

Welcome to Class 1 At Green Lea First School

We warmly welcome you and your family to our
Reception and Year 1 class.

We aim to provide a happy, secure, friendly and stimulating
environment in which children can develop and grow.

Your child enters Green Lea First School as an experienced learner, bringing from home a great deal of knowledge about themselves and their world. We hope to be able to work together to build on and extend their developing interests, skills and experiences. We believe that through first-hand experiences children can meet challenges, make decisions and think creatively and critically.

We are committed to working in partnership with parents: by working together, we can enhance learning.

If you have any questions, please come and speak to us.

We are always happy to help!



Lucie Masters
Class 1 Teacher



Angela Fletcher
Class 1 Teaching Assistant

Settling In

Reception and Year 1 children can come into the classroom from 8:45am.

The children are encouraged to hang their coat on their own peg and then self-register by finding their name card. Throughout the day, your child will have access to rich indoor and outdoor learning experiences.

What to bring

On a day-to-day basis we recommend bringing in the following items: coat, book bag, spare clothes (in case of accidents and we play with water a lot), wipes and tissues.

In the warmer months, please bring in: a hat and sun-cream (both clearly labelled with your child's name).

Outdoor Learning Kit: Wellies, Waterproof bottoms and top, waterproof coat as we use the outside area in all weathers!

Behaviour

Positive behaviour will be reinforced in a variety of ways including, verbal praise, stickers and certificates.

Undesirable behaviour will also be addressed. If a child displays undesirable behaviour, we clearly speak to them about their choices and ensure that they understand the actions of their behaviour.

We strongly believe that having good communication with parents/carers is vital. Please feel free to approach us at the end of the day if you would like to discuss anything.

Children in reception follow the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) curriculum which is taken from Development Matters document published by The Department for Education.

EYFS Curriculum (Development Matters)

Our children explore a rich and stimulating curriculum based on the seven areas of

- development:
- Personal, Social & Emotional Development
 - Communication & Language
 - Physical Development
 - Literacy
 - Maths
 - Understanding the World, Expressive Arts & Design

Personal, Social & Emotional Development

This includes: making positive relationships, developing self-confidence and self-awareness and effectively managing feelings and behaviour. The children have a variety of opportunities to work with one another both in adult-led and child-initiated activities. On a daily basis we have circle time to encourage children to share their feelings. Every week the children also have 'Teddy Talk Time', where they learn how to empathise with others and manage their feeling and emotions.

Communication & Language

This includes: listening and attention, speaking and listening. Throughout the day, children have frequent opportunities to develop these skills. We read lots of stories and take turns and listen to one another on the carpet. Our role play areas provide rich language development and allows them to trial and test new vocabulary in a purposeful way.

Physical Development

This includes: moving & handling and health & self-care. Every **Tuesday** we have P.E sessions to develop key skills. In our continuous provision, the children have access to

a variety of activities to develop their fine and gross motor skills. We also have access to large construction equipment. Our topic sessions provide opportunities for children to learn about independence and keeping healthy.

Literacy

This includes: reading and writing. The children have access to daily phonics sessions, which underpins their reading development. For Reception children, sound books are sent home, alongside reading books. We encourage you to read as much as possible with your child; whether you yourself read to them, or you encourage your child to read their reading books. Both Nursery and Reception children are also able to take home library books. These are changed on a weekly basis.

Maths

This includes: numbers and shape, space & measures. We have daily maths sessions, where the children are given first-hand experiences to learn specific concepts. We believe in a practical approach to learning and use a variety of resources to develop children's knowledge and understanding. We also learn rhymes, sing songs and read stories to help us.

Understanding the World

This includes: learning about people & communities, the world and technology. Our topic sessions ensure that children have opportunities and experiences to develop their current knowledge about the world. For example; we learn about different cultures and religions, our local environment, life-cycles and different countries. We take children out on trips to consolidate their knowledge further, as we believe that children learn best through first-hand experiences. The children also develop their knowledge of the wider world as they have French speaking lessons with a specialised French teacher.

