



New Parents and Carers' Information

for children starting in Reception in
September 2020



Together We Can



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Our School Values

Benwick Primary School is committed to equal opportunities for all. Our school will make all members of our school Community feel welcome.

Our School Values:

RESPECT- RESPONSIBILITY -HONESTY- RESILIENCE -
COMMUNITY

Modern British Values:

Democracy- Tolerance- Mutual Respect- Rule of Law-
Individual Liberty



Our school aims:

Our Mission Statement: Together We Can

Aims:

- ▶ Learning will be creative, exciting and fun.
- ▶ We value and celebrate confidence in ourselves as individuals, knowing that we can make our own contributions to the world.
- ▶ We understand the importance of respecting each other and members of our community and taking the responsibility for our own environment.
- ▶ We strive to install a love of life long learning.



Our Values

- Responsibility
- Resilience
- Respect
- Honesty
- Community





Senior Leadership Team



► Mrs Talbot - Headteacher



Mrs Piper - Deputy Headteacher
SENDCo & Inclusion



Mrs Hill - School Business Manager



Robins Team



Miss Macleod - Class Teacher



Mrs Fiore - Class Teaching Assistant
Forest Schools Leader



Mrs Hinson - HLTA
Teaches Robins 1 day per week



Robins Class



- ▶ We are a small village school, this year we have 4 classes, and so have mixed age group classes.
- ▶ Your child will begin their time at Benwick in **Robins**. This is a mixed Reception (EYFS) and Year 1 Class.
- ▶ The other classes are:
- ▶ Doves: Year 1&2
- ▶ Owls: Year 3&4
- ▶ Swans: Year 4,5,& 6



The School Day (normally)

September 2020

- ▶ 8.40 Gate opens and children walk onto playground with parent/carer
- ▶ 8.45 Whistle is blown, children line up and their teacher takes them in to school, parents leave
- ▶ Early morning activities take place
- ▶ 9.00 - 10.15 - Register & Teaching sessions (including milk and snack time)
- ▶ 10.15-10.30 Playtime
- ▶ 10.30- Teaching sessions
- ▶ 11.55 Assembly (For the first half-term, children will only join in on a Friday)
- ▶ 12.15 - Lunch time
- ▶ 1.00 - Settling & Story
- ▶ 1.15 - 3.00 - Teaching sessions
- ▶ 3.05 Home time

- ▶ There will be some Covid-19 alterations to this - plans will be shared with parents by the end of term and updates will come out before September if necessary.



The Foundation Stage Curriculum



- ▶ Every day the children experience a mix of adult-led and self-directed activities.
- ▶ Our learning environment is set up to enable children to further their own learning in each area of the EYFS curriculum.
- ▶ Learning opportunities are both inside and outside the classroom.
- ▶ Children's learning is recorded in a range of ways; Phonic workbooks, Diaries, Topic Books, Independent Writing Books, Home/School Reading Records and Learning Journeys.



The Foundation Stage Curriculum

- ▶ Prime Areas:
 - ▶ Personal, Social and Emotional Development
 - ▶ Physical Development
 - ▶ Communication and Language
- ▶ Specific Areas:
 - ▶ Literacy
 - ▶ Mathematics
 - ▶ Understanding the World
 - ▶ Expressive Arts and Design





The Foundation Stage Curriculum

Characteristics of Effective Learning



Playing and Exploring – Engagement	Active Learning - Motivation	Creating and Thinking Critically - Thinking
<p>Finding out and exploring</p> <p>Playing with what they know</p> <p>Being willing to 'have a go'</p>	<p>Being involved and concentrating</p> <p>Keeping trying</p> <p>Enjoying achieving what they set out to do</p>	<p>Having their own ideas</p> <p>Making links</p> <p>Choosing ways to do things</p>



Personal, Social and Emotional Development



- ▶ Children will learn to:
- ▶ be self-confident;
- ▶ develop social skills and how to manage their feelings
- ▶ to form positive relationships and develop respect for others;
- ▶ Understand appropriate behaviour
- ▶ develop resilience
- ▶ know what their own needs are;





Communication and Language

- ▶ Children will learn to:
- ▶ Listen and talk confidently and clearly in a range of situations;
- ▶ Experience a language rich environment
- ▶ Develop their confidence and skills in expressing themselves





