



## Starting Reception at Woodside School

### Parent/Carer information

This booklet contains the important information you need about your child starting Reception in our school.

#### **The Early Years Foundation Stage**

The Reception year is the final stage of your child's learning and development in the Early Years Foundation Stage. They will continue to learn skills, acquire knowledge and demonstrate their understanding through seven areas of learning and development. These areas are:

#### **The Prime Areas**

**Personal, social and emotional development** – Self-Regulation, Managing Self and Building Relationships.

**Communication and language** – Listening, Attention and Understanding and Speaking.

**Physical development** – Gross Motor Skills and Fine Motor Skills.

#### **The Specific Areas**

**Literacy**- Comprehension, Word Reading and Writing.

**Mathematics** – Number and Numerical Patterns.

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

**Expressive arts and design** – Creating with Materials, Being imaginative and Expressive.

These seven areas of learning are used to plan your child's learning and activities in Reception. Children in the early years learn by playing and exploring, being active and though creative and critical thinking, both indoors and outdoors, and all activities are planned with this in mind.

#### **Assessment**

Assessments are made throughout the year and are based on observations and our knowledge of the whole child. Each child is expected to achieve a 'good level of development' at the end of their Reception year. To achieve this, they must attain the early learning goal in all three prime areas and literacy and mathematics. The early learning goals can be found on our website - <http://woodsideschool.co.uk>

We hold parent/carers consultation meetings in the autumn and spring terms. These meetings provide you with an opportunity to discuss your child's progress with their class teacher.

## **The Reception classes**

We have three Reception classes. They are:

**RRH** – Mrs Ruth Holmes (Reception leader and class teacher)

**RSD** – Mrs Sarah Darlington (class teacher)

**RJSJO** – Mrs Jessica Sutcliffe (class teacher Monday and Tuesday) and Miss Jennifer Owen (class teacher Weds-Fri).

We also have three teaching assistants who support teaching and learning across all three classes. They are:

Mrs Kerry Whyte

Mrs Fiona Kennard

Miss Natasha Evans

## **A typical day in Reception**

**8:30am** School day starts

**9:00am** Adult led learning time

**9:30am** Child initiated learning time and snack (indoors and outdoors)

**11:30am** Adult led learning time

**12:00pm** Lunch

**1:00pm** Registration and Adult led learning time

**1:30pm** Child initiated learning time (indoors and outdoors)

**3:00pm** Home time

Our adult led learning times are when we learn new things, build on things we already know and practice different skills in a number of the different areas of learning including literacy, mathematics, letters and sounds, handwriting etc. Our school day changes as the year progresses.

## **Additional opportunities**

During the year the children have access to a wide range of additional opportunities to support their learning and development.

Each class will have Forest School during the year. You will receive a letter before your child starts their Forest School sessions to let you know what they will need to bring in/wear for Forest School.

We also visit our fantastic school library each week where the children listen to stories, learn how to use a library and can borrow a book to bring home to share with you.

We hope we will be able to run an after-school club one afternoon a week each half term. In previous years we have had a Music club, Christmas craft club, Yoga club and a Board Games club. A gardening club has also run during the summer term.

## **Uniform**

Our pupil dress code is on our website – <http://woodsideschool.co.uk>

As we spend some of our time learning outdoors it is important that we are able to do so in all weathers. Please ensure that your child has wellies and waterproof trousers or a

waterproof all-in-one that can be left in school to enable them to stay clean and dry when learning outdoors.

**Please ensure that all items of clothing are clearly labelled with your child's name including shoes, trainers and wellies.**

### **PE Kit**

Our PE sessions are taught by specialist coaches and they are always great fun! Your child will need a PE kit:

White t-shirt  
Black shorts  
Tracksuit bottoms (plain)  
Tracksuit jumper/zip up jacket (plain)  
Trainers  
Socks  
PE bag

Your child will come to school in their PE kit on their PE day. Our PE days are as follows:

RRH – Wednesday

RSD – Thursday

RJSJO - Wednesday

### **Lunchtime**

You can decide each day whether you would like your child to have a hot dinner or bring their own packed lunch. We operate a healthy eating policy in school, therefore if they are bringing a packed lunch please ensure it is a healthy lunchbox. Sweets, chocolate bars and fizzy drinks are not allowed.

We are also a 'nut-free' school so no nuts to be included in packed lunches.

Currently all children in Reception, Year One and Year Two are entitled to a free hot lunch each day.

### **Water bottles**

Snack is provided in Reception each day. This consists of fruit and milk or water. Your child can bring their own drinks bottle into school if they wish which they can access throughout the school day. However, it must contain water.

### **Expectations at school**

There are a number of things we ask of the children in school to ensure that our classrooms are happy, conducive to learning and encourage a growing independence. While they are at school we expect all children to be able to:

- Do what they are told by an adult
- Co-operate and share with their friends
- Be responsible for looking after our resources
- Understand that there are quieter times during the day to listen and learn and noisier times to play
- Regularly take books home to share

- Leave their toys at home
- Concentrate for longer periods of time
- Follow school and class rules for behaviour and learning
- Go to the toilet independently
- Put on their coat independently and have a go at fastening it
- Be able to change for PE.

### **Getting your child ready for school**

There are a number of things you can do to help your child get ready to start school. You can talk to them about school and what to expect. Reassure your child that there are lots of new children starting school and they are not on their own. Share positive books and stories about starting school. Talk to your child about how they will come into school with you on the first day and how you (or another carer) will be waiting for them at home time. Finally, you can talk to them about what is expected of them at school and practise some of the skills and expectations set out in the previous section.

### **Any Further Questions**

If you have any questions you can contact Mrs Ruth Holmes (Reception Leader and teacher) on: 01691652446 or [admin@woodside.shropshire.sch.uk](mailto:admin@woodside.shropshire.sch.uk)