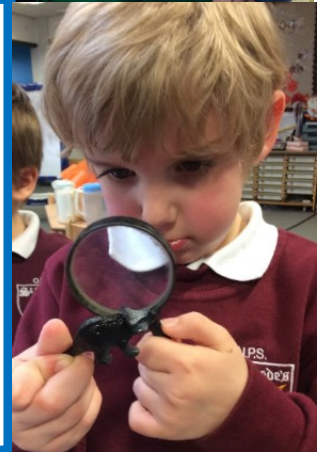




St Bede's Catholic Primary School

Early Years Brochure
2023-24



Welcome to the St. Bede's Early Years Family

Dear Parents/Carers,

We would like to welcome you and your child to our St Bede's Early Years family. We will work tirelessly with you to ensure your child has an enjoyable and successful time with us. We want you to be involved with school life as much as possible to ensure your child's happiness, welfare and success.

This booklet is designed to give you some information with regard to the Early Years curriculum and also some general information about our school community.

Yours sincerely

The Early Years Team



ADMISSION OF PUPILS

Our maximum admission number for Reception class is 45 and for Nursery is 26 children. We offer 15 hours and 30 hours funded places. A separate application for admission into St Bede's Primary School has to be made for all children who are of nursery age.

Attendance at nursery does not guarantee admission to the school.

CONTACTING SCHOOL

Tel: 01325 466411

Email: admin@stbedesdarlington.bhcet.org.uk

Checklist

- Please label all items of uniform.
- Please provide a pair of **wellies** to be kept in school at all times.



Reception:

- Burgundy sweater/cardigan, white polo shirt, grey trousers/skirt/pinafore.
- PE kit is a white t-shirt, black shorts, leggings or joggers and plimsolls. Children should wear their PE kit to school on PE day.
- Please provide a spare change of clothes in case your child needs changing.
- Book bags should be brought to school each day.

Nursery

- Blue sweater/cardigan and comfortable bottoms that your child can manage independently.

Reception:

Nursery:



The Early Years Curriculum

We understand your child is unique. The Early Years Curriculum is tailored to help your child develop in their own way. Our teachers use the environment (both indoors and outdoors), experience and skills to help your child develop the characteristics of learning, playing and exploring, active learning, and creating and thinking critically. We base and plan our Early Years Curriculum around play. By using structured and unstructured activities, we encourage the development of crucial early learning skills and knowledge which will provide your child with a solid foundation to build on.

There are three prime areas which run through all other strands of our work. They are:

The Prime Areas:

- Personal, Social and Emotional Development
- Communication and Language
- Physical Development



The specific areas include essential skills and knowledge. They grow out of the prime areas, and provide important contexts for learning.

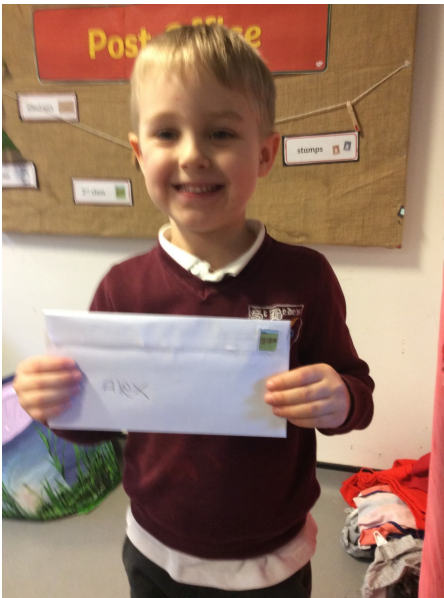
The Specific Areas:

- English (reading and writing)
- Mathematics
- Understanding the World
- Expressive Arts and Design



Tapestry

We produce an online 'Learning Journal' which records your child's learning and achievements during school. They represent both child-initiated activities and directed tasks. At the start of the year, we will ask you use your email address to send you a link. From this, you can download the Tapestry app and receive access to your child's learning journal which will be updated regularly with photos, videos and text.



Sharing your child's learning

Tapestry gives you the opportunity to upload pictures/videos of what your child does at the weekend, what achievements they make and what learning they have done. For example, if your child's target is to identify numbers to 10, you may notice him or her using the remote control to change the channel correctly to channel 3. This is showing us that your child can recognise the number three independently. You will also be able to contribute life skills that are part of the Early Learning Goals (e.g. if they can fasten their coat correctly, use a knife and fork, use the toilet without help, write their name etc). We also love to hear about their achievements—Can they ride a bike? Do they attend dancing lessons? Know how to swim? We look forward to reading your contributions.

Special Educational Needs

For children with additional needs, the staff work closely with the school's Special Educational Needs Coordinator and in partnership with outside agencies such as Early Years Inclusion Support, health visitors and Speech Therapy.

Reading Books and Phonics

In Reception, your child will have daily phonics lessons following the Read Write Inc. scheme. Please practise the phonics sounds with your child frequently.

<https://www.facebook.com/miskin.education/videos/information-for-parents-how-to-say-the-sounds/1279116425534130/>

When your child is ready (this may take a term or more), they will get a reading book. Please read with your child daily. For more information visit:

<http://www.ruthmiskin.com/en/parents/>



Hours

Nursery

Morning Nursery – 8.40am until 11.40am (doors open at 11.30 for collection)

Afternoon Nursery 12.30pm until 3.30pm

All Day Nursery: 8.50am—2.50pm

Nursery offer flexible sessions and additional hours are available on request.

Reception 8.40am—3.00pm

Please collect your child promptly at the end of the session. The Nursery door is locked at the end of each session. No child will be allowed to leave the unit without an adult. Please inform a member of staff if you have to arrange for a different person to collect your child.

Early Years Fund

We try to provide as many exciting and fun activities as possible such as cookery, visiting guests, planting and growing our own vegetables. To help fund this, we would like to politely request a donation of £1 per week. This is payable through the school's online payment system—MCAS

Snack Time

Every day, milk and water are put out at the snack table along with a selection of fresh fruit. Each child is able to come to the snack area throughout the session and help themselves to a drink and a piece of fruit.



School Lunch

The government will fund schools in England to provide every child in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 with a hot, nutritious meal at lunch time. For Nursery children, school lunches are available on request and payable via the school's online payment system; MCAS, at £2.20 per day.

Please let staff know if your child has any food allergies or special dietary requirements.

Breakfast Club

For Reception to Year 6, our school breakfast club is open from 7.45am until 8.30am, at the cost of £2.50 per day. Breakfast is served until 8.15am and consists of a selection of cereals, fruit and yoghurt and toast served throughout the week. There is also a selection of fresh fruit juices, milk and water for children to drink. If you would like your child to attend breakfast club please complete a registration form available from the office (it is a very popular service, so please apply as soon as possible).

Breakfast club is not available to children in our Nursery until after their first full term. If you would like your nursery child to be added to the waiting list please contact the school office for a form.

Drop off and Home Time Policy

We are responsible for ensuring the safety of each of your children in our care.

Drop off and Home Time:

Nursery:

Currently, nursery children are taken around the side of Reception Class and enter through their cloakroom. This is where they get collected too.

Reception:

Reception children are dropped off at the Reception entrance next to the office (white door).

Home Time:

- The school staff must always know who is expected to collect your child
- Children should always be collected by a responsible adult who is known to school and to the child
- If it is necessary for any other adult to collect a child, staff must be informed and that person should provide identification if they are not already known to school staff
- A member of staff will supervise the door and children will only be given into the care of the known adult who is collecting them
- Children may not be collected by any other adult without the knowledge and permission of the parent/carer