

Name:
House:
House Colour:



GODSTONE VILLAGE SCHOOL

Induction Pack
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Reception
Reception
September 2018
September 2018



Welcome to Godstone Village School

Starting school is a really exciting time but it can also be a nervous time, for children and parents! Our aim is to make a smooth transition into school to ensure that every child reaches his/her full potential.

Meet the Team



Mrs Candida Jarrott-Chase
Head Teacher



Miss Liz Hellier
Early Years Lead
Reception Class Teacher



Mrs Sharon Quarterman
Reception Class Teaching Assistant

Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)

The Reception year is the final year of the EYFS. The EYFS curriculum is based on developing a child's ability to learn effectively. There are nine characteristics of effective learning that we are trying to encourage in your child.

These come under three main headings:

- Playing and exploring – engagement
- Active learning – motivation
- Creating and thinking critically

“Play is a child’s work.”



In the reception year of primary school the children are engaged in many play based activities. This ensures that the children are having the opportunity to explore.

The phrase, “Play is a child’s work” is attributed to many different leading educationalists because it is true!

When a child plays they are active, exploring, making links between experiences and ideas and rehearsing skills until they are mastered. It is the role of the adults to develop the learning that is taking place through modelling, prompting, questioning and creating an exciting and stimulating environment.

The children will be engaged in lots of different activities. Some will take place as a whole class, like story time, circle time, PE and singing. Some activities will take place in small groups, like maths games and activities, science investigations, and art activities. For other parts of the day the children will be able to choose their own activities. The classroom and outdoor area are both set up to encourage independence with resources that promote the child's learning. When the children are playing, the adults will come alongside them to support and develop their learning. The adults observe the children and plan for the next steps in the child's learning. When a child has chosen an area to work in they are far more engaged with the activity. Every area of the curriculum can be covered in the different activities the child may choose.

For example, your child may choose to play in the sand. He/she will be learning about counting, capacity, communication and social interaction with his/her peers, developing his/her imagination, reading signs and labels, negotiating ideas, developing physical strength and coordination including pincer movements to aid writing.

The EYFS Curriculum

The EYFS curriculum is split into seven areas of learning.

Communication and Language

It is crucial that children can communicate with their peers and adults. They also need to be able to listen and understand what they have heard. If language is not developed in the early years of a child's life then it can affect them throughout childhood and into their adult life.

At home, you could encourage your child to talk to new people, follow instructions and speak clearly. If your child misses words out in a sentence then say the sentence back to them and encourage them to try again.

Physical Development



The children are encouraged to develop gross motor skills through climbing, riding bikes, using brushes, throwing and catching and moving with control. Fine motor skills are encouraged through different activities to ensure every child is able to hold a pencil and write effectively.

At home, you can encourage your child to climb on large playground equipment, play with small Lego and fiddly toys, and hold a pencil correctly in a tripod grip with the pencil between the thumb and first finger, resting on the middle finger. They also need to be able to get dressed and undressed as well as use the toilet independently.

Personal, Emotional and Social Development

It is very important that children are able to express their emotions and behave in an appropriate way. They need to understand how to work with other children and that we are all different.

At home, you can encourage your child to use words to explain their feelings or frustrations, to recognise that other children may not want to play with the same things as they do and encourage your child to share.

Literacy

The children will be learning to read and write using synthetic phonics. This is when we synthesise the sounds together to read and break them down to write. The children will learn to recognise the sounds that all of the letters of the alphabet make. They will also learn the sounds that are made by two or three letters together e.g. oo, ai, ch. Then they will blend them together to read e.g. c-a-t says cat; s-n-ai-l says snail.

The children will then segment words to help them to spell. We will share books every day including a range of stories, non-fiction books and poetry.

At home, you can make sure that you read to your child every day, encourage them to hear rhyming words and alliteration e.g. six slithering snakes.



