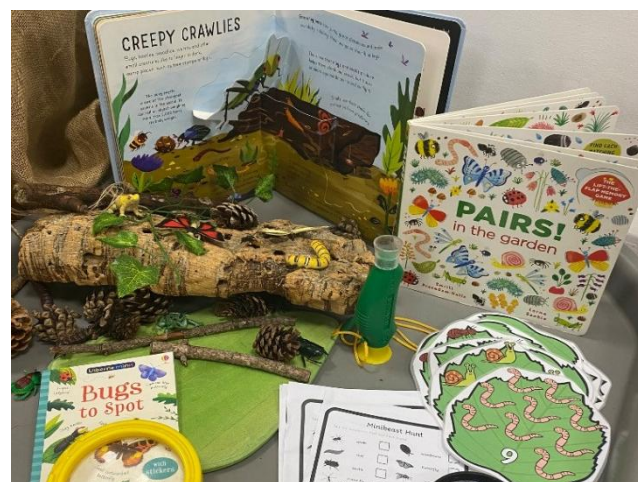


Springwell Village Primary School

Reception Class Information Booklet



Welcome to Springwell Village Primary School

Contact Information

Headteacher:	Miss B Parrish
Early Years Lead:	Miss H Graham
School Administrator:	Mrs M Crudace
Contact Telephone:	0191 4157214
Contact email:	school@springwellvillage.org.uk

Early Years Foundation Stage Vision and Values **“Learning Together for a Brighter Future”**

The nursery and reception classes are the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) of education at Springwell Village Primary School.

We know that each child is unique and we strive to create an environment where all of our children can learn and grow, following their own interests and building on their experiences, knowledge and skills.

Through a child-centred approach, we encourage children to follow their interests and explore their curiosities through learning experiences and play.

We lay the foundations for a bright future for all of our children by providing them with a quality learning environment and promoting independence and resilience.

Provision

Reception class have an indoor classroom and outdoor area, as well as access to the school hall, field and dining area. Children usually start our reception class in the September of the academic year when they will become five years old.

The school day starts at 8.50am, but children can come into school anytime from 8.40am. The school day finishes at 3.20pm. Reception children enter school via the classroom door that leads out onto the fenced reception outdoor area. Parents should leave their child at the gate to this area, where they will be met by a member of staff.

If your child is late for school, they will be welcomed via the main school door. **If the reception gate is closed, please take your child to the school office to be signed in.** Should your child be absent from school for any reason, we ask that you contact the school office by 9.20am.

At home time, parents and carers should wait on the Key Stage 1 yard. Reception children will line up to identify the adult collecting them. We understand that different family members may collect your child from school, so we have a secure collection system in place whereby parents provide school with a list of authorised people who can collect your child. In addition, we ask you to set a unique password to share with these adults, so that if they are not recognised by school staff, their names can be quickly checked and the password verified.

If a parent or carer is late, the child will stay with a member of staff and be taken to the school office for collection, once the gates are closed.

If you need additional childcare before or after the school day, a breakfast club and after school club are available.

What Do Our Children Learn?

The provision for teaching and learning in reception class is guided and underpinned by The Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage. This sets the standards for learning, development and care for children from birth to five.

“The EYFS framework sets the standards to make sure that all children, from birth to 5 years, learn and develop well and are kept healthy and safe”. (Department for Education 2021)

There are seven areas of learning within the Development Matters framework. These are:

The Prime Areas

- Communication and Language
- Physical Development
- Personal, Social and Emotional Development

The Specific Areas

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

There are four overarching principles which shape our practice:

- every child is a **unique child**, who is constantly learning and can be resilient, capable, confident and self-assured
- children learn to be strong and independent through **positive relationships**
- children learn and develop well in **enabling environments**
- children learn and develop in **different ways** and at **different rates**

There are three characteristics of effective teaching and learning:

- **playing and exploring** - children investigate and experience things and “have a go”
- **active learning** – children concentrate and keep on trying if they encounter difficulties, and enjoy achievements
- **creating and thinking critically** – children have and develop their own ideas, make links between ideas, and develop strategies for doing things

Our reception children do not spend much time sitting at tables, they learn through their interactions with our indoor and outdoor environments, with adults and each other. The indoor and outdoor environments are carefully planned to continually provide opportunities to engage in purposeful play and exploration. They stimulate curiosity, awe and wonder of the world and support development of essential knowledge, skills and the characteristics of effective learning.

We provide lots of natural and open-ended resources, and the provision is organised so that the children can access it independently and make choices about what they will use and how they will use it in their play. We spend time observing, playing and interacting with the children so that we build positive relationships with each child. We identify and build on children's interests and needs and extend their language and thinking through interaction and questioning.

Some of the reception children's learning is through adult planned and led activities, such as our daily phonics, maths, reading and writing sessions. Other learning is linked to special events and times throughout the year, or imaginative topics. The topics are broad and allow scope for following different interests within them. We plan and provide rich and simulating experiences and activities that are play based, active and hands on, planning memorable experiences and events to enhance learning, such as performances, picnics or parties, going on visits or having visitors to school and themed days.

