



Buglawton Primary School Induction Booklet

Promoting Partnership between home, school and the community

Welcome to the Reception Class!!

Your child's first experience of school is very important. Here at Buglawton we recognise that settling into school is a big step for your child and we endeavour to make it a happy transition.

Our aim is to make school a happy, stimulating and rewarding environment for your child to discover, learn and play through a wide range of experiences.

It is very important that home and school work together in developing an effective partnership. This booklet is designed to be the first step towards building a successful relationship. It contains information about some of the learning opportunities and experiences that the children will have. There is also a list of the key things we would like the children to be able to do when they start school and some practical advice on how to help your child achieve these things.

We look forward to working with you to support your child in school.

Reception Year at Buglawton Primary School

Between the ages of 3-6 your child learns faster and develops more rapidly than at any other time during his/her life. We believe this learning should be a pleasurable and rewarding experience, in which he/she explores, investigates, creates, practices, rehearses, repeats, revises and consolidates his/her developing knowledge, skills, understanding and attitudes.

The skills and ideas acquired during your child's year in Reception Class provide them with a firm foundation for their future development.

Reception Class is an exciting place where children learn through:

- Structured play
- Talking to others
- Investigating and discovering
- Making choices
- Thinking and reflecting
- Working in groups and independently

All of these opportunities are designed to develop confident, kind, well-behaved children, who make the most of their school experience and enjoy high levels of success.

The Foundation Stage curriculum

During the reception year your child will be working within the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum towards the Early Learning Goals. This curriculum is followed nationally by all reception classes.

Your child will be involved in a wide range of activities every day, developing his/her skills in many different areas. The seven areas of the Foundation Stage curriculum are:

- Personal, Social and Emotional development
- Communication and Language
- Mathematics
- Literacy
- Understanding the world
- Physical Development
- Expressive arts and design

During the day your child will be involved in a variety of activities, some teacher-led in small group or whole class situations, some individually with an adult, and some independent.

Assessment

During your child's first few weeks in school he/she will be assessed in a range of basic skills. This is to enable your child's class teacher to find out your child's level of knowledge and understanding. This information is then used to inform planning, so that tasks are matched to your child's ability in order for them to build on strengths and support any areas in need of development.

During the year regular observations and assessments are carried out, and all of this information is recorded in individual learning journeys which show the progress that your child is making.

Helping your child in school

Listen and talk about school with your child. Every day in school is an extremely busy one and your child will be full of new ideas and experiences they want to share with you. This is really important.

- Please read with your child as often as you can. Ideally this should be at least 3 times a week.
- Please maintain regular contact with your child's class teacher in the home/school reading record book. This is used as a diary of your child's reading progress. Please write a brief note in it each time you read with your child, noting something they did really well, or something they found a challenge.
- Keep us informed of any changes e.g personal (change of telephone numbers), medical and social that may have an effect on your child in school.
- Please help your child with any tasks they bring home with them.

- If you do have anything you want to discuss please do not hesitate to speak to the class teacher or teaching assistant at the beginning or end of the day.

Preparing your child for school

There are some key skills we would like your child to have developed before coming into school. These are very simple things, used in everyday life and will help make coming to school a smooth process.

- Getting dressed - putting on / taking off clothes in the correct order, zips / buttons / shoe fastening, turning a jumper the right way, coats / gloves / hats
- Going to the toilet by themselves
- Being independent at home - tidying away own possessions, concentrating on an activity for a short period of time, writing own name (in lower case letters), completing a task (ask your child to work on a short task and encourage them to keep going until they have finished it)

Your child will be very excited about starting school, but also may feel a little apprehensive about what will happen each day. It will help them if you:

1. Speak to them enthusiastically about school
2. Read stories about going to school.
3. Encourage reading, writing and number activities as part of your daily play
4. 'Play' schools at home - role play is a very effective way of helping your child to understand what will happen.

Getting your child to read

- Point out print in the environment (road signs, shop notices, food packaging etc)
- Read for a purpose (follow a recipe together, use a shopping list)
- Read stories and look at books together.
- Make stories enjoyable by using funny voices or acting them out.
- Be a reader - children copy adults!!



If you require further information or advice, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Abraham.