Physical Development

- ▶ Children will have opportunities to:
- ▶ Be active and interactive;
- ▶ control their body;
- ▶ Understand the importance of physical activity.
- ▶ Make healthy food choices





Literacy

- ▶ Children will be encouraged to:
- ▶ link sounds and letters (phonics)
- ▶ Enjoy and explore a wide range of reading materials (books, poems, and other written materials).
- ▶ begin to read and write





Mathematical Development

The children will be provided with opportunities to:

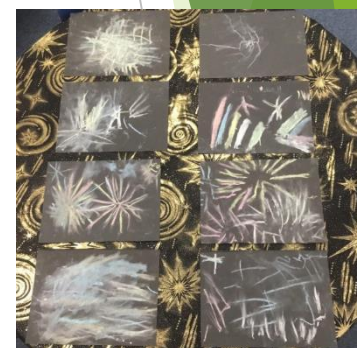
- ▶ develop and improve their skills in counting,
- ▶ develop their understanding and use of numbers
- ▶ calculate simple addition and subtraction problems
- ▶ describe shapes, spaces, and measures





Understanding the world

- ▶ The children will begin to:
- ▶ explore and find out about the world around them, asking questions about it;
- ▶ build with different materials, know about everyday technology and learn what it is used for;
- ▶ find out about past events in their lives and their families' lives;
- ▶ find out about different cultures and beliefs.





Expressive Arts and Design

- ▶ The children will share their thoughts and ideas and explore:
- ▶ colours and shapes;
- ▶ making things;
- ▶ movement and dance;
- ▶ making music.
- ▶ role play





Creative Curriculum

- ▶ Topic based
- ▶ Practical
- ▶ Links between subjects
- ▶ Role play
- ▶ Forest School





How to help your child make the best start:

▶ Our aim is for both you and your child to have a happy and confident beginning to their school life at Benwick School- it would be most helpful if your child can;

- ▶ Dress and undress for PE sessions
 - ▶ Fasten coat zips or buttons
- ▶ Take off and put on shoes independently
 - ▶ Use the toilet independently
 - ▶ Use cutlery properly
- ▶ Please choose velcro fastening shoes
 - ▶ Please label EVERYTHING!
 - ▶ All about me booklet



Parental Involvement

- ▶ ‘Wow!’ Moments and the ‘Wow Wall’
- ▶ Home/school reading journals
- ▶ Class Dojo app  ClassDojo
- ▶ Shine and share events
- ▶ Phonics & reading information sessions
- ▶ Parents’ Evenings



Lunch

Hot Meals

- ▶ School dinners, cooked on site in our school kitchen, are £2.35 per day, however all pupils in Reception, Year 1 and 2 are entitled to a government universal FREE school dinner each day. Menus are sent out each term.
- ▶ Whilst all children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are eligible for a free school meal under the government Universal Infant Free School Meals scheme. It is very important that parents eligible for free school meals still claim as the school receives Pupil Premium based on the numbers of the free school meal children, to support their learning. You will receive a form in your pack for this.

Packed Lunches:

- ▶ Food for packed lunches must be enclosed in a suitable named plastic container and drinks should be in an unbreakable flask/bottle. **No glass bottles or fizzy drinks please.** No sweets, chocolate bars are allowed.

Payments:

- ▶ We use SIMs pay for all payment to the school e.g school dinners, trips etc. SIMS pay is a secure online school payment system which is very effective and simple to use. You will receive a SIMS payment registration invitation with your own personal unique code once your child starts at school.



Home Visits

- ▶ We normally visit families at home, however this is not currently advised.
- ▶ In September Miss Macleod will meet with a parent from each family on a 1:1 basis to discuss your child. This will be arranged in September.



Transition: Before term starts

Friday 4th September (INSET Day)

- ▶ Classroom visits
- ▶ Cohort split into group A or B
- ▶ Group A - 1pm- 1.45pm child & 1 parent; this will be a chance to see the classroom and have a story with classroom staff
- ▶ Group B - 2pm - 2.45pm child & 1 parent; this will be a chance to see the classroom and have a story with classroom staff





Transition:

First week: w/b 7th September

- ▶ Reception children have a gradual transition in to school. This will be particularly important this year due to Covid-19 restrictions.
- ▶ Monday 7th September - afternoon session 1.15-3pm (outside if possible 1 parent only)
- ▶ Tuesday 8th September - Fri Mornings until 11:50am





