

Barlaston CE (VC) First School

'Let your light shine'

Matthew 5:16



Information Pack

A Warm Welcome to Our School

A very warm welcome to Barlaston First School from myself, Mr Gordon, the head teacher, all the staff, governors and of course, not forgetting the children.

If you are a new parent to our school, welcome aboard, and if you already have siblings in school, or have had, then an equally warm welcome to you.

The purpose of this booklet is to familiarise you with some important information that will help your child to settle into school, and to enable you to know routines etc that your child will become part of.

We are a very friendly, open and Christian school, where our school ethos is "Let Your Light Shine." This is reflected in both academic achievements, and equally so in social and emotional attitudes. We encourage the pupils to let their light shine through good manners, being polite, helping and caring for others.

We consider it essential to develop and celebrate the achievements of the whole child, rather than focusing just on their academic achievements, as you will see as your child moves through the school.

Please, should you have any worries or concerns, come and speak to either the Early Years staff, Mr Peel or myself, our doors are always open.

Best wishes,
John Gordon



About Our School

- We have 6 classes. One nursery class, one reception class, and a class for year 1,2,3 and 4 pupils.
- The nursery class is called "The Dormouse Nursery" and the reception class is called "The Hedgehogs." The year 1 class is called "The Squirrels", the year two class is called "The Badgers", the year 3 class is called "The Deers" and the year 4 class is called "The Owls".
- The Early Years Department including the nursery class and reception class is run by Mr Peel. Miss Hulme leads the nursery class. Mr Peel is also the reception class teacher.
- There are four teaching assistants in Early Years, Mrs Kendrick, Mr Evans, Mrs Southern and Miss Leese.
- We are a Church First School and many of our children join Christ Church Academy or Walton Priory Middle School at the end of Year 4.



Routines

- Please bring your child to the green gate at the reception playground for 8:45am. The door and school gate are closed at 8:55am. If you arrive after this time, you will need to enter through the main school entrance.
 - Our school day finishes at 3:25pm. You collect your child from this time at the green gate at the reception playground. The door and school gate for pick up are closed at 3:35pm.
 - We provide wrap around care for reception children.
 - Breakfast club from 7:45 - 8:45am (in the main school hall)
 - After school club 3:30 - 6:00 pm. (in the main school hall)
- * For more information about this please see the leaflet attached to this pack.
- School newsletters are emailed every Friday and are also available on our website. They contain information about the week and important dates for following weeks.
 - Early Years newsletters are also emailed out throughout the year.
 - Holiday club is also available for children, more information about this is sent out via the school office.
 - Other information specific to the class is displayed on the class noticeboard on the fence outside of the playground.



Uniform

- School polo shirts, jumpers and cardigans with the school logo on can be purchased online from www.myclothing.com at a good price. Reception uniform is a white polo shirt and grey trousers, skirt or pinafore. Children can wear green cardigans or jumpers. A school book bag will also be needed in reception class. However, it is not compulsory that uniform has a logo on it.
- For a small donation, pre loved uniform can be purchased from the main reception, or speak to your class teacher.
- In the reception class your child will need a PE kit with a white t shirt, black/blue shorts. PE kits would be better in a soft drawstring bag if possible. PE kits will stay in school and returned home every half term.
- We would like to make the most of our lovely outdoor facilities. Please provide your child with a pair of wellingtons (to stay in school) so we can have fun in all weathers! Also please send your child in a coat every day, and hats and gloves in cold conditions. We like to go outside whatever the weather!
- Please can all items have your child's name in them, including PE kit, wellies and coats.
- Please provide your child with a named water bottle, returned full, every morning with your child. Please ensure they only contain water and not squash. Thank you.



General information

- Please ensure you return all the necessary pupil information forms. They are essential and please notify us of any changes. e.g. change of address, new mobile number. Many thanks.
- Please keep us informed who will usually be collecting your child. If someone different is collecting your child, please let us know.
- Should your child require medicine, please try to ensure it is given before and after school. If required during the school day a medical form will need to be completed.
- All reception children have free milk in the morning at school until their 5th birthday. They are still able to have milk in school once they are five for the cost of £1 a week.
- Toast is served at morning break. This can be purchased half termly. If you prefer, you can send your child to school with a piece of fruit or a healthy snack for the morning.
- You can pay for toast (and milk once your child is 5) at eduspot.co.uk
- Your child will be provided with a free school meal up until the age of 7. We encourage to take advantage of this, as it allows us to talk about how to use cutlery correctly and general expectations at the table.
- It would really help us if you could teach your child how to fasten/zip up his/her coat.



General information (cont)

- Should there be a change in home circumstances please inform us, so we can best support yourself and your child's emotional wellbeing.
- At the end of the school day, please collect your child at 3:25pm from the green gate at the reception playground.
- In Early Years children learn through play. There will always be a focus on physical development, personal, social and emotional development and communication. They will also learn literacy, maths, understanding the world and expressive arts and design. The children will be taught through individual, group and class teacher led input and through child choice activities. The topics and 'big questions' for each term will be on the school website and class notice board.
- Once in school your child will bring home phonics and maths activities. As the term develops they will be sent home with a reading book. We hope to have a reading meeting early on in the Autumn term to explain how you can assist your child with their reading/activities at home.
- Throughout your child's time at first school, it is possible that they may have disagreements with their friends. If your child is coming home from school expressing that they have had a fall out with a friend, please let us know so that we can resolve the issue, rather than speaking to the other child or parents directly.

Once again a warm welcome and we look forward to working with both you and your child!





Reception Wrap-around Care

Monday - Friday

7:45am - 8:45am	£5.50 per day <i>(Including breakfast)</i>
3:30pm - 4:30pm	£5.00 <i>(Including a snack e.g. fruit, toast etc)</i>
4:30pm - 5:45pm	£6.50 <i>(Including a light tea e.g. sandwich.)</i>
5:45pm - 6:00pm	£1.50

**All Reception wrap-around
care is supported by Early
Years staff.**

