



Reception Home School
Partnership

Early Years Foundation Stage

How the government and Early Years professionals describe the time in your child's life from birth to 5 years.

Children are born ready, able and eager to learn. They actively reach out to interact with other people and in the world around them. Development is not an automatic process, however. It depends on each unique child having opportunities to interact in positive relationships and enabling environments.

The four key principles of the EYFS are;

•Positive relationships- we want children to feel a sense of belonging and we are sensitive to children's needs, feelings and interests. Each child has a key person they can build a close relationships with.

•A Unique child- every child is unique, we assess children through observing and understanding each child's development and learning and then plan for next steps.

•Enabling environments- children learn and develop well in enabling environments, we provide children with rich learning opportunities through play and playful teaching and support children in taking risks and exploring.

Learning and development- children develop and learn in different ways , we teach children by ensuring there are challenging and playful opportunities across all the learning areas.

Areas of learning

There are 7 areas of learning within the Early Years Foundation Stage;

Prime areas: these areas are essential, work together and support the development in all other areas;

- Personal, social and emotional development
- Communication and language
- Physical development

Specific areas: these areas grow out of the prime areas and include essential skills and knowledge for children to participate successfully in society.

- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the World
- Expressive Art and Design

The unique child reaches out to relate to people and things through **characteristics of effective learning**. Which move through all the areas of learning:

Playing and exploring, active learning, creating and thinking critically.

This is an example of the routine of the day

8.50 self-registration.
Key carer reading
groups
writing name



Busy time

Children will choose child led activities inside and outside. Adults will interact with, observe and intervene to support children's development. Adult led/ guided group activities will take place

Literacy



Busy time

Phonics



Lunch time
11.45-12.45



Maths



Busy time

Story time/
cross curricular



Home time 3.15pm



What you will need to bring to school

Please label your child's belongings clearly with their name including socks, shoes and outwear.

Wellingtons

Your child will need a pair of wellies to keep in school. Please write your child's name in their wellingtons.



A healthy lunch

A healthy packed lunch or a hot dinner/sandwiches from the canteen.



A warm coat

a waterproof suit for wet weathers and messy play (provided)



A book bag

this will need to be in school everyday for letters and reading. Please keep your reading record in the bookbag.



A water bottle

labelled with your child's name.



PE kit

We do PE once a week. PE kits will be kept in school.



Getting Ready for School

Speaking and Listening

As children develop speaking and listening skills, they're building the foundations for literacy and learning. Plus they're learning key skills like how to express themselves and make friends. Young children need lots of opportunities to have conversations with you and to hear you modelling language and introducing new words. They learn language better when they're engaged with things that fascinate, challenge and excite them. Children need to hear and say new words often to strengthen the connections in their brains and to keep building their vocabulary.

Rhyming helps children to break words down and to hear the sounds that make up words.

Children need to be able to distinguish between different sounds in order to hear sounds in words, this will then help them with reading and writing.

Things you can do to help your child at home:

- Talk, talk, talk.
- Comment on and describe what children are doing e.g. you are putting the cow in the barn.
- Ask open questions e.g. what would happen if? I wonder... what do you think about? Tell me about...Why do you think?
- Sing nursery rhymes.
- Read rhyming/alliteration stories, can they spot words that begin with or end with the same sounds?
- Make good eye contact when talking to your child and use body language.

Getting Ready for School

Physical Development

Your child takes part in lots of physical activity throughout the day, this will include; ball games, obstacle courses, painting, messy play, digging, and writing.

At the beginning of Reception we work on developing children's large muscles such as those in their arms and legs and their fine motor skills such as using their fingers to grip pencils and pick small objects up. We will support your child to develop a comfortable tripod pencil grip.

Your child will take part in PE once a week, he/she will need a PE kit (named) which can be left in school until half term.

Things you can do to help your child at home;

- Support your child in dressing and undressing and encourage them to do this as independently as they can.
- Putting their own coat on.
- Teach your child to go to the toilet and wipe independently, flush the toilet and wash their hands afterwards.

- Fine motor development support: Peg washing on the washing line, play with play dough, pinching and poking, sort small objects using finger and thumb to pick small objects up e.g. beads/smarties, thread beads onto a string

- Support your child with using the correct pencil grip when drawing or writing. Draw pictures and support your child to begin to write their name.

Reading

Encourage your child to develop a love of books!

When your child joins us in Reception they will have the opportunity to share lovely picture books each morning with their key carer group.

When the children are fully settled, parents/ carers will be invited into the classroom to read. School starts promptly at 8.50.

Shared reading will be at 8.50am-9.10am all parents/carers, grandparents or other family members are welcome.

