

**Uffington C of E Primary school**  
**Information for parents on The Foundation Stage school routine**



**MORNINGS**

- The school day begins at **8.45am**.  
For the first term, the Foundation Stage can be brought to the cloakroom to organise their belongings, wash their hands and then be dropped off at the outside area or classroom door via the outside area. Myself or another teacher will be there for your children when you say goodbye. Parents and children must not be on the premises before 8.40am and children should not be left unattended on the playground.
- Please encourage your child to carry their own belongings if they can, hang up their own PE bag, coat and put their book bag away and named drinks bottle on the shelf. There will be a name label near your child's hook for their coat and they will put their book bag in a yellow, blue or red tray depending on their group. This will be displayed in the cloakroom. The children will then need to register themselves in the cloakroom before they come to the outside area or classroom. The children progress to lining up like everybody else when we feel that they are ready. Children can be collected at the end of the day from the playground. This will be at **3.15 pm**.
- The book bag will be used for some home school correspondence, home learning and reading books. Most information will be sent via Parentmail. Home learning activities and some messages will also be sent via Google Classroom and Tapestry.
- We settle the children for as long as they need in the morning by playing with toys, building relationships and exploring the activities available inside and outside. Please do not send toys into school as there will be opportunities for show and tell. If your child has something that you feel that they will need to comfort them when they first start school then they could bring that in their book bag.
- Once the children are lining up and coming in by themselves we will register at 9am and continue the first part of our morning learning and playing.  
I will talk more about the curriculum and the sorts of things your child will be doing at a meeting in September. If your child has been to pre-school I will be continuing the teaching, learning and observations through the same Early Years Foundation Stage.



## **Changes to Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) -**

You may have heard about some changes to the EYFS statutory framework made a few years ago. The changes were made to: Improve outcomes at age 5, particularly in early language and literacy and to reduce workload for teachers such as unnecessary paperwork, so they can spend more time with the children.

### **There are still 7 areas of learning:**

**Prime areas: Communication and Language** - Listening, Attention and Understanding and Speaking

**Physical Development** – Gross motor and Fine motor

**Personal, Social and Emotional development:** Self-regulation, Managing self and Building relationships

**Specific areas: Literacy:** Reading – Comprehension and word reading

**Writing** – Handwriting, simple phrases and sentences

**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 and Being imaginative and expressive

A hugely important part of a child's development is how they learn – **'The Characteristics of Effective Learning'** – Playing and exploring, Active learning and Creating and thinking critically.

**Assessments** of your child's progress will be made throughout the year towards the EYFS profile in the Summer. This is done mainly through observation and collection of evidence of independent work and play. Some observations will be put on 'Tapestry' which is an online learning journal that you will have access to. In September I will work and play with the children to develop my own knowledge and understanding of their baseline for development. This will be done along with discussions with you and information from pre-school. I will also talk to you about the ways in which you can support your child's learning and be involved in adding information about your child to Tapestry and Google classroom. I will share the outcomes of observations at parents' evenings which will take place in October and February. We have open afternoons on alternate terms where you can come into school and spend some time in the classroom with your child. There is also now a requirement that is statutory from September for 'The Reception Baseline Assessment' (RBA). This is a short assessment, taken in the first six weeks from when a child starts reception. It will take place 1:1 with me and using practical resources. Raw scores will be recorded in the national pupil database and used to create a cohort-level progress measure for schools at the end of key stage 2.

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## SCHOOL DAY CONTINUED

- At 10.20am we wash our hands and have a snack provided. Please could send your child into school with their own named drink bottle.

The snack is usually fruit and sometimes vegetables. It is a National Fruit scheme that provides a piece of fruit for each child in Foundation Stage, Yr1 and 2. At 10.30am we have our first Playtime along with key stage 1 children.

Please send waterproofs, hats and coats when necessary as we will play outside during lesson time and playtimes. Please could you also provide some trainers and wellies that can stay at school as there will be times we need these for outside play, PE and time on the school field.

During hot weather you can send labeled sun cream to school for Your child to reapply at lunchtime if needed.

On very rainy days we may decide that we are going to have a 'wet playtime' where the children stay in and play in their classrooms. Playtime finishes at 10.45am and children are encouraged to go to the toilet and wash their hands.

