

# Day to Day the Sandylands Way



# Welcome to Reception

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are delighted to welcome you and your child to our Reception classes - a wonderful and exciting first step in their school journey!

Starting Reception is a big milestone, and we understand it can bring a mix of emotions for both children and parents. Our aim is to create a nurturing, engaging, and inspiring environment where your child can feel safe, happy, and ready to learn.

The following information will explain what you can expect day to day in Reception.

Warm regards

The Reception Team

# What to Expect Day to Day

## Absence/Attendance

If your child is ill and can't come to school please can you inform us on the Xpressions app or alternatively ring school on 410286. Good attendance is defined as 95% and above.

## Accidents

If your child has an accident in school we will inform you and provide a first aid note, if applicable. Children who bump their heads in school automatically receive a phone call home as precaution, along with a bumped head note.

## Book Bags

Can be purchased from the school office.

## Contact Us

If you wish to speak to someone about a concern or for support you can ring school on 01524 410286 and leave a message or email:  
reception25@sandylands.lancs.sch.uk

## Holidays

A list of the school holiday dates can be found in your welcome pack. They are also on the school website- <https://sandylands.lancs.sch.uk>

For holidays in term time- please complete a holiday form, which are available at the school office. Holidays in term time are not authorised and are subject to a penalty notice. Please refer to our attendance policy which can be found on the school website.

## Lunch

Children from Reception to Y2 are offered a free school meal. We run our own kitchen and our supplies are locally sourced.

A choice of a hot meal or a sandwich is offered and the menu is available to view on the school website or weekly newsletter. The menu operates on a 3 weekly cycle so there is always a variety of meals.

Many children try the school meals and staff will let you about your child's eating at home time.

Children may also bring a packed lunch as an alternative. Please be mindful of providing a healthy lunchbox and peanuts are not allowed due to allergies. Please make sure grapes are cut in half as they present a choking hazard.

## **Medicines**

We are able to administer prescribed medicines in school, eg Antibiotics. Please hand the medicine to your child's teacher and sign the consent form. We will store the medicine safely until home time.

## **PE Kits**

Reception children are given a free PE kit when they start. This consists of a Sandylands t-shirt, black shorts and a bag. In addition your child will also need black PE pumps. Please name all items and bring it into school ready to use. We will send the kit home every half term for washing.

## **Pick Up**

We always dismiss the children 1:1 to a recognised adult, who is named on your child's contact information. If you wish for a different family member or friend to collect your child please inform staff at the start of the day.

If this is not possible please ring school during the day to let us know of the named adult who is collecting your child.

## **Reading books**

Your child will have a reading book when they are ready. Please don't worry! We will send them home when your child knows all the speed sounds and they can blend.

There will be more information about reading books and phonics teaching at our 'C'ake and Curriculum evening in September.

## **Library books**

Children can choose a library book every week and return the following week for a new one.

## **Reception Staff**

The teachers working in Reception are Mrs Conroy (Early Years Assistant Head) and Mrs Manning.

## **School Day**

The entrance to the Reception building is via the gate on Limes Avenue.

Doors open at 8.45am and close at 8.55am. This gives time to travel between the two school buildings if you have older children.

## **Home time**

The doors open at 2.55pm. This allows our families to collect Reception children before collecting older siblings at Hampton Road.

If you are collecting your child during the school day, the gate on Limes Avenue will be locked. Please use the gate on Balmoral Road and press the buzzer on the front door to the Reception building. (Next to the Hub)

## **Tapestry app**

When your child starts at Sandylands you will be emailed a link to activate a Tapestry account. (Children attending our Nursery, this will be the same account you already have)

You can add information about your child to this and we can upload learning moments through the year.

## **Uniform**

Children are expected to wear:

- Red jumper or cardigan.
- White polo shirt or white shirt/blouse.
- Black trousers or grey skirt.
- Black school shoes. (No trainers or branded footwear)
- Sandylands logo jumpers and cardigans can be bought from the school office and a full uniform list is in your welcome pack.
- Haircuts - We want the children to be individual but no extreme haircuts/hairstyles are permitted.

## **Water bottles**

Children may bring a water bottle in so they can have a drink throughout the day. Please note that juice isn't allowed, just water unless there is a medical need.

## **Wrap around care**

Children are welcome to book onto our Breakfast and After school clubs, preferably a week prior. This is done via the Xpressions App.

Sessions run from 7.30am and the children are taken to school.

After school club collect the children from the Reception building and this session runs until 5.30pm.

## **Xpressions App**

Most of our school communication is via the Xpressions app.

Key information, letters and clubs are all accessed through this app.

You have been sent a link, in May, to activate an account and complete the initial pupil information form.

## **Snacks**

Children will have access to a healthy snack.

## **Milk**

All children under the age of 5 receive a free drink of milk. Once your child reaches the age of 5 we will ask whether your child would like to continue to have their school milk. This will be charged on a termly basis unless your child qualifies for pupil premium.

## **After school activities**

Each term there will be after school activities for the children, such as art club, construction club or dance club. Details for these will be sent out via Xpressions.

## **Feel Good Fridays**

Every Friday the children take part in various activities as part of our commitment to mental health and well-being.

## **Parent Pay**

ParentPay is our main method of payment for trips and uniform etc. When your child starts in September you will be issued login details to set up your account. If you already have an account with ParentPay you will simply need to click 'add another child' and follow the instructions.

# Sandylands

## Grab 'n' Go

in partnership with Magic Breakfast

20p



Sandylands is proud to be in partnership with Magic Breakfast, providing healthy breakfasts to our pupils so that they are settled and ready to learn. Send your child in with 20p each day if they would like to join us for breakfast.

One of the following options  
will be available each day  
from 8:45-8:55am

Toast, Crumpets, Bagels  
& a choice of cereals



Breakfast gives children the energy needed for the busy school morning, enabling them to focus on their lessons. Please note that if children have already had breakfast at home then they won't need to access this service.

# Xpressions Information

Please scan the QR code to download the Xpressions App.

This is our main method of communicating with parents. If you have any problems please pop in to the school office.



## Follow us on Facebook