Miss Metcalfe will clap her hands when adults and children can say their goodbyes.

Things you can do to help your child at home;

- Share books, newspapers, magazines and birthday cards, encourage children to follow words with their finger.
- Let children read the story to you by talking about the pictures
- Encourage children to talk about how the book made them feel e.g. I love that book because...
- Read the book again and again if the child enjoys it, encourage children to join in if they remember it.
- Point out words, signs and labels when you are out and about e.g. shop signs, buses, toys, play eye spy!

Writing

Your child will learn to read and write through learning phonics, children will learn a sound and memorable action for each letter and a rhyme to help with handwriting. Children will begin by learning print in Reception and move onto the cursive style when they are ready to do so or in Year One.

Writing is fun at school, we write on the pavement outside using chalks and water, we can write on whiteboards, paint, in fine sand and children have their own special writing book! It would be helpful if your child can begin to write their name before school, but if not don't worry they will soon learn at school! (Please refrain from teaching writing the whole name in capital letters).

Things you can do to help your child at home;

- Help your child to hold the pen/pencil correctly
- Developing child's fine motor skills– play with play dough, peg washing on the line, play outside and make large arm movements, use scissors to cut, thread beads, sorting small beads/seeds, break bubbles on bubble wrap,
- Make lots of marks and drawings, help your child draw lines and circles and make lots of movements with the pen. Ask your child to tell you about their drawings.
- Model drawing and writing.
- Have fun with mark making and show children that it is fun to draw and write.
- Support your child to Practise writing their name.

Mathematics

Your child will do lots of mathematical activities in school, they will learn about shape, space and measure, numerical patterns, recognise numbers, add and subtract numbers. These skills will be taught through fun and practical activities as well as through play, your child's setting is also set up in a mathematical way which involves sorting shapes, colours and numbers of objects when tidying up.

Children will develop a deep understanding of number to 10 and counting up to 20 and beyond.

Things you can do to help your child at home;

- Count toys with your child when tidying up.
- Count the steps when walking up and down.
- Weighing ingredients when baking and cooking
- Sing number rhymes such as five current buns, 5 little ducks etc
- Talk about different size objects
- When shopping look at numbers on coins, shapes and sizes of boxes and count number of objects in the basket.
- Talk about the days of the week and time such as morning, afternoon and evening.

Handwriting

This is the print style writing that we teach at Valewood.

Encourage your child to start at the top of each letter and keep their pen on to create flicks.

Aa Bb Cc Dd Ee Ff

Gg Hh Ii Jj Kk Ll Mm

Nn Oo Pp Qq Rr Ss Tt

Uu Vv Ww Xx Yy Zz

Home Learning

We use an online app 'Class Dojo' which can be used to share children's learning at home. Take photographs and videos of children's experiences at home, days out, pictures, writing, crafts or anything they are proud of.

The children can share their photographs with the class. This helps to boost their confidence to talk about their experiences with the class. It also give us an opportunity to see what children have been doing at home and celebrate their achievements.

We will challenge children to take part in specific home tasks, these are often practical activities that are fun and engaging. This is not compulsory but we highly recommend that you take part in these tasks to support your child's learning.

We use Floppy's Phonics scheme. Your child will bring home a worksheet to practise the sounds of the week at home. The worksheet encourages children to form the letters and spot /read words with the sound in. You could use the sound of the week to find items in the home that contain the sound of the week and send a picture on Dojo.

Once your child begins to read they will receive a home/school reading diary that should be kept in your child's book bag. Please add comments of any reading at home as evidence of your child's reading and make the teachers aware of when your child needs a new reading book. We will also add comments to these reading records when your child has read at school. We will change reading books once a week.

Children will bring home a decodable book that they can use their phonic knowledge to read words and a non-decodable book that they will need some support with.

Busy Time

In Reception children will learn through play and have access to both inside and outside the classroom during 'busy time'.

In the outdoor area children have the opportunity to use their different learning styles on a larger scale within a natural environment. When learning outdoors children can use resources that are of a larger scale than indoor resources. For example; large construction using crates, tyres, large blocks, water play using different size containers and tubes, digging and mud kitchen role play, large sand and large writing e.g. chalks on the floor, painting, large paper.

- Children are encouraged to wear aprons during painting and other messy activities and to wear wet suits when playing in the mud. However children may come home messy, their clothes will tell you the story of their day.
- Children have access to the outdoor area in different weather, they will need a warm coat preferably with a hood and wellingtons that they can leave in school. (please put your child's name in their wellingtons)

We understand that something minor may feel big to your little ones, so if you ever have any concerns or questions no matter how small or big, the Reception team are always happy to help!