Partnership with Parents

As parents, you are the first educators of your child and we believe that working with you in partnership is crucial. Through working together, we can better support, encourage and enhance your child's learning and development.

Reception staff are there to greet parents and children in the morning, and to hand children over at home time and are available during these times each day. If you need to speak in private or for a longer time than is practical at handover, an appointment can be made to meet with the teacher at a mutually convenient time. Please do not hesitate to contact staff if you have any queries or concerns, it is important to us that you are confident in leaving your child in our care.

Parents' evenings are twice a year (Autumn Term and Spring Term) and give the opportunity to discuss your child's learning and development. In addition, to keep you up to date on a more regular basis, we use Tapestry, a secure online learning journal that both parents and staff can contribute to.



Through Tapestry, parents receive photographs, videos and observations of their child's experiences in school and they can share their home learning and experiences with us too. It can also be used as an alternative communication method with the class teacher. Parents receive regular information about their child's learning via Tapestry as well as regular information about our topics with ideas for how to support and continue the learning journey at home.

Refreshments & Lunch

We ask that all children bring a water bottle to school daily, **filled with fresh drinking water only**. Water bottles are stored in the classroom and children have access to their water throughout the day. Their bottles can be refilled in the classroom as and when required. A healthy snack is provided daily for each child, as part of the healthy eating scheme.

Children in reception are entitled to a free school meal, as part of Universal Infant Free School Meals Scheme. School meals are prepared each day and are specifically designed to provide children with the energy and nutrition they require across the whole school day. We follow the Sunderland City Council School Meals Menu, which rotates over three weeks and can be found on our website.

If you would prefer your child to have a packed lunch, this should be contained in a bag or box, labelled with the child's name. We promote healthy options as part of the wider school ethos, and therefore encourage healthy packed lunches. Please do not send fizzy drinks, chocolate bars or sweets to school. Drinks should be either bottled water or fruit juice cartons. We do not accept glass bottles or cans.

There are many children in school with food allergies, the most common of which is an intolerance to nuts, with various degrees of severity. Because of this, we are **a nut free school and we do not allow children to bring nuts of any variety to school**.

If you wish for your child to change from school meals to packed lunch or vice versa, please note that you must advise the school office in writing, giving two-weeks' notice of the change.

Uniform

Clothing - Children must wear grey or navy-blue trousers, shorts, pinafores or checked dresses, white or pale blue polo shirts, navy jumpers or cardigans.

Footwear - Reception children have access to the outdoors whatever the weather. They will do lots of physical activities such as running, jumping and ball games. For this reason, we ask that children come to school in practical footwear, as opposed to fashion shoes. Velcro fastenings are essential as we encourage independence and this is easiest for the children to manage on their own.

Coat, Hat & Gloves - It is essential that children come to school with an appropriate coat, hat and gloves. We provide waterproof ponchos and trousers to wear in the rain. Many of the activities that the children are involved in outdoors are messy and while we do try to protect clothing by providing aprons and waterproofs, clothes are not always 100% protected. With this in mind, we recommend that the children do not wear designer, fashion or light-coloured coats as they will get dirty.

Wellington Boots - Please provide a pair of wellington boots for your child as they will have access to water and mud outside as well as access to the field. The boots will be left at school so your child can use them whenever needed.

Bags - Your child will require a school bag to carry books to and from school. Sturdy school bags displaying the school logo are available from The School Outfit and these are the ideal size. Our cloakroom has limited space and cannot accommodate bulky bags and backpacks.

PE Kit –Children in reception develop their physical skills daily, in the indoor and outdoor provision and do not take part in formal PE lessons initially. They will progress towards these sessions by the summer term, and you will be informed then of your child's PE day. At this time, your child will require a PE kit, which should consist of a white T-shirt, a pair of navy or black shorts, jogging pants or leggings, a navy sweatshirt, fleece or hoodie and a pair of slip on or Velcro fastening trainers. The children come to school wearing their PE kit on their PE days, with long hair tied back.

Coats, polo shirts, jumpers, cardigans, fleeces and drawstring bags, all with the school logo on are available from The School Outfit on Crowther Industrial Estate in Washington or via their website www.theschooloutfit.co.uk

Preparing to Join Reception

We help to prepare your child for starting school with a programme of induction that introduces the children to the reception staff, the learning environment and each other.

Parents and carers will be given the opportunity to visit reception, meet the staff, look around the learning environment, find out about our approach to teaching and learning in reception and ask any questions.

Checklist

- ✓ Uniform
- ✓ Footwear - practical & velcro fastening
- ✓ Weather appropriate coat – not designer or light in colour
- ✓ Winter/summer hat or cap & gloves
- ✓ Wellington boots
- ✓ School bag – not a bulky backpack
- ✓ Any medical requirements must be made clear to staff and a care plan completed at the school office before your child starts school
- ✓ Ensure all family members or adults who will collect your child are familiar with your unique collection password

Please ensure that ALL items are labelled clearly with your child's name

We look forward to welcoming your child in September!