

## Year R Parent Induction FAQs

### **Transition Programme:**

Q: What is the 'social story' that is recommended to be read to the children?

A: A social story is a narrative text that outlines a specific event. In this case it will be an introduction to year R and the team. The social story will be sent to you via Class Dojo.

Q: Do you children need to wear uniform on the settle in days?

A: Yes.

Q: When will we know the allocated dates for the settle sessions and home visits? We need to arrange childcare.

A: You will know week commencing 12<sup>th</sup> July 2021. Your home visit will also be confirmed at this time.

Q: When will we find out who my child's teacher will be? When can we meet our child's teacher?

A: You will find out when your sign up to Class Dojo. You will meet your child's teacher at the home visit that is planned for week commencing 6<sup>th</sup> September 2021.

Q: When will my child be in school full-time?

A: Week commencing Monday 13<sup>th</sup> September all children will be in school full time.

### **The School Day:**

Q: What is the start and finish times of the school day and what are the logistics for drop off and pick up?

A: The Covid-19 procedure we currently follow now, involves a staggered start and end time for different year groups at different gates, which are in line with government guidance. For year R this is:

Drop Off: 08:55 – 09:05

Collection: 14:30

If they have an older sibling(s) they can be dropped and collected with the older child at the oldest child's times and collection point.

Under normal circumstances the start and finish times are as follows:

Drop Off: 08:45 – 09:00

Collection: 15:00

The procedure on how we will commence in September and any changes will be confirmed and clarified at a later date.

Children are dropped at the year R gate, along the side access road adjacent to the new housing development to the left of the school. Parents are not allowed to come into the school grounds.

Q: When will login be provided for class dojo and scopay?

A: The Scopay letters with link code will be issued in the first week of Autumn term before the children start full-time week commencing 13<sup>th</sup> September 2021.

The invite to Class Dojo will be sent out by the class teacher and will be received in the next couple of weeks.

Q: What do they need to bring to school with them for reception year? E.g. what's needed in their backpacks? Books? Pens? Pencils etc.

A: A Castle Hill Primary School logo book bag. They do not need to bring anything else for learning. The book bag will be used for the home school diary, reading books and any letters (most of these will be sent electronically).

Q: How often do they do PE?

A: Twice a week. Year R will not do PE in the first full week. PE kits will not be sent home every week, they are kept in school and sent home at the end of every half term. The PE days once known will be published on the website -> <https://www.castlehillprimary.net/our-school/pe-and-sports/pe-and-sports>

Q: Will my child receive homework?

A: We don't set formal homework but we do offer suggestions of activities that you may like to do to support your child's learning. The children will be sent home with reading books, words and sounds and we encourage you to practise these daily and record this in the reading diary.

Q: How do I contact my child's class teacher?

A: Class Dojo is a communication tool, but won't be monitored during teaching time. It will be checked first thing and after school. Urgent messages and information on absence and collection arrangements should go through the school office. We have a message and collection arrangements line, so please do leave a message.

Q: My daughter is confident to go to toilet unaided but still needs help wiping her bottom after a poo. Will she get help with this still at school?

A: Children are encouraged to do this for themselves as they will go to the toilets independently. If a child has an accident then the team will be on hand to assist.

Q: On the website it says year R and year 1 get free cooked meals how do we inform you of our choice to have them or to choose bringing lunch in?

A: Year R, 1 and 2 are eligible to Universal Infant Free School Meals (UIFSM) which are free of charge. We will email out the menu options to parents once these are confirmed by our supplier (HC3S). These will be sent out before the end of Summer Term. We ask parents to pre-order their child's meal on Scopay so that this can be discussed with the child at home. A link code letter with access to Scopay will be available at the start of September before meal choices/orders need to be made.

Q: Are there any day trips outside of school that would take place, e.g., visiting a farm?

A: Yes, if Covid guidance allows.

### **Uniform & Personal Belongings:**

We have a strict school uniform policy. We have the highest expectations of our children for uniform, behaviour and manners. It is critical that this is supported and encouraged at home to maintain a positive partnership to allow the children to succeed.

<https://www.castlehillprimary.net/parents/uniform-personal-belongings>

Q: In the uniform policy it states

- Navy Round Neck Sweatshirt embroidered with logo
- Navy Fleece Jacket embroidered with logo (Years R – 2 only)

Do we need both or is one or the other?

A: No, the fleece jacket is optional, the website has been updated to reflect this, an embroidered jumper is fine.

Q: On the presentation email received yesterday, school uniforms can be bought from Tesco but on your school website it indicates M&S as retailer of choice. Which is preferred?

A: The presentation has been updated, logoed uniform is available from Greenways Newsagents in Winklebury, Skoolkit in Basingstoke town centre, and My Clothing. Details are on the website at the link above. Plain uniform can be purchased at a number of supermarkets and high street stores.

Q: What PE kit is required, and what footwear? Trainers, plimsolls, etc.