2nd week w/b 14th September

- ▶ Morning only.
- ▶ Children will stay for lunch with the rest of the school.
- ▶ Children will go home at..... (timing to be confirmed)



3rd week w/b 21st September

- ▶ Children stay in school for full days.
- ▶ We will give final timings



Uniform

- ▶ Uniform and Dress Code:
- ▶ We aim to encourage children to feel pride and a sense of belonging to the Benwick Primary School community by wearing their uniform. The school uniform consists of:
- ▶ Dark green sweatshirt or sweat cardigan with school emblem;
- ▶ White polo shirt or white shirt/blouse;
- ▶ Grey/black trousers, pinafore, skirt or shorts;
- ▶ Green gingham dress in summer;
- ▶ Grey/black/white socks
- ▶ Black shoes/closed sandals

- ▶ Please make sure that all items of clothing and footwear worn in school are clearly labelled with your child's name.



Uniform

- ▶ Children in Reception and Key Stage 1 should keep a pair of named wellies in school so that they can fully enjoy the outside area! We would also recommend provision of outdoor waterproof clothing particularly in Reception.
- ▶ Your child should also be provided with a sun hat in warm weather and a coat that is suitable to the season everyday. It is also essential to have a waterproof coat and sensible footwear in school everyday, as we are likely to be working outdoors or to be undertaking short walks in the countryside!
- ▶ Plain, unbranded uniform items can also be purchased from supermarkets/departments stores if you wish as long as these are in our school colours. Items with sports logos should not be worn.



PE Kit

- ▶ PE Kit should be kept in school all week
 - ▶ Yellow PE T-shirt with school emblem;
 - ▶ Black shorts;
 - ▶ Plain, dark jogging bottoms and tracksuit top
 - ▶ Black plimsolls or white/black trainers;
 - ▶ PE bag to keep it in.
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- ▶ Ordering:
 - ▶ You can order and pay for school uniform online from School Trends by following the link above. Alternatively, simply visit www.schooltrendsonline.com, then select 'Find My School' and follow the order instructions.



Appearance

- ▶ We believe it is important to be comfortable and look smart at Benwick Primary School.
- ▶ Make-up (including nail varnish) and jewellery should not be worn in school. No bracelets, including charity bands are to be worn in school, except the time when the school is fundraising for the charity. Plain (not coloured) studs for pierced ears are acceptable, but hoops or dangling earrings must not be worn. Watches may be worn by children from Y2.
- ▶ Hair should be of a sensible style - shaved or coloured hair is not permitted at school. Hair beyond shoulder length must be tied back. Hair accessories should be in school colours.

What's next?

- ▶ Forms to be completed and returned asap (school post box)
- ▶ Final letters re: timing sent out at the end of term
- ▶ Book bags delivered (hopefully)
- ▶ Further communication via email in the summer holidays if the government change anything
- ▶ 4th September - 1st transition day (bring birth certificate and all about me booklet).
- ▶ See you in September!



Governors - What is their role?

Governors are the school's 'Critical Friend'. They are part of the leadership team of the school and fulfil a strategic overview role. They support and challenge the school to raise standards and ensure the school provides a good quality education to the children in a safe and secure environment.



Governors - How their role is fulfilled.

- ▶ Governors hold regular meetings and make formal visits to the school enabling all governors to stay fully informed.
- ▶ Undertake training to assist them in their role.
- ▶ Support the leadership team and staff in many areas whilst at the same time challenging ideas and expectations.
- ▶ Monitor and evaluate progress towards the schools targets.
- ▶ Work together to make joint decisions on school policies.

FOBS - Friends of Benwick School

Our fantastic FOBS team, organise fun events and help us to raise money for school projects and resources.



Ofsted 2019

We are a rapidly improving school, and have made many significant strides forward since the last inspection. However we celebrate the many positive findings from the inspection and the full 2019 report can be found on our website.

Staff have established positive relationships with pupils.

All classrooms and outdoor areas support pupils' learning well. Teachers celebrate and promote achievement through a high level of encouragement and stimulus to initiate pupils' interest in their learning.

Pupils say that they feel safe at school. They know how to keep themselves safe in a variety of situations... Leaders continue to prioritise the safeguarding and well-being of pupils.

EYFS: Children are confident in their environment. They demonstrate that they are ready to learn and show signs of wanting to do more. Children enthusiastically talked to the inspector and were inquisitive and eager to carry out tasks.