



# Welcome to Year 2!

We hope you and your family enjoyed a wonderful summer break. We're delighted to welcome your child into Year 2 and are really looking forward to getting to know them-and you-better throughout the year. Building a strong partnership between home and school is important to us, so please remember, if you ever have any questions or concerns, please come and speak to us or call the school office. Together, we can make this a happy, successful, and memorable year for your child.

## Year 2 Staff

**Mrs Berkley (Class Teacher: Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday)**

I have been teaching at Burscough Village Primary School for about 16 years and have experience of teaching across KS1 and KS2. This will be my fourth year working with Mrs Settle in Year 2 and I am excited about teaching this year group again. As well as being a class teacher I also lead Science, PSHE and organise the Pupil Council. I am particularly interested in Science and I'm sure that your children will enjoy all of the investigations and experiments that we do in Y2. In my spare time I enjoy adventures with my family, going to the theatre and listening to music.

**Mrs Settle (Class Teacher: Wednesday, Thursday and Friday)**

I have been a teacher at Burscough Village for the past 15 years and I have lots of experience teaching Year 2. Mrs Berkley and I have created a wonderful classroom setting which merges continuous provision with a more formal Y2 teaching environment. I can't wait to see the children enjoying it! Alongside my class teacher role, I also lead English and DT. To support my role as English subject lead, I have recently achieved an NPQ in English. Away from school, my three children always keep me busy!

**Mrs Whittaker (Teaching Assistant)**

Mrs Whittaker will be supporting in the children in Year 2. She is a familiar face and knows the children from Year 1. She brings a wealth of nurture experience and knowledge that can support all children but has a particular expertise working with our SEND children.

**Mrs Hughes (Teaching Assistant)**

Mrs Hughes has experience of working with many age ranges across school. She leads our breakfast club and lunchtime provision with her amazing organising skills. She has expertise in SEND interventions and great knowledge of the school curriculum.

They will both be covering PPA, supporting in class, working with small groups of children and providing one-to-one support.

## Classroom Environment

During the holiday period, a new carpet and screen have been installed for all the children. The classroom has undergone a painting refresh, including the creation of a new reading area and enhancements to the nurture area, which will provide additional support for pupils who previously accessed the Nurture Nest.

## Important Information for Year 2

### PE Days

Year 2 pupils will have PE on Monday and Friday.

Pupils should bring their full PE kit and trainers (please see school website for details) at the start of term and can leave it in their locker until the end of the half-term. The children will need black trainers for PE because the children take part in daily physical activity sessions.

If at any point PE kits need to go home for cleaning/after-school PE club etc., please ensure that they return to school ASAP.

### Homework

Homework is a valuable way of enhancing your child's learning outside of the classroom as well as helping them to develop their independence and organisational skills.

Supporting your child with homework is one of the most effective ways to help them succeed in Year 2. When you take time to look over their activities, ask questions, and encourage them to do their best, it shows that learning is important-not just at school, but at home too. Homework folders will come home with either Maths or Grammar activities that directly connect with what your child is learning in class. By ensuring that the folder is returned to school on Thursdays, you help reinforce routines and make it easier for your child to stay organised. Weekly spelling lists and times tables (2s, 5s and 10s) practice will further boost your child's confidence and skills. Your involvement makes a real difference, helping to build their independence, strengthen their knowledge, and foster a lifelong love of learning.

### Reading

When your child reads every day, they learn new words, understand stories better, and become more confident learners. Reading often helps children do well in school and enjoy learning. Most importantly, it's a simple way to spend special time together and share in their growth. Making reading a daily habit helps your child succeed and discovers the joy of books for life.

Each child will have 2 or 3 books to read every week. We will only be changing books on a Friday. If your child finishes their books, please use the time to re-read with your child. This develops fluency in reading and this skill enables children to develop strong comprehension skills. They will have a levelled reading book and will also bring home Monster Phonics books that links to their focus spelling rules. It is vital that these books are returned to school each week so that other children can take them home. The children will also have the opportunity to choose a library book which they can keep for longer than a week.

We strongly encourage you to record every reading session in your child's reading record book-each entry makes a real difference. By tracking their reading at home, you're not only showing your support but also helping us celebrate their progress together. We'll also keep a record of all the reading your child completes in school, ensuring a complete picture of their development.

## Online Safety

### Why Online Safety Matters

Children in Year 2 are becoming more confident online—watching videos, playing games, and chatting with friends. While the internet offers great learning opportunities, it also comes with risks like inappropriate content, online bullying, and in-app purchases.

### Top Tips for Keeping Your Child Safe

- **Set Parental Controls** - Use parental controls on devices to restrict access to unsuitable content and manage what your child can view or download.
- **Talk Regularly** - Have open conversations about what your child is doing online, who they are talking to, and remind them to come to you if something makes them feel uncomfortable.
- **Balance Screen Time** - Encourage a healthy balance by setting clear boundaries for screen time and suggesting alternative activities, such as outdoor play, reading, or creative hobbies.
- **Check Age Ratings** - Always look at the age ratings for games, apps, and videos to make sure they are appropriate for your child's age and maturity level.
- **Be Alert to In-Game Spending** - Explain to your child about in-app purchases and make sure password protection is enabled to prevent accidental spending.
- **Encourage Kindness Online** - Teach your child the importance of treating others with respect and kindness online, just as they would in person, and discuss what to do if they witness or experience online bullying.

## Important Dates

Year 2 Optional SATs                      May 2026 (dates to be confirmed)

Year 2 Phonics Screening                June 2026

(For children who did not pass the Y1 Phonics Screening Check)

Having taught the children during the transition sessions in the summer term, we know that they are ready for the next step in their education. We are excited to get to know them further over the next year and for us to work as a team in supporting your children.

Best regards

Mrs Berkley, Mrs Settle, Mrs Whittaker and Mrs Hughes