Wheelers Lane Primary School

Reception Induction Booklet 2026

Welcome to Wheelers Lane Primary School

A School that aims to create a community of inspiration, aspiration and enrichment.

Dear Parents and Carers

We are looking forward to welcoming you and your child to Wheelers Lane Primary School in September. The aim of this booklet is to provide you with practical information and some useful advice to help make your child's transition into Reception as smooth as possible.

We hope this is the beginning of a very happy and successful time for your child and look forward to building a strong partnership with you as we support your child on their exciting journey into school.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Mrs E Sumner
Headteacher

Mr M Dunn
Early Years Leader

The Early Years Foundation Stage

Information for Parents and Carers

The EYFS is a framework for children's development from birth to the end of the Reception year of Primary School.

There are four themes of the EYFS;

- A unique child - every child is a competent learner from birth and can be resilient, capable, confident and self-assured.
- Positive Relationships - children learn to be strong and independent from a base of loving and secure relationships with parents and carers.
- Enabling environments - the environment plays a key role in supporting and extending children's development and learning.
- Learning and Developing - children develop and learn in different ways and at different rates and all areas of learning and development are equally important.

These themes are used to underpin the learning and development that your child will take part in during their time in the EYFS. Children learn in a variety of ways: watching others, talking, asking questions, listening, exploring and investigating. We aim to promote curiosity and offer open ended learning opportunities that encourage creative thinking, problem solving and independence.

Play is the foundation of development and learning for young children and your child will continue to take part in many indoor and outdoor play experiences that will help them to learn, develop and have fun!

The EYFS curriculum is organised into seven areas of learning and development;

- Personal, social and emotional development
- Communication and language
- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the World
- Physical development
- Expressive arts and design

This does not mean that all of the children's learning is divided up into areas. In one activity they can be developing knowledge, understanding and new skills across several areas of learning at once.

Personal, social and emotional development

This area of learning helps children to feel good about themselves and others so they are able to develop positive relationships. It supports them to become independent, excited and motivated learners.

You can help at home by: Encouraging your child to use the toilet independently, wash their hands, put on and fasten their coats. Playing games which encourage sharing and turn taking will help your child to build their social skills.

Communication and Language

This area of learning helps children to develop language through talking, thinking and listening in different situations. To support children in their early reading and writing they are encouraged to mark make, enjoy stories, books and rhymes and link sounds and letters.

You can help at home by: Reading stories, encouraging your child to join in and talk about books, singing songs and nursery rhymes, taking time to listen to them talking about things they've done and answering their questions.

Mathematics

In this area of learning children develop mathematical understanding through stories, songs, games, everyday activities and imaginative play so that they enjoy experimenting and become confident and curious about numbers, patterns, relationships and spatial reasoning skills.

You can help at home by: Talking about the shapes around in the environment, comparing things which are heavy and light or long and short, pointing out numbers at home and in the environment, singing counting songs and rhymes, counting anything and everything - socks, cars, shopping!

The World

In this area of learning, children develop knowledge, skills and understanding that help them to make sense of the world. This is the foundation for later work in history, geography, science, design technology and ICT.

You can help at home by: Talking to your child about the places they go and things they see in the world around them. Letting children join in with everyday activities - washing up, cooking, shopping, gardening etc

Physical Development

Making progress in physical development gives children confidence and enables them to feel the benefits of being healthy and active. Your child will participate in structured PE and dance sessions, as well as having access to outdoor learning every day, improving their skills of co-ordination, control and movement. There will be many opportunities for your child to develop fine motor skills - e.g through using scissors, glue, paintbrushes and pencils.

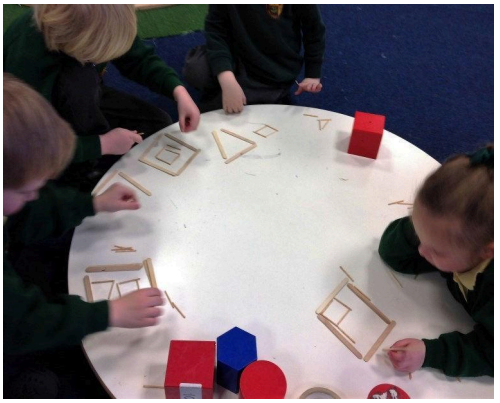
You can help at home by: Giving children time to run, jump, climb and play outdoors and also by encouraging children in activities such as building, drawing, threading beads, or filling and emptying containers in the bath - all of which develop manipulative skills.

Expressive arts and design

This area of learning includes art, music, dance, drama and imaginative play - opportunities for children to try new experiences and express themselves in a variety of ways. Creativity is an important part of successful learning; it enables children to make connections between experiences, solve problems and be inventive.

You can help at home by: Talking to your child about their imaginative play and joining in if possible, encouraging them to be flexible in their thinking and use of materials and praising them for their efforts or ideas as well as the end product.

Literacy



This area of learning includes reading and writing. To support children in their early reading and writing they are encouraged to mark make, enjoy stories, books and rhymes and link sounds and letters.

You can help at home by: Reading lots of stories, encouraging your child to join in and talk about books, singing songs and nursery rhymes, taking time to listen to them talking about things they've done and answering their questions.