



Welcome to Great Barton CE Primary Academy

What will my child learn?

Throughout the Foundation Stage your child will learn in many different ways – through play, active involvement and talking to other adults and children. For young children learning is a continuous process and they learn from everything they see, hear and do.

FOUNDATION STAGE CURRICULUM: What will my child do in Reception?

The EYFS will be the stage your child is in until the end of the reception year at school. It describes how early years practitioners should work with children and their families to support their development and learning. It is based on four important themes and principles:

A Unique Child - every child is a competent learner from birth who 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/or a key person.

Enabling Environments – the environment plays a key role in supporting and extending children's development and learning.

Learning and Development - children develop and learn in different ways and at different rates and all areas of Learning and Development are equally important and interconnected.

In reception, we believe in educating the whole child, focusing on intellectual, social, emotional, physical and creative growth, valuing the rich diversity of culture the children bring to the classroom. The curriculum is carefully planned with children learning through a combination of teacher/pupil-initiated activities and play. We consider play to be an important educational activity enabling children to practice and consolidate a variety of skills. Each day, your child will be involved in a wide variety of activities which will encourage learning in an enjoyable and stimulating way.

There are seven areas of learning which must be included in the curriculum planning:

COMMUNICATION AND LANGUAGE: includes listening, attention, understanding and speaking.

Activities will include providing opportunities for children to listen to others in one-to-one or in small groups when the conversation interests them. Children will be encouraged to focus their attention by shifting between speaking and listening.

Children will be involved in activities with instructions containing positional language. Conversations will include 'why' and 'how' questions. Throughout the year, we will use talk, actions and objects to connect ideas and recall past experiences. We encourage children to question why things happen and give explanations.

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT: includes self -regulation, managing themselves and their feelings and building relationships.

Children will be encouraged to develop positive attitudes towards others and themselves, to work as part of a group, taking turns and sharing fairly.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT: includes gross motor skills and fine motor skills.

Activities will include daily access to the outdoor area, dance, gymnastics, games, cutting, painting, drawing, threading and baking. In addition, we will develop an understanding of the importance of a healthy diet and talk about ways to keep healthy and safe.

LITERACY: includes comprehension, word reading and writing. Activities will include access to a variety of books, stories and rhymes, discussion activities, learning and reciting nursery rhymes, access to a selection of writing tools and papers, name writing and handwriting activities.

READING:

Your child will bring home a library book that they have chosen to share with you, sounds and words to learn to help them along the way with the school reading scheme and a reading record book. Please use the reading record book to communicate with the class teacher, commenting on how they liked/disliked the book and how they are coping with their new book. Book bags need to be brought into school every day.

More information about how we teach phonics and reading will be shared with you when your child has settled into reception.

MATHEMATICS: includes number and number patterns.

Activities will include jigsaws, counting games, pattern boards, shape puzzles, matching, sorting, sequencing activities and number rhymes. Working with manipulatives such as numicon, ten frames etc.

UNDERSTANDING THE WORLD: includes Science, History, Geography, and R.E.

Activities will include opportunities to find out about their local environment and people and places relevant to themselves through water/sand, play, modelling, building, Forest school, outdoor learning, sequencing, role-play and visits.

EXPRESSIVE ARTS AND DESIGN: includes art, music, role-play and drama.

Activities will include painting, drawing, collage, dough work, Design Technology (making things) singing, using musical instruments, listening to music, imaginative play and acting out stories.

All areas of the curriculum are approached through a variety of themes please see class page for details. Tips and help information of how to help your child at home will also be shared with you.

PROGRESS IN LEARNING: What if my child is finding some parts of their learning difficult?

If we feel that your child is having particular difficulties with any part of their learning we will arrange a meeting to discuss our concerns and look at ways we can support your child to progress through their learning journey. This occasionally includes adding your child to our Special Needs Register, this is the way we track the children who are in need of some additional support to close the gaps and move the learning forward. Individual targets will be set and shared with the parents. Your child will then get the additional support they require and deserve.

If you have any concerns about your child's learning, and or any concerns about your child's communication skills please speak to their class teacher.

School Routines

ILLNESS: What do I do if my child is poorly?

Please contact school on 01284 787353 to report your child's absence, giving your child's name, class teacher and reason for absence. If your child has a sickness bug, we do not expect them to return to school for 48 hours.

Please remember it is vital that you keep us informed of any changes to your child's health.

BEHAVIOUR: How will my child be expected to behave?

We encourage children in the Foundation Stage to listen carefully and do as they are asked, to share and take turns, to take care of school property and the property of others, to help tidy away, to be kind to other people and to always say please and thank you. We believe that it is very important to work together and encourage good behaviour in a positive way and celebrate the positives. Please behaviour policy for more information.

UNIFORM- All children are expected to wear the school uniform and all items of clothing must be clearly named. See the school website for more details. We also ask that children bring in a pair of wellies and waterproof trouser and coat or all-in-ones to keep in school, for outdoor learning and forest school.

MILK & SNACK - Milk is provided free for children in reception until they turn five and then if parents wish their child to continue to have milk, then they need to pay. Milk form will be sent home or see website. Children are encouraged to drink water throughout the day so please bring a water bottle to school daily. Fruit will be provided daily for snack.

DINNERS- Your child may have a school dinner free as part of Universal School Meal Scheme and we encourage you to take up this excellent offer. Menus can be found on the school website. Also please inform school if you are on income support as this allows us to gain further funding. If your child brings a packed lunch we encourage a healthy range of food and to follow our NO NUTS policy as we have children in school with severe allergies.

BIRTHDAYS We like to celebrate children's birthdays in class. Children receive a card and are allowed to wear a non-uniform top to school for the day. They will also be invited to stand up in Greatness Worship on Friday if they wish to and we will sing 'Happy Birthday'.

SCHOOL TRIPS AND VISITS:

Throughout the year we try to arrange at least 1 educational trip and occasionally we have visitors who come to school, linked with our themes. We ask for a contribution to these trips, to cover the cost of entry, fees charged by the visitors, coach and insurance expenses.

Remember:

Parents are important teachers.

School can be hard work!

A good day's work needs a good night's sleep!

We look forward to working with you and your child.