

RED OAKS PRIMARY SCHOOL

THE FOUNDATION STAGE



The first years of your child's education are so important. At Red Oaks Primary School we believe that every child should have the opportunity to learn in a fun, happy, secure and stimulating environment.

Our Aims

Aims for the children in the Foundation Stage:

- To make learning enjoyable and accessible to all children.
- For children to develop good relationships with their peers and adults.
- To develop skills that will help children deal with the challenges of school and everyday life.
- To see every child as an individual and give them opportunities to develop his/her abilities.
- Each child should feel that they are part of a group, that they are valued and they have an active part to play in the happiness of the group.
- To deliver a broad curriculum that covers all areas of learning and encourages children to develop their own learning.
- To establish good relationships between home and school.

General Information

Admissions:

Nursery Children

Children are initially admitted to the nursery if they are three years old on or before 31st August. There will be two further admission periods in January and April *if there are any spaces available at that time*. Please see the school website www.redoaks.org for admissions' information.

Please note that a place in nursery does not guarantee a child a place in school.

Reception Children

Children are admitted to the reception class in the academic year that they are five years old or on their arrival from another district. Children starting in the reception class in September must be 4 years old before 31st August.

The school has a designated catchment area made up of certain streets in the surrounding locality. The address which determines a child's designated area is the place where the child is ordinarily resident with his/her parents or legal carer. Applications for entry to the reception class must be made prior to the Local Authority's published closing date for primary registrations. The school admission number is 60. Admissions are the responsibility of the Local Authority and places are allocated in line with their Admissions Policy.

Staffing

The Nursery is staffed by a fully qualified Teacher, Nursery Nurse and a Teaching Assistant.

Nursery Opening Times

Red Oaks Nursery runs three hour sessions. Your child will be given a place in either the **morning or in the afternoon for five sessions a week**. There is no charge.

Morning session 8.30am- 11.30am

Afternoon session 12.10pm- 3.10pm

Nursery Uniform

Navy jogging bottoms

Red polo shirts

Navy blue sweatshirts/fleece/cardigan (with School Logo)

Black shoes with Velcro straps

Wellington boots (to be kept in school at all times)

The Child

As a school we aim to provide for the development of the whole child.

We aim to provide a caring, stimulating learning environment, where children feel valued as individuals and where every one of them has a role to play in the life of the school. All staff will promote self-esteem and pride in a job well done. We hope your child will love school. There is a lot of laughter at Red Oaks as well as hard work!

The school encourages children to be actively involved in their learning. Quality teaching and learning opportunities support individual needs and encourage children to identify their future learning targets. A broad and balanced curriculum is offered to all children in line with the National Curriculum and RE Curriculum.

It is really important that children learn by engaging in all that the school and its environment can offer. We must all make the most of a rainy day or the snow and muddy boots hopefully mean that children have been exploring learning at its best.

Equal opportunities are provided for all children, regardless of gender, race, religion or special needs. In our school, children are encouraged to fulfil their potential intellectually, physically, socially, emotionally, morally and spiritually. See <http://www.redoaks.org/curriculum.php> for the details.

It is school policy not to place twins in the same class with the exception of nursery.

The school is well resourced to deal with children with disabilities. Prior to entry to school any specific needs would be discussed thoroughly with parents and outside agencies and the appropriate action would be taken to fully support the child.

Parent Partnership

The school promotes a policy of parents in partnership. Parents are welcomed into school and will be fully informed of their child's progress. The curriculum will be regularly shared with parents through newsletters, workshops and open days. Details of these can be found on our website www.redoaks.org.

What is the Foundation Stage?

The Curriculum

The curriculum is divided into six areas and the children have the opportunity to learn through play. Play is a meaningful and powerful medium for learning.



Personal, Social and Emotional Development

We encourage children to gain independence and learn how to interact with both children and adults. Here are some examples of the activities we provide:

- Group games- encouraging children to take turns.
- Circle Times- an opportunity to talk about their feelings and give their opinions on school related topics.
- Looking at religious festivals- to develop respect for other peoples cultures and beliefs.
- Snack times- encouraging independence such as spreading, cutting and making choices. This is also an opportunity to talk to our peers and staff in school.





Communication and Language Literacy

These curriculum areas encourage children to enjoy stories, to use language to imagine and recreate roles, to listen and speak clearly and to learn how to hear rhyme, alliteration and sounds in words.



Mathematical Development

The children learn how to match and sort everyday objects and shapes, to count, order and recognise numbers. Through practical activities they begin to use the vocabulary involved in adding and subtracting. They will learn how to talk about, recognise and recreate simple patterns. The children are given the opportunity to develop mathematical ideas and methods to solve practical problems.



Understanding of the World

This curriculum area provides a foundation for scientific, technological, historical and geographical learning.





Physical Development

We encourage the children to be active individuals. We have an outdoor area, bikes, scooters and wheeled toys and a good selection of P.E equipment to promote good health and develop gross motor skills. We also develop pencil and scissor control and other fine motor skills.



Expressive Arts & Design

Children will experience working with a variety of materials to design and create. They will be able to develop their skills of painting, colour mixing and construction. Children are given the opportunity to use their imagination in music, dance, role-play and small world play.



How to prepare your child for starting in Nursery or Reception Class:



Talk about school in a really positive and fun way.



All children must be potty trained, before they start in Nursery, unless he/she has specific needs. Any child who is not toilet trained must have a Personal Care Plan because it involves intimate care.



Before starting in Nursery/Reception encourage your child to have a go at getting dressed and undressed. These are important self help skills.



Please ensure that all clothing including shoes are labelled with your child's name when coming to school.



Encourage your child to practise washing their hands and wiping their noses.