- We continue the next session of learning and play until 12am



## LUNCHTIME

- We go to the toilet and wash our hands before lunch. Children collect their lunch and they are shown where to sit and we say our prayer before we start... "For what we are about to receive, may we all be truly thankful, Amen"
- Children will be having hot lunches unless you choose to cancel and provide a packed lunch. Please help your child to be able to use a knife, fork and spoon independently so that they can eat their lunch with ease in the given time. **Please be aware that we have many children in school with allergies, in particular a child in the new Foundation class. We will encourage regular handwashing, and no sharing of food. From September 2023 we will also be a 'nut free' school. If your child is having a lunchbox, please consider carefully what you are packing.**
- We encourage children to drink as much as they can and they have a full cup of water with their lunch. There is always more available when needed.
- We then go outside for our lunchtime play. The lunch time staff provide play equipment and organise games and activities on the field or playground

## AFTERNOON

- Lunchtime finishes at **1.00pm** and children are encouraged to go to the toilet again and we all wash our hands. We have our afternoon register and continue our learning and play for the afternoon until 2.30 / 2.45pm. We then have our afternoon playtime. This is usually when the children have their milk too. Milk is free for those children under 5 and then has to be paid for once your child turns 5 if you choose for them to have it.

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- After that we usually have whole school/ class collective worship or merit assembly. We then get all of our belongings ready for home time, have stories, songs and rhymes.
- School finishes at **3.15pm**.  
We will come out to meet you with our belongings.  
The children wait with me or another teacher until we can see you and you collect your child.

***Please could you advise us if anyone else is picking up at the end of the day or make a quick phone call to school. This saves any confusion at the end of the day and any changes can be explained to your child.***

**UNIFORM** – It is very important for your child to be as **independent** as possible dressing themselves. We are here to help but please could they practise putting their own coat on, changing shoes and changing for PE. School uniform is all purchased online and please label all items!

Items needed may be –

- Grey skirt or dress,
- Grey shorts or trousers
- White polo t-shirt or shirt
- Royal blue Uffington sweatshirt or cardigan
- Royal blue jumper or cardigan
- Blue checked summer dress

All children need sensible **dark shoes** or sandals preferably with fastenings that they can do themselves.

**PHYSICAL EDUCATION** - All children will need is a blue Uffington t-shirt, white shorts and a pair of trainers. Most infants also have an Uffington tracksuit to wear during outdoor PE. Your child has been allocated a 'House team' either Lindsey (blue team) or Kesteven (red team). We use these teams for house points and Sports Day competitions.

**SWIMMING** - Year 2 swim during the Autumn terms, Year 1 in the Spring and Foundation Stage in the Summer. Juniors swim alternate terms. They will need a sensible costume and a swimming hat. You can order a blue or red hat through school.





**TOILET** - It is very important that your child is as independent as possible going to the toilet but there may be little accidents from time to time and we will be there to help them.

Please could you send some spare clothes in their PE bag just in case.

### **TRANSITION**

- You have had some correspondence from school already via email.
- We have already had the 'Home visits' which was great for me and the children to get to know each other. I have given you a 'Welcome to Uffington school' booklet and 'All about me' pages for you to fill in with your child. They can then bring them to me on one of the taster mornings.
- I have shared a book with each child at the home visit. They can share this school book with family over the Summer and then return to school for our storytelling bag We then read these books over the first few weeks.
- We will soon be in contact with 'Tapestry' information as I would like to add parents details so children can start to watch a few videos and stories. These can then be viewed over the Summer holidays.

### **Taster mornings - Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> June, Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> June, Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> June and Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> June 9.30 – 11.30am**

Mrs Simms will be here on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> June due to a training course that I need to attend. These sessions have always been really beneficial in preparing children for their start to school in September as they get to meet staff, other children and explore the environment. We will play, sing, read stories and have fun!

A member of staff will open the school gate from around 9.25am and we will invite you onto the playground. You will then be taken to the cloakroom where the children can leave a small bag with a drink and a fruit or vegetable snack. They may also need a sun hat or coat depending on the weather. We will ask the children to wash their hands before you bring them back outside and drop them off at the gate to the outside play area where we will start our morning play. If it is raining you will be able to take your child to the classroom door through the outside area and say good bye there. If they are upset, we will comfort them and I am sure we will be able to find something they would like to do or play with in time. In our experience it is less traumatic for any child who is upset if parents leave as soon as possible after a nice big kiss and cuddle, say goodbye and explain that they will collect them a little later.

Please be assured that we will do what we can to help your child to settle in when they visit and when they start school in September!

For more information about the school please visit -

<https://www.uffingtonprimary.co.uk/>

Any comments or questions please ring 01780 756236 or email

[enquiries@uffingtonprimary.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@uffingtonprimary.co.uk)

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