

# Welcome to Castlefield School



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We have a large Early Years Department with a Nursery and Four Reception Classes. The children in Reception have a class base with their own Teacher and Learning Support Assistant.

## The School Day



8.50 - Start of the school day.

Children are brought to the classroom and join in with table-top activities until registration at 9.00a.m.

9.00 - Registration.

9.05 - Whole class session.

9.25 - 10.30 Adult-led small group activities; Child-initiated learning. There is a daily phonics session every day.

10. 30- 11.30 - Department Time - Adult-led small group activities; Child-initiated learning.

11.45-12.15 Lunch in the hall.

12.15-12.45- Play time with Key Stage 1

12.45 - Afternoon registration.

12.50 - 1.15 - Shared/Guided reading.

1.40 - 2.40 - Department Time - Child-initiated learning.

2.45 - Story time.

3.00 - Home time. Children are collected from the classroom.

***Children will be taught in their class groups and will then spend much of the day in free-flow learning, exploring across the indoor and outdoor environments.***


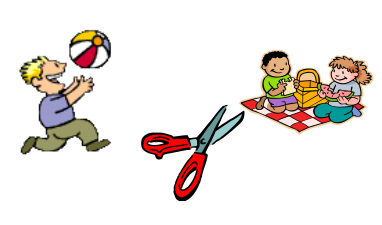



## What will your child be learning?





Your child will be learning through the Early Years Foundation Stage.

There are 3 Prime areas and 4 Specific areas of learning.

### Prime Areas:

| Communication & Language   | Physical Development  | Personal, Social & Emotional Development  |
|--|---|---|
|   |                       |    |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Listening and Attention</li> <li>❖ Understanding</li> <li>❖ Speaking</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Moving and Handling</li> <li>❖ Health and self-care</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Self-confidence and Self-awareness</li> <li>❖ Managing Feelings and Behaviour</li> <li>❖ Making Relationships</li> </ul> |

### Specific Areas:

| Literacy  | Mathematics   | Understanding The World   | Expressive Arts & Design   |
|---|---|---|--|
|  |              |                                   |                                     |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Reading</li> <li>❖ Writing</li> </ul>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Numbers</li> <li>❖ Shape Space and Measures</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ People and Communities</li> <li>❖ The World</li> <li>❖ Technology</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Exploring and Using Media and Materials</li> <li>❖ Being Imaginative</li> </ul> |

*\*Many of these overlap and the children will be accessing activities to support these throughout the day\**



## Our Topics



Much of the work we do in Early Years is linked to a theme/ topic:

Autumn Term - All About Me; Celebrations

Spring Term - Journeys; Dinosaurs

Summer Term -; Minibeasts and Change; Stories and Rhymes

## Phonics



Your child will be learning phonics. We follow the 'Letters and Sounds' programme using Jolly Phonics to help us learn a new letter sound every day. This is a systematic, multi-sensory programme in which children learn an action for each letter sound which helps to make phonics more active and fun (see attached). The children will be grouped for phonics during the Autumn Term.



## How to help your child before starting school

- ❖ Name EVERYTHING.
- ❖ Practise getting dressed on their own.
- ❖ Practise putting on his/her shoes and socks.
- ❖ Practise putting on his/her coat.
- ❖ Help them to recognise their name.
- ❖ Write in lower case letters NOT capitals (see attached handwriting sheet)
- ❖ Practise letter sounds NOT names.
- ❖ Share stories and books.
- ❖ Sing songs and nursery rhymes.

## What will your child need to bring to school?

*\*Please name all your child's belongings\**



- ❖ Book bag **every** day
- ❖ Water bottle **every** day
- ❖ Coat - we go outside **every** day
- ❖ P.E. bag with P.E. kit
- ❖ Hat and gloves when cold
- ❖ Sun hat when sunny
- ❖ Boots when wet



## School Uniform



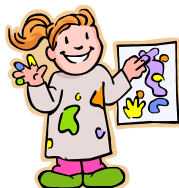
*School sweatshirts, book bags, P.E. shirts and P.E. bags are available from the school office*

- ❖ White shirt/blouse
- ❖ Black or grey trousers/skirt; Light blue dress
- ❖ Royal blue sweatshirt
- ❖ Black school shoes - NO trainers
- ❖ P.E. kit - T-Shirt and shorts; plimsolls

## Assessment



- ❖ Early Years staff use observation to continuously assess the children.
- ❖ Each child has a 'Learning Journey' book to record their development with examples of what he/she has learnt and achieved.
- ❖ We have a target setting day in the Autumn and Spring terms to discuss and set individual targets for your child to work on both at home and at school.
- ❖ Observations and assessments throughout the year will lead to the development of your child's Early Years Profile.
- ❖ You will receive a written report on your child's development and the characteristics of effective learning at the end of the Reception year.



## Our Aims



- ❖ To provide a stimulating and welcoming environment in which both children and parents feel safe and secure.
- ❖ To enable all children to develop essential skills and appropriate attitudes through co-operative play.
- ❖ To develop as creative and independent learners.
- ❖ To meet each child's interests and needs to support their development.
- ❖ To encourage children to think for themselves.
- ❖ To promote respect for others, and their environment.
- ❖ To provide equal access for all children to the Early Years curriculum.
- ❖ To have fun and develop a love of learning.





## Letter Formation

(Left-handed sheet is available on request)

A a

B b

C c

D d

E e

F f

G g

H h

I i

J j

K k

L l

M m

N n

O o

P p

Q q

R r

S s

T t

U u

V v

W w

X x

Y y

Z z





# Number Formation

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1

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3

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5

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