

Welcome to Sandal Primary

New to Reception Parents' Information Evening
May 2023

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Our vision at Sandal...

"We are enthusiastic about providing a responsive and aspirational environment that challenges, encourages and inspires everyone. We are committed to maintaining a caring, stimulating atmosphere that nurtures confidence, self-esteem, respect and independence to support early learning and development."



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How can we achieve our vision?



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Transition

- Starting full time schooling can be a very scary change to our 4 year old children! To help reduce the anxiety and fear of the 'unknown', we have organised transition sessions throughout June and July:
- **Friday 30th June am, Wednesday 5th July am, Wednesday 19th July**
- One of the sessions, you are invited to have a school dinner with your child. Please see the letter in your child's Reception pack (it is individual to your child)

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Home visits

- If you feel you and your child would benefit from having a home visit from your child's new class teacher/s and our Inclusion and Well Being Co-Ordinator, please sign up for a time before you leave tonight.
- Dates available:
Wednesday 21st June- RP
Wednesday 28th June- RS



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The first day in Reception...



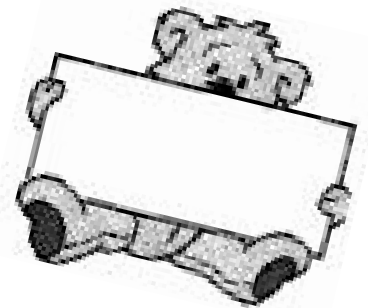
- Our main priority at the start of the Reception year, is that your children are happy, safe and settled in their new setting.
- We will play and interact with the children whilst they are choosing in the classroom provision, to build these relationships and foster children's friendships with one another.

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The first few weeks...

We will find out what the children **already know and can do** and use this information to help us *plan appropriate learning* for each child.

We would value any contributions you would like to make in helping us get to know your child's needs.



There will be an opportunity for parents to speak to the class teachers about their child's needs and feelings regarding settling into school, during the first few weeks of the initial start date. This may be via a telephone conversation which will be prearranged.

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A normal day in the life of a Reception child...



- 8.40am doors open and will be closed at 8.55am- parents are encouraged to say goodbye at the door.
- Whole class learning and free flow play
- Snack and milk time throughout the morning
- Whole class learning
- 11.30am-12.45pm lunchtime
- 12.55pm Whole class learning and free flow play
- 3.20pm school finishes- parents to collect at the Reception entrance/ Meadow door

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The children come into their classroom and self register. They then take part in a morning activity.



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The children will then have free choice in the provision. We call this 'getting busy time'. As they settle into school life, they will begin to have a whole class learning session at the beginning of the day.



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They will have the opportunity to select their own snack and milk at the snack table.



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Adults will carry out focused activities during the day in small groups. The activities will focus on one area of learning from the EYFS curriculum.



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Outdoor provision is also available each day, either in a morning or an afternoon. It will work on a rota system, where groups of children can go out at any one time.



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Lunchtime...



- Every Reception child will be assigned a Year 5 buddy who will accompany them for the first few weeks to help them with their lunch. They will play in the playground with them as well.
- Reception staff also stay in the dinner hall to help the children.
- We do encourage children to choose a school dinner but they can bring a packed lunch each day.
- In the dinner hall, they will learn to carry their own trays, have a go at cutting up their own food and using a knife and fork. Their buddy will also encourage this.

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After lunch, the children gather on the carpet for the register and a whole class learning session.



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The children will have the opportunity to participate in outdoor learning sessions with Mr Haywood, in the woods and the Woodland Burrow. This is on a 3 weekly basis.



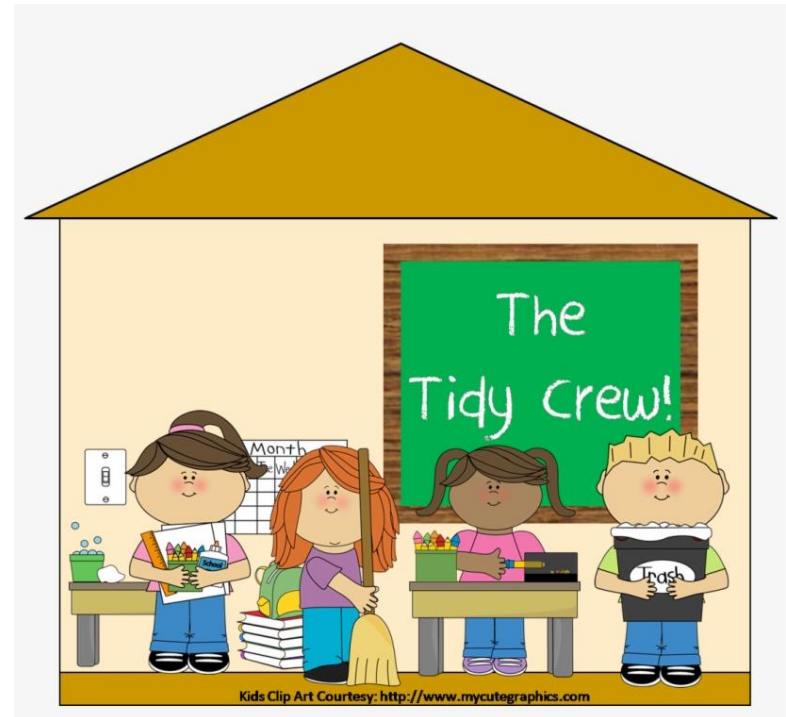
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They then continue to self- select in the provision.