Mathematics

Maths is a practical activity in the early years. It is important for the children to understand what a number represents and maths is only written after these concepts are secure (usually towards the end of the year). The children will be working with numbers up to 20. They will be counting objects accurately and then adding groups of objects together and taking some away. They will be recognising the numerals to 20 and beyond. Children will learn to recognise 2D and 3D shapes, compare lengths, mass and capacity.



At home, you can encourage your child to count lots and lots of objects e.g. toy cars, grapes, stairs, buttons and practise spotting numbers everywhere. You can also help your child to recognise shapes and compare lengths e.g. your train is longer than mine.

Understanding the World

This area includes finding out about the world around them, different people, different communities and technology. The children will be encouraged to talk about different materials and living things. They will look at how they change, are similar and different. The children will also look at how the world changes, talk about places and find out about the past. We teach the children how to use a range of programs on the computer and use other technology e.g. taking photos, controlling programmable toys and using equipment.

At home, you can encourage your child to complete programs on the computer or tablet, look for changes in nature and changes when you are cooking. You can also talk about things that have happened in your child's past and your own past.

Expressive Arts and Design



The children are taught a range of art and design skills that they are then able to use in their own activity time. They use scissors, glue, staplers, hole punches, saws and other tools to make models and pictures. They are encouraged to explore different shapes, colours, textures and patterns. The children develop their imagination through stories, music, dance and artwork.

At home, you can encourage your child to sing and dance to music, explore drawing and painting, cutting and sticking (including using scissors), make up stories with your child and get outside to explore the natural world.

Outdoor Learning

When children have the choice, they usually choose to be outside. At Godstone Village School lots of our learning takes place outside. All areas of the curriculum are covered outside. The wonder and awe of learning outside makes the learning much more memorable. The children are able to choose to be outside, whatever the weather. There is no such thing as bad weather, just the wrong clothing.



Your child will need a pair of wellington boots, a waterproof coat and waterproof trousers (or all-in-one) that can remain at school every day to ensure that your child is always ready to learn either inside or outside.

Milk, Snack and Lunch

Your child will automatically be signed up to receive free milk whilst they are four years old. When they turn five you can pay a subsidised rate for your child to continue to receive milk at school. The children are also provided with free fruit or vegetables (up to Year two).

The children are entitled to a free school dinner; however you may choose to provide a packed lunch. The school dinners are planned to be balanced and nutritious. They are all cooked on the school premises. There is a choice between the main meal or a jacket potato. Over the summer, you could help your child practise eating with a knife and fork, or learn to open packets and boxes if they are having a packed lunch.



Collecting your child

The children will be dismissed from the Reception gate. They will only be allowed to go once we have identified the correct person to collect them. You will be asked who has permission to collect your child when you meet with the class teacher (either on a home visit or in school.)

Every child has a home/school book which a member of staff checks every day. Please write any messages in the book. At the end of the day, if we need to talk to you, or you have something to tell, or ask, us then please wait until all the children are dismissed and then speak to us. At Godstone Village School we have an open door policy. If you have any questions or worries then please speak to your child's class teacher.

What your child needs to bring every day

- A bottle of water in a named container
- A Godstone Village School book bag with your child's name clearly visible (no other bags are needed in school)

Sun cream needs to be applied daily (if appropriate) using all day sun cream. We are unable to reapply sun cream during the school day.

What your child needs to leave at school



- A named school cap in their house colour.
- A named Godstone Village School P.E. bag with T-shirt, shorts, jogging bottoms, spare socks and black plimsolls or trainers. This can be left on your child's peg and will be sent home for washing at the end of each term.
- A named waterproof coat and trousers or all-in-one.

Home Visits and School Meetings

Home visits are the best way for us to get to know your child and so for those children who did not have a home visit for our school nursery then we would love to pop round for an informal chat. Your child's class teacher and teaching assistant will spend some time talking to you about your child's needs as well as playing with your child and finding out their interests.

We are not looking at your home furnishings. We are purely there to see you and your child in their own environment, where they feel most comfortable. Please sign up for an appropriate time.

