



STARTING SCHOOL

*Information for Parents and Carers
of pupils starting Reception*





WELCOME TO LAKES PRIMARY SCHOOL

Dear Parents/Carers,

We want every child to get the best possible start in Reception at Lakes Primary School. Therefore, this booklet will outline our induction arrangements, provide some important information about the school day as well as explain how you can best support your child both at school and at home.

We aim to work in partnership with you to make your child's transition into Reception go as smoothly, and as happily, as possible. If you would like any further information - please just ask! All members of staff are happy to help in any way they can.

We hope that the time spent with us here will be happy, successful and full of fun!

Yours faithfully,

Mrs Madden
Head Teacher

CONTACT INFORMATION

Lakes Primary School, West Dyke Road, Redcar, TS10 4JH

Tel: 01642 485894

Fax: 01642 475602

Website: www.redcar-cleveland.gov.uk/lakesprimary

Email: Lakes_Primary_School@redcar-cleveland.gov.uk

ADMISSIONS

All children normally start full time school in September of the academic year in which they become five years of age. Applications should be made by all parents who wish to express a preference for their child to be admitted to a reception class of a primary school within the Redcar & Cleveland area. You can apply online at: www.redcar-cleveland.gov.uk

For further information you can email schools_admissions@redcar-cleveland.gov.uk or phone 01642 444108

AIMS

- Provide a safe, secure, caring and stimulating environment
- Encourage emotional, social, physical, creative and intellectual development
- Encourage positive attitudes towards themselves and others
- Develop confidence and self esteem
- Support, nurture and develop children as individuals.

CURRICULUM

At school, your child will be offered a range of learning experiences which will allow them to explore, investigate, build upon, question, talk about, observe, reflect and respond to.

The curriculum covers 7 areas of learning development. Children should mostly develop the 3 prime areas first, as these are the skills most essential for your child's healthy development and future learning:

- Communication and language (speaking and listening)
- Physical development (PE and large scale play)
- Personal, social and emotional development

As children grow, the prime areas will help them to develop skills in 4 specific areas:

- Literacy (Reading and Writing)
- Mathematics
- Understanding the world (Science, ICT, History, Geography and RE)
- Expressive arts and design (Art, Music, Dance and Design Technology)

To find out more visit: www.foundationyears.org.uk



ATTENDANCE

If your child is absent, the parent/carer must follow these procedures:

- Contact us as soon as possible on the first day of absence - before 9.20am. The school has an answer phone available to leave a message if nobody is able to take your call.
- Call into school and report absences at the main office.

If your child is absent, we will:

- Telephone you on the first day of absence if we have not heard from you;
- Invite you in to school to discuss the situation if there is an underlying issue;
- Refer the matter to the Education Welfare Officer if attendance falls below 90%.

LATENESS

Poor punctuality is not acceptable. If a child misses the start of the day they can miss work and do not spend time with their class teacher getting vital information and news for the day. Good time keeping is a vital life skill which will help our children as they progress through their school life and out into the wider world.

How we manage lateness:

The school gates open at 8.50am and we expect all of our children to be in the playground at this time. Registers are marked by 9.00am and your child will receive a late mark if they are not in by that time.

For more information, please refer to our full school Attendance Policy, which is available on our website.

HELPING IN SCHOOL

Parents and carers are always welcome at Lakes Primary School.

We greatly value parental support and look forward to working closely with you throughout your child's learning journey: your child will benefit from your interest and support. You may like to come in to school to read stories, play games, or work with small groups to bake. We especially welcome parental support during our educational visits. If you would be willing to help and, perhaps, have some spare time during the week, please come and join us in Reception!

SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD AT HOME

All of the fun activities that you do with your child at home are important in supporting their learning and have a long-lasting effect on your child's development as they progress through school.

READING: Your child will bring a book home each day for you to share together. Please read regularly with your child, talking about the story as this encourages a love of reading for pleasure and information.



WRITING: Please support your child at home by encouraging them to write as much as possible. Do remember that we use lower case letters for everything except the first letter of a name or start of the sentence.

MATHS: Play turn-taking games with your child. Try to count objects regularly as part of their play - e.g. pasta in their pretend kitchen, the number of plates on the table, the number of stairs to climb etc. Find shapes in the world around you and reinforce numerals on signs.

GETTING YOUR CHILD READY FOR SCHOOL

We all want children to get the most out of their time at school. One way in which parents can play a big part in this is by equipping their children with some of the practical skills that will help them to be independent when they start school - this will greatly benefit the child, increasing their levels of confidence and self esteem.



It is useful if you could spend time with your child, helping them to learn how to:

- Use the toilet alone; flushing it and washing their hands afterwards.
- Fasten and unfasten coats and shoes.
- Get dressed and undressed, ready for P.E. activities.
- Use tissues/handkerchiefs.
- Use a knife and fork correctly - *especially useful if having school dinners!*
- Coming to school means learning to live in a crowd and to wait for attention: try to ensure that your child knows how to take turns and how to share.

THE LEARNING JOURNEY

Every child in Reception will have their own personal 'learning journey'. This will become a unique record of your child's learning in all the developmental areas of the EYFS. It will include photos, examples of work and written observations - including the child's own words. You are welcome to look through your child's learning journey at any time. We also use an online assessment system called 2Build a Profile which is used for gathering evidence of your child working independently. This will be shared with you regularly via email.

CLOTHING

Our school uniform colours are navy blue and mid-grey: navy blue jumpers or sweatshirts and white polo shirts. Please name each article of clothing clearly with your child's forename and surname.

We also ask that children bring a PE kit to school so that they can change for sports activities (navy blue shorts and a white t shirt as well as a pair of plimsolls).

Uniform with the Lakes Primary School logo on may be purchased from:
www.quickstitch.co.uk

01642 487720

19 West Terrace
Redcar
Cleveland
TS10 1DP



SCHOOL TIMES

Morning session: 8.50am - 11.50am
Afternoon session: 12.50pm - 3.15pm

FREE SCHOOL MEALS

All children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are provided with free school meals. The government provides schools with additional funding for all pupils in receipt of free school meals, therefore we ask that you contact the local authority to register:

01642 774774

THE FIRST DAY

Your child will have met their teacher and will know the way into school. Please come into school with them, hang up their coat and take them into the classroom.

END OF THE DAY

Schools are very busy at the end of the day. The reception children finish school at 3.15pm. We ensure that every child is collected by an adult. If someone else is collecting your child from school, please inform your child's class teacher. This will help to alleviate any worries or confusion for all concerned. Anyone collecting your child from school **must** be over the age of 16.