



### The Reception teachers are-

Teacher- Miss Hennessey (Everyday)

Teaching Assistant- Mrs Hargreaves-Hatcher (Everyday)

In Reception our main aim is to ensure that your children have a nurturing, engaging, fun and happy start to their school journey. We work from the Early Years Foundation Stage '**Development Matters**'. This is a statutory curriculum for all children in England and is extremely important as it sets out clear Early Learning Goals which children aim to achieve by the end of the Foundation Stage. We then plan around the children's interests following their lead in the topics they want to learn about. Even when topics have been chosen and ideas are in mind, we still let the children have a massive impact on the sort of provision we will have out in class and what sort of things we will focus on within our topics. We complete a baseline assessment for all the children in Reception at the start of the year which then helps us to plan effectively for children's next steps and fill in any gaps to ensure children are reaching their full potential. We always love to see children showing us what they can do and how proud they become of their achievements. Within Reception we model resilience encouraging the children to take risks, try new things and to accept new challenges within their classroom and school environment. Teaching them to NEVER GIVE UP! Especially when it comes to being independent and doing things for themselves. A big part of Reception is learning self-help skills, being able to give everything a good go and being proud of ourselves for the little things.

During your child's time in Reception, they will access a wide range of activities which will include independent and adult led. The children will have continuous access all day between both the indoor and outdoor environments, being able to freely choose where they would like to play and deciding which activities interest them the most. They will take part in a variety of whole class and group learning activities, adult directed tasks, one-to-one as well as working in small groups.

In Phonics the Children follow the programme "Little Wandle" and our school reading scheme which centres on the Collins Big Cat books. We will be teaching phonics every afternoon (in a few weeks) starting with phase 2 and teaching them the sounds (phonemes) they need in order to be able to read and write. Alongside this we will be working on their fine motor skills through dough disco, squiggle as well as lots of fine motor activities within provision. This will help their ability to hold a pencil correctly and to form letters.

We send messages, photos and some information to parents via 'Class Dojo'. Parents will be able to get updates from their child's learning throughout the week, as we will post as often as possible with pictures of how your children are getting on. Alongside updating parents on new topics, news and events, class Dojo will provide evidence of pivotal learning which will be discussed further in parents' evenings, in their reports and during the many enhancements we have planned throughout the year. We like to try and involve parents and family as much as possible, therefore, we will be hosting events that you will be able to attend over the upcoming months.

We continue to have an open-door policy in Reception and encourage parents to come and see us if they have any queries. Dojo messages will only be responded to as and when and not after school hours. If of importance please don't hesitate to let Mrs Shaw know or to speak to one of us in the morning/home time.

### **Key Notes:**

1. PE day is Monday and Wednesday. Please make sure your child comes to school in the full and correct PE kit. Hair must be tied up and jewellery removed.
2. Once books are being sent home, they will be changed every Wednesday and library books changed on Friday.
3. Reception will be taking part in Forest school and over the upcoming months the weather will obviously change, please be aware they will get muddy! Please make sure you send in waterproofs and wellies.
4. Please don't forget to send your child in with a water bottle everyday

### **The Curiosity Approach**

In Nursery and Reception Class we continue to work towards becoming a 'Curiosity Approach' accredited setting. The Curiosity Approach promotes many different pedagogies relating to child development. The approach highlights the 'awe' and 'wonder' around learning and the environment. It encourages staff to become reflective practitioners and plan through the eyes of the child; which allows the children to explore a variety of activities and resources which they may have never experienced before.

At Hambleton Primary Academy, we believe that children are born with a natural curiosity. They want to do, they want to discover, explore for themselves, use their senses, be active participants and be in charge of their own learning.

We endeavour to inspire, nurture and create a curious, open-ended, love of learning for our children and their families. We aim to support all of children to flourish in a safe and secure child-centred environment; Where they take pride in all of their achievements.

To find out more about the Curiosity Approach click on the link below –  
<https://www.thecuriosityapproach.com/parents>

We look forward to working with your children over the next year and watching them grow into independent, bright individuals.

Miss Hennessey & Mrs Hargreaves-Hatcher  
Reception team :)