If your child has already received a home visit from Godstone Village School Nursery then we would love to meet you and your child in school so that we can find out about your child's interests and needs. Please bring with you three things that are important to your child e.g. special toys or a photo of the family so that we can share them together.

Home visits will take place on Thursday 6th (all day) and Friday 7th September (afternoon). School meetings will take place on Friday 7th (morning), Monday 10th (afternoon), Tuesday 11th (afternoon) and Wednesday 12th (afternoon).

Please sign up at today's meeting or phone the office to make an appointment.

Online Learning Journals – Tapestry



We use an online learning journal called Tapestry to keep a record of some of your child's learning. When your child makes a significant step in their learning we may choose to record it with a photograph and/or comment by an adult or your child.

This is then recorded electronically and you will receive an email notification to login at home and view your child's learning. You can also add to this online learning journal at home so that we can see some of the lovely things your child does at home. You can download the app and use your phone, tablet or computer to upload photos, videos and comments. Once your child starts

school we will send you login and password details. This system can only work if we have permission to take photographs of all the children. Please ensure that you sign the permission form. Some children have difficult pasts or situations that you may not be aware of. For this reason it is essential that you do not copy or share any of the images.

Ten things we expect your child to be able to do before he/she starts school

- Wipe his/her own nose
- Put his/her own shoes on (please do not buy shoes with laces unless your child can tie them)
- Use the toilet independently
- Say the name of his/her teacher (Miss Hellier)
- Hold a book the right way up and turn the pages one at a time
- Join in with favourite nursery rhymes
- Sit with his/her legs crossed
- Feed him/herself
- Put his/her jumper or cardigan on
- Put his/her coat on

Ten things you might like to do to get your child ready for school

- Practise changing in and out of school uniform and into PE kit
- Practise turning a school jumper or cardigan the right way round (from inside out)
- Do lots of counting – count objects that can be moved e.g. toys, dry pasta, bottle tops, and things that don't move e.g. the stairs, number of claps
- Spot numbers all around you e.g. house numbers, bus numbers, birthday cards
- Encourage your child to recognise his/her name, including surname (in lower case print with a capital letter for the first letter)
- Read lots of stories to your child including traditional stories, repetitive stories and poems
- Sing as many nursery rhymes as you can (this is really good for phonics which will help your child to read and write)

- Clap syllables in names of people, food, song titles etc. (this also helps children learn to read)
- Practise rhyming words
- Practise doing coats up

And finally...

Before your child starts school it is really important that you re-establish a good bedtime routine and get your child to bed early. (The NHS recommends four-year-olds get 11 ½ hours sleep a night.) Don't worry if your child becomes a bit clingy or complains of tummy ache, this is just his/her way of describing their feelings of excitement and nervousness. It is all normal and will settle once they start school. Remember to be positive about school and talk about all the people he/she met on the visits. We are really looking forward to welcoming you and your family in September and hope you have a lovely summer holiday.



GODSTONE VILLAGE SCHOOL

School Uniform

Reception

Godstone Village School (logo):-

- Book Bag
- PE Bag – in your child's house colour
- School Cap – in your child's house colour AVAILABLE FROM THE SCHOOL

Winter

Boys

White polo shirt

Green school sweatshirt

Grey socks

Girls

White polo shirt

Green school sweatshirt/cardigan

Grey tights/white socks

Summer

Boys

Grey shorts

White polo shirt

Green school sweatshirt

Grey Socks

Girls

Green/white check dress

Grey tights/white socks

Green school sweatshirt/cardigan

Shoes: Black flat shoes – no trainers. Please ensure if your child is wearing laces that they can do them up by themselves.

P.E. Kit: Black shorts, green school 'T' shirt, trainers, tracksuit bottoms, sweatshirt/tracksuit top, black plimsolls or trainers.

All clothes must be clearly marked with the child's name, as this will allow lost uniform to be returned.

ALL OF OUR UNIFORM IS NOW AVAILABLE FROM **TESCO ON THE FOLLOWING LINK;**

<https://www.tesco.com/direct/godstone-village-school/12818.school>