



## New to Reception FAQ's

### New to R meeting FAQ's

Thanks for coming, to our Zoom meeting, here is an outline of the questions (and the answers) for those who couldn't make it or had trouble with their sound.

### Reception team introduction

Miss Shevlane and Miss Whitley  
Mrs Charalambous and Mrs Rossi

### Questions

- **Main one – COVID in September -What's the plan? Are there safety measures in place? Will the settling process be different? Will they have resources?**
  - Nursery and Reception are Cuffley's priority for returning in September. However, we won't know exactly what this looks like until we receive more news from the Government. We will let you know via email, Twitter and/or Facebook in a timely manner when we know any extra details we haven't already shared.
  - We're very resourceful with what we have and have taught an entire term without being in school! We also have minimal resources at the moment and children are still learning and having fun so no matter what we have, we will make sure that is it enjoyable for the children.
  - REMEMBER as big and worrying as it seems for us at this point, the children haven't experienced this before so have nothing to base their worry on. Try to keep calm and talk about how exciting it will be so that your child knows it is a safe place and that you are happy for it to be a place they can go safely!
  
- **How many children in each class?**
  - 30
  - Teacher and TA
  
- **How often are reading books changed?**
  - At least once a week, with reading one of our top priorities for the coming year. Children will also receive a library book that you can read together and use as a time to make predictions and talk about what they have heard.
  - Books will be matched to the phonological knowledge of your child. Remember it's also about comprehension and understanding of the book, not just about reading the words on the page.
  - We encourage fluent reading which means that children can read with speed, accuracy and proper expression and in order to practise this we ask you to read with your child at least 3 times a week.
  - Please don't feel like you have to limit yourself to the books from school. Reading comics and factual books as well as other books you can access online will all contribute to your child reading journey.
  
- **How is additional support provided for both those with additional needs and those who show ability?**
  - We have a very good relationship with both our parents and children in the Early Years so if there is anything that we or you are worried about, we will ask to have a meeting to chat about what the next option/idea might be. We also have a great SENCO and team who help each other and work together in order to provide the best provision for your child.
  - Mrs Bedwell is our SENCO and you can email her at [senco@cuffley.herts.sch.uk](mailto:senco@cuffley.herts.sch.uk) if you would like to let her know of any additional needs your child might have or if you want to ask her questions about something that is worrying you.
  - Within class, teachers and staff are constantly adapting and differentiating how we work to suit the level the child is at. In EYFS, we work on the 7 areas of learning and whilst we

wouldn't stall or discourage a child if they loved or showed a great affinity for maths, we would also help them work on the areas they find trickier to give them a broad and balanced base to spring from as they continue through the school.

- In Reception, we know children learn in a variety of ways and this is mimicked in the way we plan. We also work from the child's interests adapting and adding ideas to teach them skills or new knowledge to add onto their existing experiences.

- **Lunchtimes, how does this work? What are the options?**

- Lunches are provided free for all children from R-Year2. We work on a 2 week rolling menu with a choice of a hot meal or jacket potato option with a choice of filling.
- Children also have access to a salad bar and have a choice of pudding which always includes a fruit option.
- Reception children go into lunch first and sit together to have a social lunch. We encourage children to become independent in choosing their lunch so you may want to practise carrying and walking with a tray and eating with a knife and fork
- If children want to bring a packed lunch from home, they are welcome to but remember we are a healthy school so these should not contain chocolate, or nuts of any kind. You may want to practise opening containers/yoghurts over the summer. (We will help if they need it but they like to do it themselves and we are trying to make them independent)
- If children want to change from dinners to packed lunch or vice versa, this can be done termly.

- **What happens if children are upset with transition?**

- We will use distraction tactics! – We're very good at these
- We know this is individual for each child and will be adapted to what they need and when they need it.
- REMEMBER as big and worrying as it seems for us at this point, the children haven't experienced this before so have nothing to base their worry on. Try to keep calm and talk about how exciting it will be so that your child knows it is a safe place and that you are happy for it to be a place they can go safely!

- **Home visits- more info please (AC)**

- We will send out an email inviting you to book your home visit. It will be in July and you will sign up like you did for this event, on Eventbrite (PLEASE CALL THE SCHOOL IF YOU HAVE ISSUES WITH THIS!) Home visits on Zoom will be a 20 minute slot. We will ask you to join zoom 5 minutes before into the waiting room and we will add you in when it is your time.
- If you have any extra questions we will be happy to answer these on the call.

- **Homework**

- Children will be given homework once a week on Google classroom. Which will be linked to what they are learning in the classroom or need to practise. '

- **Return your packs – ASAP**

- Please can you send your pack in via email to [admissions@cuffley.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admissions@cuffley.herts.sch.uk).
- If you want to hand it in in person this is also fine although we suggest coming to the school around 11 to miss drop off and collection times.

- **Which phonics scheme do you follow?**

- We follow letters and sounds

Thanks you for returning forms and for joining us on Zoom, we look forward to meeting you on home visit zooms and in September. If you have any questions, please email [admin@cuffley.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@cuffley.herts.sch.uk)

Mrs Wing and the EYFS team.