Expressive Arts & Design

This includes: exploring & using different media & materials and being imaginative. On a weekly basis, we have focused art/d.t sessions where the children learn and develop specific skills. We also have designated art areas in our continuous provision, where the

children have constant access to a wide variety of materials. We also hold regular music/dance sessions to encourage the children to represent their feelings and emotions in different ways. The children's interests are taken into account which we develop on and provide stimulating experiences to promote their ideas further.

Learning Journey

We regularly observe your child to help us understand and support their individual wellbeing and development. We want to really get to know your child as a unique person with their individual skills, interests, and ideas. The more we understand about your child, the better we can support their learning.

You can also add your own observations from home! We strongly believe that working together supports your child and gives them the best learning opportunities. Therefore, we value your input into these learning journals and would love to hear about events, activities, or achievements which have happened at home.

Children in Year 1 follow the National Curriculum and are taught the following subjects -

- English
- maths
- science
- design and technology
- history
- geography
- art and design
- music
- physical education (PE)
- computing
- French

All of our children benefit from Forest School sessions with a qualified Forest School teacher on a Friday. Forest School is an inspirational process, that offers ALL learners regular opportunities to achieve and develop confidence and self-esteem through hands-on learning experiences in a natural environment with trees. Forest School is a specialised learning approach that sits within and complements the wider context of outdoor and woodland education. At Green Lea we firmly believe that working and enjoying the outdoors contributes to a child's physical and mental wellbeing.

We also regularly partake in holistic activities such as yoga and have the benefit of having a specialised yoga instructor coming into school to deliver lessons on a termly basis.

Here is an overview of our timetable.

Monday	Handwriting practise	Registration	Guided reading/ individual readers	Maths	Break	Phonics	Literacy	Lunch	Class assembly	Science	Story/ Home time
Tuesday				Maths		Phonics	Literacy		French/ PE/ PSHE / Yoga		
Wednesday				Maths		Phonics	Literacy		Class assembly	Subject of the week	
Thursday				Maths		Phonics	Literacy		Subject of the week		
Friday				Reading activities		Forest School	Phonics tricky words		Golden Time Yoga	Class certificate assembly	

Reading and homework (routine whilst following COVID 19 guidelines).

Each child will be given their reading book on a Monday (please read 5-10 minutes every night). Children need to bring their reading books and diaries to school every day. We expect reading diaries to be signed by a parent/carer when reading is shared. On a Friday we will keep the reading books and send home homework, this will usually be spellings, learning to read high frequency words and a small task relevant to what we have been learning that the children can complete independently. The amount of homework steadily increases as the year goes on and all the children are expected to do it.

Things you can do at home

Below are some activities you could do with your children to promote their development further.

- Read/share books at least 5 times a week, it does make a difference. Studies show that children who read at home make 20% better progress than children who never read at home.
- Ongoing-encourage mark making, shopping lists etc.
- Encourage children to talk.
- Practise counting at any time-climbing the stairs, shopping etc.
- Sing number rhymes and songs together
- Talk with them, answer their questions and play memory games.
- Encourage them to ask questions.
- Help them to match and sort objects e.g. putting knives and forks, socks into pairs, sorting big and little objects, putting objects in order of size.
- Give them opportunities to help you around the house e.g. baking or food preparation.
- Encourage them to express their own ideas and feelings through music and play.

- Encourage them to explore their own environment.
- Encourage respect for others.

Developing Independence

Where possible we encourage children to become independent learners. We encourage children to:

- Put on/take off their coat and hang it up on their peg.
- Fasten their zip or buttons.
- Put their shoes on their correct feet.
- Wash and dry their hands.
- Tidy up after themselves.
- Encourage independent toileting and good hygiene habits.

Additional information

- PE days are Tuesdays please ensure that children come dressed in the appropriate school PE kit on these days. Hair should be tied back and no jewellery should be worn.
- It would be greatly appreciated if you could discourage your child from bringing in toys/objects from home, unless it is their turn for show and tell.
- Please ensure that if home-time arrangements are different to normal that you let school know in writing or by phone.
- Any sickness or diarrhoea must be followed by at least 48 hours absence.
- Any absence requires a telephone call to the school office by 9:15am.
- Prescribed medication can only be administered by prior arrangement with the school office.

Thank you.