A: The PE uniform is as follows:

- Light blue crested T-shirt
- Navy Shorts
- Navy or grey tracksuit (for colder weather)
- Plimsoles for indoor work
- Trainers for outside

Due to Covid-19 all PE has been taking place outside, this will be reviewed in the Autumn Term. We recommend that plimsoles are not purchased at this time.

Q: Can children wear earrings?

A: Jewellery cannot be worn for safety reasons including studded earrings. We cannot take them out and will not provide plasters to cover them. Please ensure they are removed at home. If children do come into school then they will not be able to join the PE lesson or use the equipment outside.

Q: Do girls have to wear a tie as part of the uniform?

A: No, red and silver striped tie (Optional for Years R – 2). Ties are not recommended in year R.

Q: Wet weather wear - do they need all in one suit, waterproof trousers, etc. Can they be any design or must they be plain and in school colours?

A: We recommend that they have waterproofs which can be left in school. These can be either an all-in-one suit or separates. They do not need to be in school colours.

Q: Will these items be kept at school to be used when required?

A: Yes, they can be taken home if requested during the holidays.

Q: Will wellies be kept at school?

A: Yes, they can be taken home if requested during the holidays.

Q: What spare clothes do they need to bring and leave in school?

A: Spare uniform, underwear and a few pairs of socks.

Q: In hot weather, will sun cream and hats be kept at school? Is there a sun hat as part of the uniform?

A: The sunhat is not part of the uniform, you can bring in a hat from home. Sun cream should be applied at home prior to your child attending school. The staff are not able to assist with the application of sun cream. Any sun cream brought into school needs to be in a 'named' bottle and handed over to the class teacher, it is helpful if this is kept in school.

Q: Must school jacket colours be either black or navy?

A: No

Q: Are we required to purchase the school bag and PE bag with the logo or can any style and print be allowed?

A: We recommend you purchase a Castle Hill Primary School logoed book bag, space is very limited. Please encourage your child to carry their water bottle to and from school. We ask that you do not put water bottles in book bags. Books and home school diaries that are ruined by leaking bottles will have to be replaced.

The PE bag needs to be a small drawstring bag, but does not need to be branded.



Q: School kit said something about a week that is discounted for each school in July for buying uniform they said the school would inform us when.

A: The updated price list and Skoolkit price list can be found on our website. For all new starters Skoolkit are offering you 10% off all school uniform purchased from our Basingstoke Store during the following dates: Saturday July 24th – Friday July 30<sup>th</sup>. Free delivery on all online orders placed during the following dates: Saturday 31st July – Saturday 7th August

Using code **SUMMER2021** at the checkout.

[www.skoolkit.co.uk](http://www.skoolkit.co.uk)

### **Medical and Dietary Information:**

Q: My child is not able to eat certain food for medical reasons, what do I need to do?

A: This should have already been captured when you completed the Google Parent Induction booklet. The school office will be in contact with you as you are now required to complete an online form with HC3S in order for them to create a special menu for you child. Please be aware that this ONLY applies to children with confirmed medical reasons and needs to be supported by your GP. For more information please refer to our website ->

<https://www.castlehillprimary.net/parents/school-meals/HC3S>

Q. My child has a medical condition and will require medicine to be given during the school day, how is this managed?

A: This should have already been captured when you completed the Google Parent Induction booklet. You will need to bring in your child's prescribed medicine along with the completed Parental Agreement form in order for us to administer the medicine. A copy of the form is on our website -> <https://www.castlehillprimary.net/parents/medicines-and-illness>  
Unfortunately, we are not able to administer medicine that has not be prescribed by a doctor. This includes asthma inhalers and EpiPen's.

### **Clubs and Extra Curricular Activities:**

Q: When is it possible to sign up children to after school activities, and what activities are available?

A: As far as after school clubs are concerned we are currently awaiting an update from the Government in July, and we will communicate more on this in due course. Year R children do not join afterschool clubs until Spring Term at the earliest.

Q: Are there breakfast and after school clubs for reception age?

A: Energy Kidz is our wrap-around provider and we have been working with them since 2016. You should have received an email about booking Energy Kidz for the Autumn Term, further information can be found here -> <https://www.castlehillprimary.net/parents/energy-kidz-out-of-school-club>

Q: How full do the before and after school clubs get? How early do you need to get booked on for per term or yearly? How easy is it to book extra spaces etc.

A: Space can fill up fairly quickly as they are currently still operating in 'bubbles' which has an impact on the maximum numbers. There is a degree of flexibility to have fixed or one-off days as required. Please contact Energy Kidz directly or refer to the website to make a booking.

We hope this document has proved useful, but please do look at our website as a first point of information as we work hard to keep this updated.

The document containing useful URLs link for parents is also a good reference point.

<https://www.castlehillprimary.net/parents/information-for-new-parents/year-r-induction-presentation>

If you have any other questions please get in touch by emailing [admin@chjs.net](mailto:admin@chjs.net) or by calling us on 01256 473777.