the fun that can be gained by listening to stories.
- ✚ If there is anything you wish to discuss with us, please do not hesitate to contact the school office, or pop in after school to make an appointment to see your child's class teacher.

Please remember that each child is different and this is reflected in the level of maturity, attainment and development reached. It is also important to remember that by the end of the reception year, every child will have developed a wide range of interests and skills. By working together, we can ensure that your child is happy, confident, has a positive attitude to learning and enjoys all that school life has to offer.

Miss Self - Reception Class teacher.