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Throughout the day, the children are encouraged to tidy up the resources. They will have their own tidy jobs.



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Other opportunities...



- 1 Computing session in the Computer suite per week
- 1 PE lesson per week
- 1 music session per week (possibly in the music room)
- 1 library session per week
- Achievement assembly on a Friday- this is an opportunity for children's learning to be celebrated with their friends and with you!
- 1 'Stay and Play' session per half term

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Things to remember...

- Children will need a pair of wellies in school, clearly labelled with their name on. They are needed for outdoor play.
- Water bottle in school each day again clearly labelled with their name. We ask that only water is put in them, not juice.
- Snack is provided in school so children do not need to bring their own.
- PE kit consists of a coloured t-shirt(yellow, blue, green or red) depending what house team they are in. The first one is provided by school at the beginning of the Reception year. Black shorts and black pumps and it all needs to be in a bag with their name on. All uniform should also be labelled with their name; this makes it so much easier when getting dressed and undressed in PE!

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How do we communicate between home and school?



- Staff on the door morning and afternoon
- If you require further discussions, a meeting can always be arranged at a more convenient time.
- A newsletter is sent home every half term.
- Parents evenings twice a year to discuss their progress.
- Reading diaries
- Absence Notification / Phone Call to the office where needed.
- Tapestry is our main form of communication in Early Years. (more information in September)



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An Inclusive Environment

- At Sandal Primary, we believe that every child should be given the same opportunities in order to thrive and achieve at the best of their ability. We pride ourselves on providing an inclusive environment for this to happen.
- We know that every child is different and strive to cater for individual needs. We do this by fostering a parent- teacher partnership from the very beginning so that everyone involved is aware of the children's needs.
- If you have any concerns or worries about your child's development, first and for most speak to your child's class teacher.
- SENCo (Special Educational Needs Co-Ordinator)- Miss Sperduto
- Also see the SEND section on our school website for further advice and information.

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School readiness...



Starting school can be very challenging for some children. It is not just about preparing for academic learning but preparing them socially, emotionally and physically.

We want to make sure that all children have the opportunity to feel confident, independent and able to cope in the new atmosphere of Reception.

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Things you can do to prepare your child...



Health and self care skills



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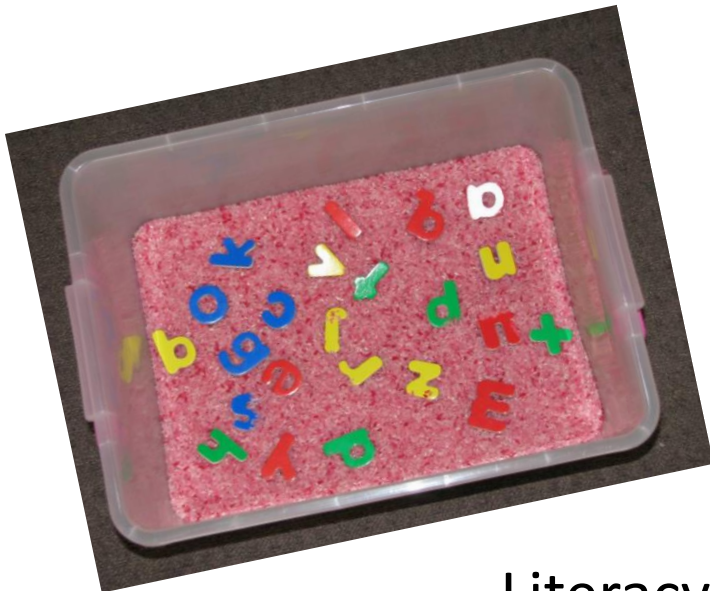
Things you can do to prepare your child...

Social and co-operative skills



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Things you can do to prepare your child...

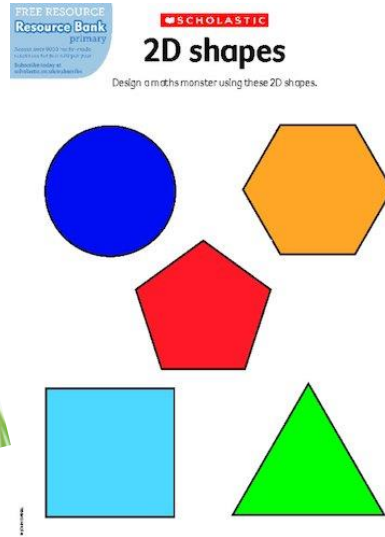


Literacy and Numeracy



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Things you can do to prepare your child...



Maths skills

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Top Tips!

Give your child small, independent activities to prepare them for school.
E.g. setting the table

Teach them some useful phrases such as “can I join in?” or “do you want to share?”

Keep talking to your child about their feelings about school.

What are you excited about?
What are you nervous about?

Your first week checklist...

- Do you know where to drop off and collect your child?
- Do you know what equipment they'll need for the first few days?
(PE kit, book bag, spare clothes and so on)
- Do you and your child know where to hang coats ?
- Does your child know who'll be collecting them each day?
- Have you put name labels on absolutely everything? Show your child where the labels are and make sure they are sewn or stuck somewhere that's easy for them to find.
- Has your child got a pair of wellies, a water bottle and a school bag?

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Last but not least...



Please do not worry! We will work together to ensure that you and your child are happy.

Welcome to Sandal School life !

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