

Harrow Gate Primary Academy

Piper Knowle Road, Stockton - on - Tees, TS19 8DE

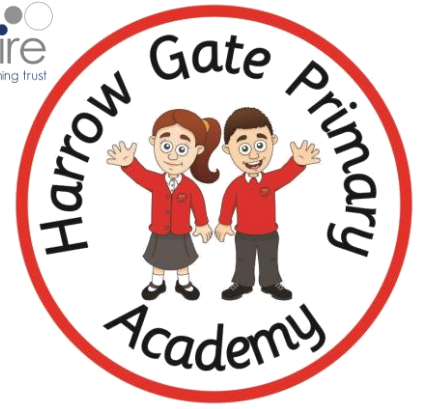
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Principal: Mrs V. Galt

Vice Principal: Ms Spence



Acceptance of a Reception place September 2020

Dear parent / carer

We are delighted to welcome you and your child into our Reception class.

This is due to begin on **Monday 7th September** at Harrow Gate Academy **Reception Class**. (This may be subject to change based on the direction of the Covid19 Pandemic).

We realise that when a child begins reception this can be a very unsettling time for both parents and children. We would usually invite children into school to meet their new teacher and get to familiarise themselves with the classrooms and other learning environments. However due to the Covid 19 situation it is difficult to offer this before September. Therefore, **we are going to ease children in with a staggered start. This is going to be in September.** This is the same approach as most other schools in the area.

Therefore, the plan is; (this is subject to change as the pandemic may take another turn)

Monday 7th and Tuesday 8th September 9am-11:30am Children will arrive at nursery and may have to be directed into different doors, (depending on the Corona 19 Government advice at the time). The new teachers will come into the nursery and spend time with the children getting to know them. Children will be collected from the nursery door. (Parents new to school will attend a welcome meeting with the Lead Professional Mrs Scotter for approximately 1 hour on the Tuesday. As you already know the ins and outs of school life at Harrow Gate you are welcome to attend if you wish).

Wednesday 9th September 9am-12:30pm Again children will be dropped off at the nursery door, children will take part in a full morning and stay for lunch. This will include spending time in reception classrooms and getting to know the new areas, Nursery staff will go with them. When you collect, staff will be outside to greet you show you where their new classroom doors are and you will collect from there.

Thursday 10th September 9am-2pm Children will come to their new classroom doors and be welcomed by their teacher. Children will take part in a full morning and stay for lunch and some afternoon activities, Nursery staff will still be present and support this transition.

Friday 11th September 8:45am-3:00 Children will take part in a full day at school. Dropped off and collected from their new classroom doors by their new teachers. Nursery staff will be popping in and out to support settling but will stand back slightly.

We realise that staggering this start in the children's first week may be inconvenient to adults for work and child care arrangements but please be assured that this has been decided upon with the children's wellbeing in mind. We want the children to feel at ease when coming to school. As I have already mentioned we usually do all these visits in the summer but due to the circumstances, we do not want to offer any welcome days before the summer holidays.

Your child is welcome to attend their usual nursery hours as they stand currently (15 hour children on the morning 30-hour children all day) on both Thursday 3rd and Friday 4th as school is open to all other pupils from these days. Please get in touch via class Dojo if you are unsure about their usual hours. This will give Nursery staff a chance to say their goodbyes and support the children into their transition beginning on Monday the 7th September. You may have to enter the nursery through different entrance doors in the EY area; staff will be on hand to direct you. (This will depend on the government Corona 19 advice at the time).

Please make sure you log into Classroom Dojo, over the next few weeks the class teachers will be posting pictures of themselves, videos reading stories and welcoming children, we will post up to date information as we receive it from the government and it will allow you to ask any questions you may have.

We all look forward to seeing you all and the children in September

Mrs J. Scotter



Assistant Principal and EYFS Leader.